

applies to the entire country

Western Water Rail / *Rallus aquaticus* / *aquaticus*, Europe & North Africa / Column B / Category 2c

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces

> It is protected species according to the Act No. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection, as amended; applies to the entire country.

3.2. Limits are established on taking.

No

Please explain the reasons.

> It is fully protected species.

3.3. Possession or utilisation of, and trade in, birds or eggs which have been taken in contravention of the prohibition under AEWA Action Plan, para 2.1.2, as well as the possession or utilisation of, and trade in, any readily recognisable parts or derivatives of such birds and eggs is prohibited.

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces

> Act No. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection, as amended; applies to the entire country

Spotted Crane / *Porzana porzana* / Europe/Africa / Column B / Category 2d

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

Yes

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> It is protected species according to the Act No. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection, as amended; applies to the entire country.

3.2. Limits are established on taking.

No

Please explain the reasons.

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3.3. Possession or utilisation of, and trade in, birds or eggs which have been taken in contravention of the prohibition under AEWA Action Plan, para 2.1.2, as well as the possession or utilisation of, and trade in, any readily recognisable parts or derivatives of such birds and eggs is prohibited.

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces

> Act No. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection, as amended; applies to the entire country

Little Crane / *Zapornia parva* / Western Eurasia/Africa / Column B / Category 2c

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

Yes

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> Act No. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection, as amended; applies to the entire country

Common Coot / *Fulica atra* / atra, North-west Europe (win) / Column B / Category 2c

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces

> According to the Decree of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Slovak Republic No. 344/2009, as amended, by which the Act on Hunting is implemented, the taking is allowed between 1st October and 15th January; it applies to the entire country, excluding strictly protected areas (5th level of protection), where taking of animals is prohibited all over the year.

3.2. Limits are established on taking.

No

Please explain the reasons.

> Conservation status of the population.

3.3. Possession or utilisation of, and trade in, birds or eggs which have been taken in contravention of the prohibition under AEWA Action Plan, para 2.1.2, as well as the possession or utilisation of, and trade in, any readily recognisable parts or derivatives of such birds and eggs is prohibited.

Yes

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> Act No. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection, as amended; applies to the entire country

Arctic Loon / *Gavia arctica* / arctica, Northern Europe & Western Siberia/Europe / Column B / Category 2c

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

Yes

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3.2. Limits are established on taking.

No

Please explain the reasons.

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Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces

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applies to the entire country

Black Stork / *Ciconia nigra* / Central & Eastern Europe/Sub-Saharan Africa / Column B / Category 1

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces

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applies to the entire country.

3.2. Limits are established on taking.

No

Please explain the reasons.

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3.3. Possession or utilisation of, and trade in, birds or eggs which have been taken in contravention of the prohibition under AEWA Action Plan, para 2.1.2, as well as the possession or utilisation of, and trade in, any readily recognisable parts or derivatives of such birds and eggs is prohibited.

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Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces

> Act No. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection, as amended;
Act No. 15/2005 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein, as amended;
applies to the entire country

Eurasian Bittern / *Botaurus stellaris* / stellaris, C & E Europe, Black Sea & E Mediterranean (bre) / Column B / Category 2c

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces

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applies to the entire country.

3.2. Limits are established on taking.

No

Please explain the reasons.

> It is fully protected species.

3.3. Possession or utilisation of, and trade in, birds or eggs which have been taken in contravention of the prohibition under AEWA Action Plan, para 2.1.2, as well as the possession or utilisation of, and trade in, any readily recognisable parts or derivatives of such birds and eggs is prohibited.

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applies to the entire country

Common Little Bittern / *Ixobrychus minutus* / minutus, C & E Europe, Black Sea & E Mediterranean/Sub-saharan Africa / Column B / Category 2c

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

Yes

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Purple Heron / *Ardea purpurea* / purpurea, East Europe, Black Sea & Mediterranean/Sub-Saharan Africa / Column B / Category 2c

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

Yes

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Please explain the reasons.

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Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces

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Great White Egret / Ardea alba / alba, W, C & SE Europe/Black Sea & Mediterranean / Column B / Category 1

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

Yes

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No

Please explain the reasons.

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Act No. 15/2005 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein, as amended; applies to the entire country

Little Egret / Egretta garzetta / garzetta, Central & E Europe, Black Sea, E Mediterranean / Column B / Category 1

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

Yes

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Eurasian Oystercatcher / Haematopus ostralegus / ostralegus, Europe/South & West Europe & NW Africa / Column B / Category 2c

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

Yes

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Pied Avocet / *Recurvirostra avosetta* / South-east Europe, Black Sea & Turkey (bre) / Column B / Category 1

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

Yes

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Black-winged Stilt / *Himantopus himantopus* / himantopus, Central Europe & E Mediterranean/N-Central Africa / Column B / Category 1

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

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Grey Plover / *Pluvialis squatarola* / *squatarola*, C & E Siberia/SW Asia, Eastern & Southern Africa / Column B / Category 1

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

Yes

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Common Ringed Plover / *Charadrius hiaticula* / *hiaticula*, Northern Europe/Europe & North Africa / Column B / Category 1

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

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Kentish Plover / *Charadrius alexandrinus* / alexandrinus, West Europe & West Mediterranean/West Africa / Column B / Category 1

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

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Bar-tailed Godwit / *Limosa lapponica* / taymyrensis, Western Siberia/West & South-west Africa / Column B / Category 2a 2c

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

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Ruddy Turnstone / *Arenaria interpres* / interpres, Northern Europe/West Africa / Column B / Category 1

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Red Knot / *Calidris canutus* / canutus, Northern Siberia/West & Southern Africa / Column B / Category 2a 2c

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Ruff / *Calidris pugnax* / Northern Europe & Western Siberia/West Africa / Column B / Category 2c

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Broad-billed Sandpiper / *Calidris falcinellus* / *falcinellus*, Northern Europe/SW Asia & Africa / Column B / Category 2c

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

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Curlew Sandpiper / *Calidris ferruginea* / Western Siberia/West Africa / Column B / Category 2c

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Little Stint / *Calidris minuta* / N Europe/S Europe, North & West Africa / Column B / Category 2c

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Jack Snipe / *Lymnocyptes minimus* / Northern Europe/S & W Europe & West Africa / Column B / Category 2b

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Common Sandpiper / *Actitis hypoleucos* / West & Central Europe/West Africa / Column B / Category 2c

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applies to the entire country.

3.2. Limits are established on taking.

No

Please explain the reasons.

> It is fully protected species.

3.3. Possession or utilisation of, and trade in, birds or eggs which have been taken in contravention of the prohibition under AEWA Action Plan, para 2.1.2, as well as the possession or utilisation of, and trade in, any readily recognisable parts or derivatives of such birds and eggs is prohibited.

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces

> Act No. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection, as amended;
applies to the entire country

Spotted Redshank / *Tringa erythropus* / N Europe/Southern Europe, North & West Africa / Column B / Category 1

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces

> It is protected species according to the Act No. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection, as amended;
applies to the entire country.

3.2. Limits are established on taking.

No

Please explain the reasons.

> It is fully protected species.

3.3. Possession or utilisation of, and trade in, birds or eggs which have been taken in contravention of the prohibition under AEWA Action Plan, para 2.1.2, as well as the possession or utilisation of, and trade in, any readily recognisable parts or derivatives of such birds and eggs is prohibited.

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces

> Act No. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection, as amended;
applies to the entire country

Common Redshank / *Tringa totanus* / totanus, Central & East Europe (breeding) / Column B / Category 2c

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces

> It is protected species according to the Act No. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection, as amended; applies to the entire country.

3.2. Limits are established on taking.

No

Please explain the reasons.

> It is fully protected species.

3.3. Possession or utilisation of, and trade in, birds or eggs which have been taken in contravention of the prohibition under AEWA Action Plan, para 2.1.2, as well as the possession or utilisation of, and trade in, any readily recognisable parts or derivatives of such birds and eggs is prohibited.

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces

> Act No. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection, as amended; applies to the entire country

Marsh Sandpiper / *Tringa stagnatilis* / Eastern Europe/West & Central Africa / Column B / Category 1

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces

> It is protected species according to the Act No. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection, as amended; applies to the entire country.

3.2. Limits are established on taking.

No

Please explain the reasons.

> It is fully protected species.

3.3. Possession or utilisation of, and trade in, birds or eggs which have been taken in contravention of the prohibition under AEWA Action Plan, para 2.1.2, as well as the possession or utilisation of, and trade in, any readily recognisable parts or derivatives of such birds and eggs is prohibited.

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces

> Act No. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection, as amended; applies to the entire country

Little Gull / *Hydrocoloeus minutus* / Central & E Europe/SW Europe & W Mediterranean / Column B / Category 1

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces

> It is protected species according to the Act No. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection, as amended; applies to the entire country.

3.2. Limits are established on taking.

No

Please explain the reasons.

> It is fully protected species.

3.3. Possession or utilisation of, and trade in, birds or eggs which have been taken in contravention of the prohibition under AEWA Action Plan, para 2.1.2, as well as the possession or utilisation of, and trade in, any readily recognisable parts or derivatives of such birds and eggs is prohibited.

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces

> Act No. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection, as amended; applies to the entire country

Black-legged Kittiwake / Rissa tridactyla / tridactyla, Arctic from NE Canada to Novaya Zemlya/N Atlantic / Column B / Category 2c

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces

> It is protected species according to the Act No. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection, as amended; applies to the entire country.

3.2. Limits are established on taking.

No

Please explain the reasons.

> It is fully protected species.

3.3. Possession or utilisation of, and trade in, birds or eggs which have been taken in contravention of the prohibition under AEWA Action Plan, para 2.1.2, as well as the possession or utilisation of, and trade in, any readily recognisable parts or derivatives of such birds and eggs is prohibited.

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces

> Act No. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection, as amended; applies to the entire country

Black-headed Gull / Larus ridibundus / W Europe/W Europe, W Mediterranean, West Africa / Column B / Category 2c

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces

> It is protected species according to the Act No. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection, as amended; Act No. 274/2009 on Hunting, as amended; applies to the entire country.

3.2. Limits are established on taking.

No

Please explain the reasons.

> It is fully protected species.

3.3. Possession or utilisation of, and trade in, birds or eggs which have been taken in contravention of the prohibition under AEWA Action Plan, para 2.1.2, as well as the possession or utilisation of, and trade in, any readily recognisable parts or derivatives of such birds and eggs is prohibited.

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces

> Act No. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection, as amended;

applies to the entire country

Mediterranean Gull / *Larus melanocephalus* / W Europe, Mediterranean & NW Africa / Column B / Category 2a

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces

> It is protected species according to the Act No. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection, as amended;

applies to the entire country.

3.2. Limits are established on taking.

No

Please explain the reasons.

> It is fully protected species.

3.3. Possession or utilisation of, and trade in, birds or eggs which have been taken in contravention of the prohibition under AEWA Action Plan, para 2.1.2, as well as the possession or utilisation of, and trade in, any readily recognisable parts or derivatives of such birds and eggs is prohibited.

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces

> Act No. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection, as amended;

applies to the entire country

Black Tern / *Chlidonias niger* / niger, Europe & Western Asia/Atlantic coast of Africa / Column B / Category 2c

3.1. Taking is prohibited during the populations' various stages of reproduction and rearing and during their return to their breeding grounds if the taking has an unfavourable impact on the conservation status of the population concerned.

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces

> It is protected species according to the Act No. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection, as amended;

applies to the entire country.

3.2. Limits are established on taking.

No

Please explain the reasons.

> It is fully protected species.

3.3. Possession or utilisation of, and trade in, birds or eggs which have been taken in contravention of the prohibition under AEWA Action Plan, para 2.1.2, as well as the possession or utilisation of, and trade in, any readily recognisable parts or derivatives of such birds and eggs is prohibited.

Yes

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and whether this applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces

> Act No. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection, as amended;
applies to the entire country

4. Please indicate which modes of taking are prohibited in your country (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.2(b))

Please select from the list below.

- Snares
- Limes
- Hooks
- Live birds which are blind or mutilated used as decoys
- Tape recorders and other electronic devices
- Electrocuting devices
- Artificial light sources
- Mirrors and other dazzling devices
- Devices for illuminating targets
- Sighting devices for night shooting comprising an electronic image magnifier or image converter
- Explosives
- Nets
- Traps
- Poison
- Poisoned or anesthetic baits
- Semi-automatic or automatic weapons with a magazine capable of holding more than two rounds of ammunition
- Hunting from aircraft, motor vehicles, or boats driven at a speed exceeding 5 km p/h (18 km p/h on the open sea)
- Other non-selective modes of taking

Please specify

> Shooting in bird nests, hunting during night (between two hours after sun set and two hours before sun rise), taking of eggs; it is prohibited to promote, offer and sell modes of taking prohibited (as above) - Act No. 274/2009 on hunting (as amended).

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation and information on whether the prohibitions apply to the entire country or only to particular states/provinces thereof.

> General provisions are included in the Act No. 543/2002 on Nature and Landscape Protection (§ 35), as amended, all prohibited modes of taking are listed in the Decree of the Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic No. 24/2002 to this act, as amended. The same provisions and additional details are included in the Act No. 274/2009 on hunting, as amended.

5. Has your country granted exemptions from any of the above prohibitions in order to accommodate livelihoods uses? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.2(b))

No

6. Were any exemptions granted to the prohibitions required by paragraphs 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 of the AEWA Action Plan? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.3)

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

Yes

Please provide information on each species for which exemption was granted

Slovakia

Exemption for Greylag Goose / *Anser anser*

Purpose of exemption (from the AEWA Action Plan)

(b) In the interests of air safety, public health, public safety, or other imperative reasons of overriding public interests, including those of a social or economic nature and beneficial consequences of primary importance to the environment

Number of individuals for which exemption was granted

> not specified

Number of eggs for which exemption was granted

> 0

Territorial coverage of the exemption
> Kuchyňa Airport

Time span of the exemption
> 21 May 2015 - 31 December 2020

Year when the exemption was granted
> 2015

Additional information on this exemption (alternatively provide a web link or attach a file)
> deliberate killing, deliberate disturbance

Exemption for Greater White-fronted Goose / *Anser albifrons*

Purpose of exemption (from the AEWA Action Plan)

(b) In the interests of air safety, public health, public safety, or other imperative reasons of overriding public interests, including those of a social or economic nature and beneficial consequences of primary importance to the environment

Number of individuals for which exemption was granted
> not specified

Number of eggs for which exemption was granted
> 0

Territorial coverage of the exemption
> Kuchyňa Airport

Time span of the exemption
> 21 May 2015 - 31 December 2015

Year when the exemption was granted
> 2015

Additional information on this exemption (alternatively provide a web link or attach a file)
> deliberate killing, deliberate disturbance

Exemption for Mallard / *Anas platyrhynchos*

Purpose of exemption (from the AEWA Action Plan)

(b) In the interests of air safety, public health, public safety, or other imperative reasons of overriding public interests, including those of a social or economic nature and beneficial consequences of primary importance to the environment

Number of individuals for which exemption was granted
> not specified

Number of eggs for which exemption was granted
> 0

Territorial coverage of the exemption
> Prešov Airport;
Kuchyňa Airport

Time span of the exemption
> 04.09.2015 - 31.12.2020; 21.05.2015 - 31.12.2020

Year when the exemption was granted
> 2015

Additional information on this exemption (alternatively provide a web link or attach a file)
> deliberate killing, deliberate disturbance

Exemption for Common Moorhen / *Gallinula chloropus*

Purpose of exemption (from the AEWA Action Plan)

- (a) To prevent serious damage to crops, water and fisheries
- (d) To permit under strictly supervised conditions, on a selective basis and to a limited extent, the taking and keeping or other judicious use of certain birds in small numbers

Number of individuals for which exemption was granted
> not specified

Number of eggs for which exemption was granted
> not specified

Territorial coverage of the exemption
> Muľa;
Nitra nad Ipľom

Time span of the exemption
> 19 November 2015 - 31 March 2016

Year when the exemption was granted
> 2015

Additional information on this exemption (alternatively provide a web link or attach a file)
> Deliberate destruction of, or damage to, their nests or eggs or removal of their nests / or deliberate destruction of resting sites due to protection of flora and fauna; deliberate disturbance, deliberate capture; reclamation of gravel.

Exemption for Common Coot / *Fulica atra*

Purpose of exemption (from the AEWA Action Plan)

- (c) For the purpose of research and education, of re-establishment and for the breeding necessary for these purposes

Number of individuals for which exemption was granted
> not specified

Number of eggs for which exemption was granted
> not specified

Territorial coverage of the exemption
> Veľkobláhovské rybníky SPA

Time span of the exemption
> 25 February 2015 - 31 December 2017

Year when the exemption was granted
> 2015

Additional information on this exemption (alternatively provide a web link or attach a file)
> for the purposes of research and teaching; deliberate disturbance; taking their eggs in the wild and keeping these eggs even if empty

Exemption for Black Stork / *Ciconia nigra*

Purpose of exemption (from the AEWA Action Plan)

- (b) In the interests of air safety, public health, public safety, or other imperative reasons of overriding public interests, including those of a social or economic nature and beneficial consequences of primary importance to the environment

Number of individuals for which exemption was granted
> not specified

Number of eggs for which exemption was granted
> 0

Territorial coverage of the exemption
> Prešov Airport

Time span of the exemption

> 04 September 2015 - 31 December 2016

Year when the exemption was granted

> 2015

Additional information on this exemption (alternatively provide a web link or attach a file)

> deliberate killing, deliberate disturbance

Exemption for White Stork / *Ciconia ciconia*

Purpose of exemption (from the AEWA Action Plan)

(b) In the interests of air safety, public health, public safety, or other imperative reasons of overriding public interests, including those of a social or economic nature and beneficial consequences of primary importance to the environment

Number of individuals for which exemption was granted

> not specified

Number of eggs for which exemption was granted

> 0

Territorial coverage of the exemption

> Žilina;

Zemplínske Hradište;

Prešov Airport;

Time span of the exemption

> 10.11.2015 - 29.02.2016; 15.09.2015 - 15.03.2016; 04.09.2015 - 31.12.2020

Year when the exemption was granted

> 2015

Additional information on this exemption (alternatively provide a web link or attach a file)

> Main activity covered - deliberate destruction of, or damage to, their nests or eggs or removal of their nests / or deliberate destruction of resting sites; removal of 1 stork nest in 2 sites and transfer to new location; deliberate killing, deliberate disturbance in the airport.

Exemption for Grey Heron / *Ardea cinerea*

Purpose of exemption (from the AEWA Action Plan)

(b) In the interests of air safety, public health, public safety, or other imperative reasons of overriding public interests, including those of a social or economic nature and beneficial consequences of primary importance to the environment

Number of individuals for which exemption was granted

> not specified

Number of eggs for which exemption was granted

> 0

Territorial coverage of the exemption

> Prešov Airport;

Kuchyňa Airport

Time span of the exemption

> 04.09.2015 - 31.12.2020; 21.05.2015 - 31.12.2020

Year when the exemption was granted

> 2015

Additional information on this exemption (alternatively provide a web link or attach a file)

> deliberate killing, deliberate disturbance

Exemption for Great White Egret / *Ardea alba*

Purpose of exemption (from the AEWA Action Plan)

(b) In the interests of air safety, public health, public safety, or other imperative reasons of overriding public interests, including those of a social or economic nature and beneficial consequences of primary importance to the environment

Number of individuals for which exemption was granted

> not specified

Number of eggs for which exemption was granted

> 0

Territorial coverage of the exemption

> Prešov Airport;

Kuchyňa Airport

Time span of the exemption

> 04.09.2015 - 31.12.2020; 21.05.2015 - 31.12.2020

Year when the exemption was granted

> 2015

Additional information on this exemption (alternatively provide a web link or attach a file)

> deliberate killing, deliberate disturbance

Exemption for Great Cormorant / *Phalacrocorax carbo*

Purpose of exemption (from the AEWA Action Plan)

(a) To prevent serious damage to crops, water and fisheries

Number of individuals for which exemption was granted

> 60 Dubové; up to 1300 annually in Slovakia

Number of eggs for which exemption was granted

> 0

Territorial coverage of the exemption

> Dubové - fishponds;

Fishing areas in Slovakia user of which is the Slovak Fishermen's Association (SRZ) - Board

Time span of the exemption

> 05.11.2015 - 31.03.2016 (Dubové); 2015 - 2020 (SRZ)

Year when the exemption was granted

> 2015

Additional information on this exemption (alternatively provide a web link or attach a file)

> deliberate killing, deliberate disturbance

7. Was your country's national legislation reviewed following the Guidance on Measures in National Legislation for Different Populations of the Same Species, Particularly with Respect to Hunting and Trade (Resolution 6.7)?

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons.

> Not relevant

8. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines on National Legislation for the Protection of Species of Migratory Waterbirds and their Habitats ?

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons. What other guidance has been used instead?

> Legislation of European Union is applied, protection of species of migratory waterbirds and their habitats is included.

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 3.1. Legal Measures

> None

3.2. Species Action and Management Plans

9. Please report on the progress of turning the International Single Species Action and Management Plans (ISSAP and ISSMP), as well as International Multi-species Action Plans (IMSAP), listed below, into National Action or Management Plans. (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.2)

Please report on all listed ISSAP, ISSMP and IMSAP

Great Snipe / Gallinago media

National Plan for Great Snipe / Gallinago media

No NP, but actions implemented

Please explain the reasons for having no NP in place

> Non-breeding, rare species in Slovakia, not identified as a priority for NP, however actions are included in the annual work plan of the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic and in relevant projects.

Please provide a description of the actions implemented

> Conservation, management and restoration of habitats.

Field for additional information (optional)

> None

Corncrake / Crex crex

National Plan for Corncrake / Crex crex

No NP and no action implemented

Please explain the reasons

> The National Action Plan for Corncrake was adopted in 2002 for years 2002-2006 and the update for extended period is pending.

Field for additional information (optional)

> Conservation status and management measures for Corncrake were identified in the adopted management plan for Horná Orava SPA in 2017.

Ferruginous Duck / Aythya nyroca

National Plan for Ferruginous Duck / Aythya nyroca

NP in development

Please provide starting date and expected finalisation date

> Starting January 2011, finalized December 2017; the draft has been submitted to the Ministry of Environment for approval (expected to be adopted by the end of 2018).

Field for additional information (optional)

> None

Eurasian Spoonbill / Platalea leucorodia

National Plan for Eurasian Spoonbill / Platalea leucorodia

No NP, but actions implemented

Please explain the reasons for having no NP in place

> As there is only a small population of the species in Slovakia in two main breeding sites, measures for spoonbills have been included in the management plans for these two protected areas (Special Protection Areas, Ramsar Site and nature reserve).

Please provide a description of the actions implemented

> Conservation and management of breeding sites, restoration of habitats.

Field for additional information (optional)

> None

Black-tailed Godwit / *Limosa limosa* **National Plan for Black-tailed Godwit / *Limosa limosa***

No NP, but actions implemented

Please explain the reasons for having no NP in place

> Rare species in Slovakia, non-breeding during last decades.

Please provide a description of the actions implemented

> Management and restoration measures implemented in the key site and potential habitats in Senne and Medzibodrožie SPAs.

Field for additional information (optional)

> None

10. Does your country have in place or is your country developing a National Single Species Action Plan for any species/population for which an AEWA ISSAP has not been developed? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.2.2)

Yes

Please provide information on each species for which relevant action has been undertaken

Slovakia

Eurasian Bittern / *Botaurus stellaris*

National Single Species Action Plan for Eurasian Bittern / *Botaurus stellaris*

NSSAP in development

Please provide details

> Draft action plan for Eurasian Bittern has been developed in 2011 - 2017 and was submitted for approval to the Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic.

11. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines for the preparation of National Single Species Action Plans for migratory waterbirds?

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons. What has been used instead as a basis for the preparation of NSSAPs?

> National guidelines were adopted according to national law, with similar structure and contents as AEWA Guidelines, national guidelines are now under revision and will be harmonized with international guidelines.

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 3.2. Single Species Action Plans

> None

3.3 Emergency Measures

12. Please report on any emergency situation that has occurred in your country over the past triennium and has threatened waterbirds. (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.3)

Please indicate whether an emergency situation threatening waterbirds, such as botulism, chemical pollution, earthquake, extreme weather, fire, harmful algal bloom, infectious disease, introduction of alien species, lead poisoning, nuclear accident, oil spill, predation, volcanic activity, war or other emergency (please specify), has occurred in the country over the past triennium.

No emergency situation has occurred

13. Are there any other emergency response measures, different from the ones applied in response to the emergency situations reported above, that were developed and are in place in your country so that they can be used in future in emergency cases?

No

14. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines on identifying and tackling emergency situations for migratory waterbirds?

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons. What was used instead as a basis for dealing with emergency situations?

> The theme will be included in the Strategy for implementation of the Bonn Convention (CMS) and its instruments (planned to be developed by the end of 2018).

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 3.3. Emergency Measures

> The proposal for national mechanism to reduce disturbance to waterfowl during severe winter weather was developed in 2017 by the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic, on request of the Ministry of Environment. It is based on the Scheme designed by JNCC (UK).

3.4 Re-establishments

15. Is your country maintaining a national register of re-establishment projects occurring or planned to occur wholly or partly within your country? (Resolution 4.4)

No

Please explain the reasons

> No such projects have been planned / implemented.

16. Is there a regulatory framework for re-establishments of species, including waterbirds, in your country (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.4)?

Yes

Please provide details

> General provisions of the Decree of the Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic No. 24/2003 (as amended) to the nature conservation act. Provisions are included also in the Act No. 274/2009 on hunting (as amended). Re-establishment activities are conditioned by approval by the Ministry of Environment (and if it is a game species also the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development).

17. Has your country considered, developed or implemented re-establishment projects for any species listed on AEWA Table 1? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.4)

No

18. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines on the translocation of waterbirds for conservation purposes?

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

Not applicable

Please explain

> No such activity implemented so far

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 3.4. Re-establishments

> None

3.5 Introductions

19. Does your country have legislation in place, which prohibits the introduction into the environment of non-native species of animals and plants which may be detrimental to migratory waterbirds? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.5.1)

Yes, and being enforced

Please provide the following details: title of legislation, year of adoption, institution that adopted it,

institution that enforces it. Please clarify whether legislation applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces.

> Act No. 543/2002 Coll. on Nature and Landscape Protection, adopted in 2002 by the Government of the Slovak Republic, amended several times, enforced by the Ministry of Environment; According to this Act it is allowed to spread invasive species behind the border of urban areas only with the approval of the Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic. Introduction of non-native game species (and cross-breeding) is prohibited also by the Act No. 274/2009 on hunting (as amended), adopted by the Slovak Government and enforced by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovak Republic. Both acts apply to the entire country.

Field for additional information (optional)

> None

20. Does your country impose legislative requirements on zoos, private collections, etc. in order to avoid the accidental escape of captive animals belonging to non-native species which may be detrimental to migratory waterbirds? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.5.2)

Yes, and being enforced

Please provide the following details: title of the document, year of adoption, institution that adopted it, institution that enforces it. Please clarify whether legislation applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces.

> Act No. 39/2007 on veterinary care, adopted in 2007 by the Government of the Slovak Republic, enforced by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the State Veterinary Authority; According to this Act, § 6 the owner or keeper of an animal is obliged to take measures to prevent escape of the animal, its not planned or unwanted reproduction.

Field for additional information (optional)

> Only general requirements established in veterinary regulation.

21. Does your country have in place a National Action Plan for Invasive Species (NAPIS) (in the framework of other MEAs, such as CBD, Bern Convention, and GISP (Global Invasive Species Programme) (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 1, Target 5)?

Being developed

Please provide starting date and expected finalisation date of the process

> The draft National Strategy on Invasive Alien Species was developed in 2010, it was several times updated, after inclusion of the provisions of the EU Regulation 1143/2014 on Invasive Alien Species in 2015 the Ministry of Environment informed the relevant stakeholders about its intention to adopt the National Strategy as a comprehensive (cross-sectoral) document and asked them to prepare their proposals for key actions which should be included into the National Strategy. The Action Plan for implementation of the updated national Biodiversity Strategy to 2020, adopted by the Slovak Government in 2014, includes several actions to be implemented by 2020.

Field for additional information (optional)

> None

22. Has your country considered, developed or implemented programmes to control or eradicate non-native species of waterbird so as to prevent negative impacts on indigenous species? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.5.3)

Not applicable

Please explain

> No one non-native waterbird species occurs in the wild in the populations with required eradication, only occasionally individuals recorded.

23. Has your country considered, developed or implemented programmes to control or eradicate other non-native species (in particular aquatic weeds) so as to prevent negative impacts on migratory waterbirds? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.5.3 and Resolution 5.15)

Not applicable

Please explain

> No such measures needed so far.

24. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines on avoidance of introductions of non-native waterbird species?

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons. What was used instead as a basis for dealing with the issue?

> New provisions of the EU Regulation on Invasive Alien Species (Regulation (EU) No 1143/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2014 on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of invasive alien species) will be included in the new act and its decree in near future and these can include more detailed principles and guidelines addressing this issue, including AEWA Guidelines.

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 3.5. Introductions

> None

Pressures and Responses

4. Habitat Conservation

4.1 Habitat Inventories

25. Has your country identified the network of all sites of international and national importance for the migratory waterbird species/populations listed on Table 1? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 3.1.2)

Yes

Please provide full reference, e.g. title, year, authors, etc. or a web link

> Special Protection Areas designated in 2003 and 2010; the Critical Site Network was established in 2011; Important Bird Areas (updated in 1992, 2000, 2004); Ramsar sites network (www.ramsar.org) designated in 1990-2007; there is a big overlap between these types of sites of international importance.

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

[SPAs in Slovakia](#)

Field for additional information (optional)

> The national list of proposed Special Protection Areas was approved by the Slovak Government in 2003 and submitted to the European Commission, later in 2010 updated with more precise data on surface area and with additional sites. In 30 SPAs AEWA Table 1 species are criteria species for designation. 12 Ramsar Sites of total 14 in Slovakia are relevant for waterbird species.

26. If your country has identified or is currently identifying the networks of sites of international and national importance, were the AEWA Guidelines on the preparation of site inventories for migratory waterbirds used?

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons. What has been used instead as a basis for the inventory?

> Slovakia identified Special Protection Areas for Natura 2000 network according to the EU Birds Directive (Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds) using its Standard Data Forms; for Ramsar Sites identification Ramsar Data Sheets were used; in national inventories national guidelines are used which are comparable with AEWA Guidelines. For Critical Sites Network identification relevant guidelines were used.

4.2. Conservation of Areas

27. Has your country assessed the future implications of climate change for protected areas and other sites important for waterbirds (i.e. resilience of sites to climate change)? (Resolution 5.13)

For one or more single sites

No

Please explain the reason

> Principles of resilience of sites to climate change have been included in 2017 in the updated national Adaptation Strategy of the Slovak Republic on Adverse Impacts of Climate Change.

For the national protected area network

No

Please explain the reasons.

> See above.

28. Which sites that were identified as important, either internationally or nationally, for Table 1 migratory waterbird species/populations have been designated as protected areas under the national legislation and have management plans that are being implemented, including with the aim to increase resilience to the effects of climate change? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 3.2.1, AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 1, Target 1.2)

Please report separately on internationally important sites, nationally important sites and buffer zones.

Reporting on designation and management of internationally important sites

- Reporting on designation and management of nationally important sites
- Reporting on establishing buffer zones around waterbird sites (as an approach for maintaining or increasing resilience of ecological networks, including resilience to climate change)

All sites of international importance

(sites recognized as having international importance for migratory waterbirds following criteria of, for instance, the AEWa Critical Site Network, the Ramsar Convention, the EU Birds Directive (SPAs), the Bern Convention Emerald Network, the BirdLife International's Important Bird Areas)

Total number

> 46

Total area (ha)

> 1254341

Number of internationally important sites under national protection designation

> 45

Area of international importance under national protection designation (ha)

> 1253211

Internationally important protected sites with management planning in place which is being implemented

> 5

Area (in ha)

> 60787

Internationally important sites with management planning in place which is being implemented and includes management objectives related to maintaining or increasing the resilience of existing ecological networks, including resilience to climate change

Number of sites

> 0

Area (in ha)

> 0

All sites of national importance

Total number

> 71

Total area (ha)

> 1104

Number of nationally important sites under national protection designation

> 71

Area of national importance under national protection area designation

> 1104

Nationally important protected sites with management planning in place which is being implemented

Number of sites

> 0

Area (in ha)

> 0

Nationally important sites with management planning in place which is being implemented and include management objectives related to maintaining or increasing the resilience of existing ecological networks, including resilience to climate change

Number of sites

> 0

Area (in ha)

> 0

Has your country identified around which nationally or internationally important sites the establishment of buffer zones is needed to maintain or increase resilience?

No

Please explain the reasons

> Process of zonation of protected areas has started in the country for national parks and other types of protected areas with other protection priorities than water birds, in later stages important bird areas will be re-assessed to maintain or increase their resilience.

The adopted management plans for 4 Special Protection Areas (with total area of 60 555 ha) include identification of Ecological-functional Areas with special purpose and management supporting also increase of resilience. Most of SPAs are a part of the national Territorial System of Ecological Stability (as bio-centres or bio-corridors) established also with the aim to increase resilience.

29. Has your country developed a national action plans for filling gaps in designation and/or management of internationally and nationally important sites? (Resolution 5.2)

DESIGNATION GAP FILLING

Yes

Please provide full reference or a web link, as well as details concerning the process and the status of this plan

> Updated national Programme for Wetland Management 2015 - 2021 and its Action Plan for Wetlands 2015-2018 (developed in 2014-2015) include measures and activities to fill gaps in designation and/or management of important sites.

MANAGEMENT GAP FILING

Yes

Please provide full reference or a web link, as well as details concerning the process and the status of this plan

> Updated national Programme for Wetland Management 2015 - 2021 and its Action Plan for Wetlands 2015-2018 include measures and activities to fill gaps in management planning.

30. Has your country developed a strategic plan (independently or as part of your country's overarching biodiversity or protected area policy document) to maintain or increase the resilience of the ecological network (for waterbirds), including resilience to climate change, and to conserve range and ecological variability of habitats and species? (Resolution 5.2, AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 1, Target 1.2)

Yes

Please provide full reference or a web link, as well as details concerning the process and the status of this plan

> A number of documents developed and adopted up to 2018: updated National climate change adaptation strategy; updated National biodiversity strategy and the Action Plan for implementation of the Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 (adopted by the Slovak Government); Priority Action Framework for financing of Natura 2000 in the Slovak Republic for EU financing period 2014-2020; updated Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection Policy to 2030 (under development).

31. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines on the management of key sites for migratory waterbirds?

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons. What guidance has been used instead?

> General national guidelines for management of protected areas have been used; the management guidelines are currently revised according to the updated legislation and international obligations.

32. Has the Critical Site Network (CSN) Tool for the AEWA area been accessed and used in your country?

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons

> In the reporting period the CSN Tool was included in the national strategic documents (updated Programme for wetland management 2015-2021 and its Action Plan 2015-2018; the new draft Nature Conservation Policy 2016-2030), but was not directly accessed.

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 4.2. Conservation of Areas

> Examples of EU funded projects - LIFE07 NAT/SK/000707 Protection of populations of threatened bird species in natural habitats in inner Danube delta; LIFE12 NAT/SK/000488 Integrated management of river ecosystems in southern Slovakia; LIFE09 NAT/SK/000395 Conservation of *Botaurus stellaris* and *Aythya nyroca* in SPA Medzibodrozie; LIFE10NAT/SK/00080 Restoration of NATURA 2000 sites in cross-border Bratislava capital region; LIFE14 NAT/SK/001306 Restoration and management of Danube floodplain habitats; LIFE12 NAT/SK/001155 Protection of birds in SPA Ostrovné lúky (implemented by or in cooperation with NGOs, especially the Regional Association for Nature Conservation and Sustainable Development BROZ, SOS/BirdLife Slovakia and other institutions).

Pressures and Responses

5. Management of Human Activities

5.1. Hunting

33. Does your country have an established system for the collection of harvest data, which covers the species listed in Table 1? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.3)

Yes

Does it cover the following? (tick where applicable and provide details)

Only some AEWA species occurring in your country

> All legally huntable species (included in the hunting law as species with hunting season).

Does it cover the following? (tick where applicable and provide details)

The whole territory of your country

> Data are collected by regional authorities for hunting and processed by the institute (National Forestry Centre)

Does it cover the following? (tick where applicable and provide details)

All harvesting activities

> Hunting statistics and realization of exemptions.

If other, please tick below and provide details.

Other

> For species for which exemptions were granted by the Ministry of Environment the collection of data on real use of the species is made by the Ministry of Environment.

Field for additional information (optional)

> Each hunting organization is responsible for managing hunting unit. They have obligation to register all individuals of game species they shot. This register is then passed to the National Forestry Centre, an expert organization under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovak Republic which develops records and statistics.

34. Has your country phased out the use of lead shot for hunting in wetlands? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.4)

Fully

When was lead shot use in wetlands banned?

> Using of lead shot in wetlands is banned since 1 January 2015.

What legislation is in place?

> Prohibited methods and means of capture and killing of protected animals are stated in § 9 of the Regulation of the Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic No. 24/2003 to the Act on nature and landscape protection (as amended). According to it, using of lead ammunition during hunt of waterfowl in wetlands is prohibited. Consequently, the use of lead shots is banned in the hunting law (Act No. 274/2009, § 65, par. 36).

Who enforces this legislation?

> The legislation is enforced by the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and their regional (district) authorities.

Has assessment of compliance with the legislation been undertaken?

No

If appropriate, please explain the reasons for not doing this.

> The assessment of compliance with the legislation is included in the updated Programme for Wetland Management in Slovakia 2015-2021 and its Action Plan for Wetlands 2015-2018, however so far it has not been done due to many other priorities and lack of human capacity.

Generally the national legislation is harmonized with EU legal provisions which include most of AEWA obligations. Directive 2009/147/EC on the conservation of wild birds (Birds Directive) implements in EU law the commitments set out in the AEWA.

Provisions of AEWA are transposed to the relevant national legislation (mainly in the field of nature protection and hunting). This evaluation of compliance is due procedure before signing/accession to any international legal instrument at the national level. In the case of AEWA the signature was subject to the approval of the

Government of the Slovak Republic as well as the National Council of the Slovak Republic and ratification by the President.

In addition, national law was subject to the deep evaluation before as well as after the accession to the EU.

Has measurement of impact of the legislation been undertaken i.e. where there was a problem of lead poisoning in waterbirds, has this been reduced?

No

If appropriate, please explain the reasons for not doing this.

> No special measurement of impact of the legislation is a part of regular monitoring.

35. Are there measures in your country to reduce/eliminate illegal taking? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.6)

Yes

How would you rate the effectiveness of the measures?

Moderate

Please provide details

> Nature conservation and hunting guards and specialized police departments exist, but in not sufficient numbers. Special environmental crime departments exist in the police and the Ministry of Interior.

36. Are legally binding best practice codes and standards for hunting (e.g. bird identification) considered a priority or appropriate for your country? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 2, Target 2.4)

Yes

Are there legally binding best practice codes or standards in place?

Yes

What do these cover?

Proficiency test for hunters (including bird identification)

Club Affiliation

Game Management Plans

Other (please specify)

> Advisory Boards for all hunting regions are established, with participation of nature conservation bodies. All details and standards are included in the Act No. 274/2009 on hunting (as amended) and the Decree of the Ministry of Agriculture No. 344/2009 by which the Act is implemented.

37. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines on sustainable harvest of migratory birds?

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

Yes

Please provide details

> Sustainable harvest of water birds is applied according to national legislation, regulations and standards which are in line with AEWA Guidelines and other international principles, guidelines and standards (especially EU regulations).

Optionally, you can provide additional information on section 5.1. Hunting

> According to the Act No. 274/2009 Coll. on hunting the employees of the State Nature Conservancy are members of the advisory boards for hunting regions (organized by the regional forestry offices).

5.2. Other human activities

38. Have restrictions on use of lead fishing weights been introduced in your country? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.3.12). When answering this question please also consider question 56 in chapter 6 - Research and monitoring.

No

If appropriate, please provide further details.

> This issue was included in the updated national Programme for Wetlands Management in Slovakia 2015 - 2021 and its Action Plan 2015 - 2018 to be addressed in coming years.

39. Does your country have legislation in place, which provides for Strategic Environmental

Assessment/Environmental Impact Assessment (SEA/EIA) of activities potentially negatively affecting natural habitats or wildlife? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.3.1)

Yes and being implemented

Does this legislation apply to the entire country or only to particular states/provinces thereof?

Entire country

Please provide details

> The Slovak Republic as a member of EU carries out Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) of activities potentially affecting natural habitats, protected sites or areas important for species (Act No. 24/2006 on Environmental Impact Assessment, as amended).

Do the SEA/EIA processes consider waterbirds and habitats on which they depend?

Yes

Please provide details

> The Act No. 24/2006 (as amended) on the environmental impact assessment, which implements relevant Directives of EU, covers waterbirds and their habitats.

Do the SEA/EIA processes include public participation?

Yes

Please provide details

> The Act on EIA was updated several times and it enables wider and more effective public participation.

40. In the last three years, has your country used SEA/EIA for all relevant projects, including energy sector projects such as renewable energy developments and power lines installation, to assess the impact of proposed projects on migratory waterbird species listed on Table 1 and/or habitats/sites on which they depend? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.3.1, Resolution 5.11 and Resolution 5.16)

Yes, all proposed projects

Please provide information on the outstanding cases

> EIA examples:

Excavation of minerals glass sands in deposit in Šajdkove Humence - the obligations to install floating islands for birds after finishing the excavation and to make shallow littoral banks for development of wetland habitats were included in the decision;

Cultivation of fast-growing woods in Malé Leváre - the activity was planned on wintering site of gees and it was not approved;

Construction of D1 Motorway in Ružomberok district near SAC Váh River and Ivachnovský luh reserve - proposed technical measures on scaffold bridge to avoid collisions of birds;

Construction of D1 Motorway Turany - Hubová - avoidance of wetland protected areas decided as the solution;

Construction of R2 expressway Včeláre - Šaca, Tornaľa - Gombasek; R4 expressway Kapušany - Svidník - mitigation, compensation and preventive measures proposed;

Construction of 110 kV power line V6812 Snina - Sobrance;

Construction of 2 x 400 kV power line Rimavská Sobota - state border with Hungary - mitigation measures proposed and planned;

Small hydro-power plant Kral'ovany - not approved;

SEA example: Update of the framework for use of hydro-energetic potential of rivers in Slovakia to 2030.

Where an SEA/EIA has identified a likelihood of significant negative impacts on migratory waterbirds, have steps been taken to avoid these impacts, including avoidance of protected areas and other sites of importance for migratory waterbirds?

Yes

Please describe the measures put in place

> It is a part of the SEA/EIA procedures, the Act No. 24/2006 on environment impact assessment and relevant guidance documents. Some examples are mentioned above.

41. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines on how to avoid, minimize or mitigate impact of infrastructural developments and related disturbance affecting waterbirds?

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons. What other guidance has been used instead?

> General Guidelines for Environment Impact Assessment in the Slovak Republic (2006) which include principles of AEWG Guidelines and other international standards are used. The AEWG Guidelines will be translated into Slovak language (together with other relevant guidelines) in the following period and distributed to relevant stakeholders, as it is planned in the Action Plan 2015 - 2018 for implementation of the national wetland policy 2015 - 2021.

42. Please report on the implementation of Resolution 5.11 on Power Lines and Migratory Waterbirds.

42.1. Are relevant stakeholders, including government agencies, scientific bodies, nongovernmental organisations and the energy sector, being regularly consulted in order to monitor jointly the impacts of power lines on waterbirds and to agree on a common policy of action?

Yes

Please provide details

> Systematic collection of data on collisions and killing is undertaken by the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic (SNC SR) using regular on the spot personal checks of the electricity line zones. The SNC SR has realized monitoring and documentation. It means, there exists "step by step" procedure, how the listing and evidence of power-pylon has to be done and how possible occurrence of injured/dead bird is documented (GPS coordinates, photo, type of pylon, type of insulator, etc.). These activities are for many years included in the annual work plan of the institution. They consist of identification of the most dangerous facilities (both constructions and power lines) through systematic and ad hoc monitoring of killed/hurt birds, compilation and data processing, supervision on practical application of decisions of nature protection authorities and of improvement of identified problematic facilities. Similar activities have been done by NGOs. For instance Raptor Protection of Slovakia has implemented several projects with both public awareness activities (leaflet on Poles of Death, exhibitions, negotiations...) and practical measures for monitoring the most problematic sections. Insulation of poles, marking of electric lines to be visible, as well as construction of artificial nest boxes for concerned birds were made. All activities are coordinated with the SNC SR. Energy distribution companies in Slovakia support activities on monitoring and surveys of birds affected by power lines. They are voluntary partners in different projects (mainly LIFE projects) where they together with public authorities (SNC SR) and NGOs cooperate. Organizations are concerned with the problem of electricity pylons (in terms of the collisions with birds). Permanently (once per year), the energy distribution companies organize meetings (workshops), where the collected data and experiences are discussed. LIFE Nature project LIFE 13 NAT/SK001272 "Energy in the landscape - power lines and conservation of priority bird species in Natura 2000 sites" is implemented jointly by NGO (Raptor Protection of Slovakia), energy companies, the State Nature Conservancy and the University of Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy in Kosice, mostly in wetland areas.

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

[Project LIFE Energy](#)

42.2. Has a baseline of waterbird distribution, population sizes, migrations and movements (including those between breeding, resting and feeding areas) been established as early as possible in the planning of any power line project, over a period of at least five years, and with particular emphasis on those species known to be vulnerable to electrocution or collision?

Yes

Please provide details

> Collection of data on waterbird distribution, population sizes, migrations and movements is a part of the tasks of the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic, which is commenting all plans for power lines and proposes measures, in cooperation with relevant NGOs.

42.3 If such studies, as described in the question above, have identified any risks, has every effort been made to ensure these are avoided?

Yes

Please provide details.

> The measures are enforced by branches/regional administrations of the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic.

42.4. Have the location, route and direction of new power lines been designated on the basis of national zoning maps?

Yes

Please provide details

> Development (reconstruction) of the electric lines using the underground installation is required, but in practice it is not feasible (being very expensive). Therefore this approach is not realistic neither in large scale areas (SPAs cover over 25 % of the territory of Slovakia) nor in other protected areas in wetlands (where it is too complicated to install underground lines). The most appropriate solution is using so-called triple cable in which all three conductors are within one cable that is better visible and does not present so dangerous barrier like three parallel conductors. All the new electric poles must be constructed towards minimizing negative effects on birds. Also within existing electric poles in problematic sections the technical measures are undertaken. The precise statistics are not completed (data base is created gradually with respect to the total number of electric poles, on various types and numbers of cross-arms/other technical measures and data are not available yet). The most appropriate type for the existing poles of the electricity lines is the following model of the additional preventive „protector“ (being used by all 3 electricity companies in the country after the agreement with the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic and NGOs). The SNC SR requests realization of technical measures for preventing bird killing on the power lines: Operative installation of protectors in critical sections; Installation of artificial breeding stands and protectors on power lines - poles; Replacement of whole consoles - according to our experience, comb protectors installed in the past are ineffective.

42.5. Has, wherever possible, the construction of power lines along major migration flyways and in habitats of conservation importance* been avoided, where such construction is likely to have significant effects on waterbirds?

* such as Special Protection Areas under the EU Birds Directive, Important Bird Areas, protected areas, Ramsar sites, the West/Central Asian Site Network for Siberian Crane and other waterbirds and other critical sites as identified by the Critical Site Network (CSN) Tool for the African-Eurasian region.

Yes

Please provide details.

> Construction of power lines is commented and consulted with the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic and habitats of conservation importance are avoided.

42.6. Are bird-safe designs in the construction of new power infrastructure, including measures designed to reduce electrocution and collisions being used in your country?

Yes

Please provide details

> The provision is included in the Act No. 543/2002 on nature and landscape protection (§ 4.3) as obligation. New triangle consoles have been installed. Installation of tools for better visibility of power lines have been made - aerial marked ball for power lines - red and white colours, FireFly - Bird Flapper.

42.7. Have those sections of existing power lines that are causing relatively high levels of waterbird injury and/or mortality due to electrocution and/or collision been identified?

Yes

Please provide details

> Many problematic power lines are identified by the State Nature Conservancy staff members in cooperation with NGOs and relevant energy providing companies on regular basis and in projects. Priority areas are Natura 2000 sites - Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Areas (SPA), and Ramsar sites. However there are hundreds of km of canals and other important wintering sites of waterbirds out of SPAs and many gaps in knowledge still remain.

42.8. Where sections of existing power lines have been identified to cause relatively high levels of waterbird injury and/or mortality due to electrocution and/or collision, have they been modified as a matter of priority?

Yes

Please provide details.

> The priority sections of power lines for modification are enforced by the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic and consulted with environment authorities and electricity companies.

42.9. Is there in your country regular monitoring and evaluation of the impact of power lines on waterbird populations at the national scale?

Yes

Please provide details

> The power lines (110kV, 22kV or 400 kV) in the potential and active breeding sites have been monitored (by the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic, NGOs and volunteers) and protected with console

protectors (by energy companies). Dead and injured birds found under the pylons are documented, and the locations of problematic pylons have been sent to energy companies. More detailed monitoring at the 22 kV lines have been done mainly in Natura 2000 sites - Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Areas (SPA); Collection and processing of data and implementation of further elimination measures followed. The LIFE Nature project "Energy in the landscape - power lines and conservation of priority bird species in Natura 2000 sites" has been implemented, aimed at developing strategy solution at the national level (commonly prepared by NGOs, all 3 energy distribution companies, and the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic, for approval by the Ministry), elaboration of the methodology of collection and evaluation of data, development of information centre and database; identification of risk sites along the migration corridors and main wintering sites, activities in pilot areas, etc. "Methodology of evaluation of bird killing on power lines" will determine the biological aspects of the impact of collisions with power lines on populations of threatened species in the study areas (SPAs in Eastern and Western Slovakia). Next goal will be development of a model to predict areas with high, medium, low risk of bird collisions. There are still some gaps in monitoring of important wintering sites out of Natura 2000 sites and protected areas.

42.10. Is there in your country regular monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness of mitigation measures put in place to minimise the impact of power lines on waterbird populations?

Yes

Please provide details.

> The monitoring is focused on selected project sites.

42.11. Have the measures contained in Resolution 5.11. been included in your country's National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans and relevant legislation?

Yes

Please provide details

> The Act No. 543/2002 Coll. on Nature and Landscape Protection, as amended, provides for general plant and animal protection (§ 4) with specific provisions on electricity lines: paragraph 4.4 "Everyone who constructs or carries out scheduled reconstruction of overhead electricity lines is obliged to use such technical solutions that prevent from killing birds", and paragraph 4.5 "If killing of birds on electricity lines or telecommunication facilities is verifiable, the nature protection body may rule that an administrator of electricity lines or telecommunication facilities has to adopt measures to prevent killing of birds." Administrator of the line is responsible for preventing electrocution of birds and must make arrangements to prevent electrocutions when erecting or reconstructing electric lines or when it is proved that a bird is killed on a pole. According to the nature protection act the district/regional offices (their units in charge for environment protection) give opinion for each territorial decision or building permits (including those for the electricity network), that is the opportunity to request for considering the issue of negative effects of 22 kV lines on birds. These offices have been asked to thoroughly check all the plans and request (in all the new facilities) to install the appropriate models of construction and in sites of high importance for birds (with verified damages) to insist on underground power lines. All plans and projects regarding the construction of power lines should comply with the Directives on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA Act. No 24/2006 Coll.). Where a high voltage (110kV, 220kV or 400 kV) transmission project, alone or in combination with other plans or projects is likely to have significant impacts on Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Areas (SPA) - Natura 2000 sites, or the risks of such effects cannot be excluded, Appropriate Assessment is required under the Article 6 of the EU Habitats Directive (No 92/43/EEC). The elimination of electrocution was included also in the Action Plan for implementation of the updated National Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 (approved in 2014 by the Slovak Government).

43. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines on how to avoid or mitigate impact of electricity power grids on migratory birds in the African-Eurasian region?

Yes

Please provide details

> Principles of the Guidelines are applied in the country. The Guidelines will be translated into Slovak language (together with other relevant guidelines) in the following period and distributed to relevant stakeholders, as it is planned in the Action Plan 2015 - 2018 for implementation of the national wetland policy 2015 - 2021 and will be included in a "Methodology for evaluation of bird killing on power lines".

44. Please report on the implementation of Resolution 5.16 on Renewable Energy and Migratory Waterbirds.

44.1. Has a national sensitivity and zoning mapping to avoid overlap of renewable energy developments with areas of importance for migratory waterbirds been developed in your country?

Yes

Please provide details

› Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic in 2014 decided on updating of the strategy of use of the hydro-energetic potential of water courses of the Slovak Republic and on SEA for this plan. Appropriate Assessment to determine implications of the plan for Natura 2000 sites according to paragraph 6.3 of the EU Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC has been taken. Guidance of the Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic on standards and limits for location of the wind power plants and wind farms established categories of suitability for location of wind farms and limits and conditions for planning of these farms taking into account areas of importance for migratory waterbirds and hydric bio-corridors, as well as inventory of birds.

44.2. Have any international environmental guidelines, recommendations and criteria been followed in your country for impact assessment of renewable energy developments and the utilization of renewable energy sources?

Yes

Please describe which guidelines, recommendations and criteria have been followed.

› The impact assessment follows the principles included in relevant directives of EU.

44.3. Is post-construction monitoring being undertaken of the renewable energy installations and associated infrastructure in your country?

Yes

Please share information and lessons learnt from the post-construction monitoring.

› The monitoring is included in decisions of the environment authorities.

Has adverse effect on migratory waterbirds and their habitats been identified?

No

44.4. Where damage cannot be avoided or mitigated, has compensation for damages to biodiversity been provided?

Yes

Please provide details

› Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC should be applied in Natura 2000 sites.

44.5. Please indicate whether any of the following measures have been put in place to reduce the potential negative impact of terrestrial and marine windfarms on migratory waterbirds:

44.5. Please indicate whether any of the following measures have been put in place to reduce the potential negative impact of terrestrial and marine windfarms on migratory waterbirds:

Operate wind farms in ways that minimise bird mortality, for example by introducing shortterm shutdowns during peak migration and minimising lighting in wind farms.

Not applicable

Please explain the reasons

› Wind farms have not been developed in Slovakia, but relevant measures are included in guidance documents (e.g. EU Guidance on wind energy in accordance with the EU nature legislation, 2011) which are to be applied in the country.

Dismantling of wind turbines in existing installations, should waterbird mortality have an effect on the population status of a species and other mitigation measures have proved insufficient.

Not applicable

Please explain the reasons

› Wind farms have not been developed in Slovakia.

Focusing research efforts on alleviating the negative effects on waterbirds from wind farms, such as the mapping of the main migration corridors and migration crossings for waterbirds also allowing the optimising of wind farm layouts.

Not applicable

Please explain the reasons

› Wind farms have not been developed in Slovakia.

44.6. Have any specific measures been put in place to assess, identify and reduce potential negative impacts of biofuel production on migratory waterbirds and their habitats?

No

Please explain the reasons. What are the constraints preventing implementation of this activity?

> No specific measures have been put in place concerning migratory waterbirds. The general rules and provisions set up by the European Union apply for the country.

The EU has defined a set of sustainability criteria to ensure that the use of biofuels (used in transport) and bioliquids (used for electricity and heating) is done in a way that guarantees real carbon savings and protects biodiversity. Only biofuels and bioliquids that comply with the criteria can receive government support or count towards national renewable energy targets.

The main criteria include provisions that biofuels cannot be grown in areas converted from land with previously high carbon stock such as wetlands or forests; Biofuels cannot be produced from raw materials obtained from land with high biodiversity such as primary forests or highly biodiverse grasslands.

The European Commission prepared (in 2016) proposal for a revised Renewable Energy Directive which includes updated sustainability criteria for biofuels used in transport and bioliquids, and solid and gaseous biomass fuels used for heat and power.

The Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic developed in 2016 the sustainability criteria for use of biomass in regions of the Slovak Republic.

44.7. Have the measures contained in Resolution 5.11. been included in your country's National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans and relevant legislation?

Yes

Please provide details

> Monitoring of species of international importance and elimination of kills on power lines are activities included in the Action Plan for implementation of the updated National Biodiversity Strategy to 2020, adopted by the Slovak Government in 2014.

45. Has your country used the following AEWA Guidelines - Renewable Energy Technologies and Migratory Species: Guidelines for Sustainable Deployment (Resolution 6.11)?

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons. What other guidance has been used instead?

> The relevant guidelines will be translated into Slovak language in the following period and distributed to relevant stakeholders, as it is planned in the Action Plan 2015 - 2018 for implementation of the national wetland policy 2015 - 2021.

46. Is by-catch of waterbirds in fishing gear taking place in your country? (Resolution 3.8)

Not applicable

Please explain

> Small-scale fishery and sport angling on fishponds and other inland water bodies is applied in Slovakia as inland country, using of fishing gear is not a common method used and generally there is no by-catch of waterbirds.

47. Has your country undertaken steps towards the adoption/application of measures to reduce the incidental catch of seabirds and combat Illegal Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) fishing practices in the Agreement Area? (Resolution 3.8)

Not applicable

Please explain

> Slovakia is an inland country.

Pressures and Responses

6. Research and Monitoring

49. Does your country have waterbird monitoring schemes for the AEWA species in place? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 3.2)

Yes

Covering the breeding period

Guidance: Including pre- and post-breeding sites of concentration, such as moulting sites close to breeding areas

Partially

Please provide details.

> Project "Development of data on favourable conservation status of selected bird species and their habitats in SPAs" implemented by the State Nature Conservancy tested the methodology for long-term systematic monitoring of selected birds. Four wetland sites have been under European programme of CES (Constant Effort Sites) in different parts of the country. Programme Breeding Waterfowl Census is implemented by the Slovak Ornithological Society/BirdLife (SOS/BirdLife) Slovakia. Monitoring of breeding of White Stork (*Ciconia ciconia*) is organized by the SOS/BirdLife Slovakia.

Covering the passage period

Partially

Please provide details.

> Monitoring is included in the annual work plan of the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic and is focused on Special Protection Areas (SPAs).

Covering the non-breeding/wintering period

Fully

Guidance: Coverage is full when all internationally and nationally important non-breeding/wintering sites are covered at least by one comprehensive annual count.

Please provide details.

> Winter census of waterbirds (over 500 sites checked). Project Monitoring and management of Great Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*) was implemented by the State Nature Conservancy. Monitoring is focused also on gees winter resting sites.

Field for additional information (optional)

> Bird ringing is coordinated by the Slovak Ornithological Society/BirdLife Slovakia.

50. Has your country supported, technically or financially, other Parties or Range States in designing appropriate monitoring schemes and developing their capacity to collect reliable waterbird population data? (Resolution 5.2)

No

Please explain the reasons

> There are some bilateral projects and cooperation agreements on monitoring of birds between the State Nature Conservancy (and/or some NGOs) and nature conservation institutions in neighbouring countries, However there is lack of capacity (human and financial) for support of other Parties or Range States.

51. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines for a waterbird monitoring protocol?

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

Yes

Please provide details

> Standard methods used, available at www.vtaky.sk.

The guidelines for systematic long-term monitoring of birds in SPAs were published by the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic in 2013.

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

[Guidelines on monitoring of birds](#)

52. Have any research programmes been established in your country in the last 5 years to

address waterbird conservation priorities in accordance with the AEWA strategies and plans? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 3.3)

Yes

Please list those programmes and indicate which AEWA priorities they are addressing

> Constant Efforts Sites (CES - 4 sites)

Programme of census of breeding birds (<http://www.vtaky.sk/stranka/96-Hniezdne-scitanie-vodneho-vtactva.html>)

Wintering birds census (<http://www.vtaky.sk/stranka/95-Zimne-scitanie.html>)

Programme RINGS (birds ringing - <http://vtaky.sk/stranka/106-Program-RINGS.html>)

Project "Development of data on favourable conservation status of selected bird species and their habitats in SPAs"

53. List (or provide links to lists) of research related to waterbirds and their conservation that has been undertaken or results published in the past triennium (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 3.5)

> Trnka, A. & Grim, T. (eds), 2014. Ornitologická príručka.

Bratislava: Slovenská ornitologická spoločnosť/BirdLife Slovensko, 302 pp.

Gúgh, J., Trnka, A., Karaska, D. & Ridzoň, J. 2015. Zásady ochrany európsky významných druhov vtákov a ich biotopov. Štátna ochrana prírody SR, Banská Bystrica, 332 pp.

Karaska, D., Trnka, A., Krištín, A. & Ridzoň, J. 2015. Chránené vtáčie územia Slovenska. Štátna ochrana prírody SR, Banská Bystrica, 380 pp.

Lešová, A. & Adamec, M. (eds), 2015. Kormorán - kontroverzia jeho ochrany. Štátna ochrana prírody Slovenskej republiky, Banská Bystrica, 112 pp.

Lešová, A. & Adamec, M. (eds), 2015. Biológia, distribúcia a potravná ekológia kormorána veľkého v Európe. Štátna ochrana prírody Slovenskej republiky, Banská Bystrica, 112 pp.

Lešová, A. & Adamec, M. (eds), 2015. Prevencia a ochrana pred kormoránmi v rybnom hospodárstve. Štátna ochrana prírody Slovenskej republiky, Banská Bystrica, 112 pp.

Pačenovský, S. 2015. Výrazná migrácia bahniakov na Zemplíne. Vtáky, Jeseň 2015: 15.

Repel, M. 2015. Vtáčí raj - Senianske rybníky a perla Východoslovenskej nížiny - Medzibodrožie. Vtáky, Leto 2015: 16-17.

Ridzoň, J. 2015. Čo priniesol rok po oprave legislatívy pre ochranu vtáctva na Dunaji? Vtáky, Jar 2015: 10-11.

Ridzoň, J., Karaska, D. & Topercer, J. 2015. Aktuálny stav výberových druhov vtákov v Chránených vtáčích územiach na Slovensku. Štátna ochrana prírody SR, Banská Bystrica, 320 pp.

Šefferová Stanová, V., Galvánková, J., Rizman, I. (eds), 2015. Monitoring of plants and habitats of Community interest in the Slovak Republic, Results and assessment in the period of 2013 - 2015. Banská Bystrica: State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic. 300 pp.

Šefferová Stanová, V. (ed.), 2015. Manažmentové modely pre údržbu, ochranu a obnovu mokradových biotopov. Štátna ochrana prírody Slovenskej republiky, Banská Bystrica, 200 pp.

Flajs, T. 2015. Effect of three landscape elements on localization of calling Corncrake (*Crex crex*) males in dispersed settlement landscape (Zázrivá, NW Slovakia). *Tichodroma* 27: 11-17.

Fulín, M. 2015. Ringing of White Stork (*Ciconia ciconia*) in Slovakia - state of records' administration and index of recovery records. *Tichodroma* 27: 100-106.

Kvetko, R. & FK SOS BirdLife Slovensko, 2015. The 15th report of the Rarities Committee of the Slovak Ornithological Society/BirdLife Slovakia. *Tichodroma* 27: 128-135.

Maďar, J. 2015. Structure of waterbirds on the water reservoir Veľké Kozmálovce (W Slovakia) after 15 years. *Tichodroma* 27: 83-93.

Baláž, M. 2016. Wintering waterbirds on Váh River in the region of Liptov (N Slovakia). *Tichodroma* 28: 40-47.

Benko, Š., Chudý, A. & Ridzoň, J. 2016. First recorded case of direct predation of waterbird colonies by American Mink (*Neovision vison*) in Slovakia. *Tichodroma* 28: 82-85.

Gúgh, J. 2016. Ako pokračuje telemetrické sledovanie bocianov bielych. Vtáky, Jar 2016: 10-11.

Jenčo, M., Repel, M. & Demko, M. 2016. Bird-ringing results in Slovakia in 2014 and 2015. *Tichodroma* 28: 97-105.

Kováč, I. & Kováčová, K. 2016. Rieka Hron sa stala rajom pre potápača veľkého. Vtáky, Jeseň 2016: 7.

Kvetko, R. & FK SOS/BirdLife Slovensko, 2016. The 16th report of the Rarities Committee of the Slovak Ornithological Society/BirdLife Slovakia. *Tichodroma* 28: 106-113.

Lešová, A., Saxa, A. & Adamec, M. 2016. Štátna ochrana prírody Slovenskej republiky: In: Adamec, M., Andreji, J., Derka, T., Dobiáš, T., Druga, V., Ganse, G., Chládecký, B., Lešová, A., Kováč, V., Krajč, T., Máchová, J., Mészáros, J., Randák, T., Rybár, M., Saxa, A., Sokáč, M., Svobodová, Z., Šubjak, J., Topercer, J., Vankúšová, M., Vozár, I. 2016. Aktuálne problémy a škody v rybárstve. Slovenský rybársky zväz. 158 pp.

Pačenovský, S. 2016. Výskyt hltavky chochlateľ (Bubulcus ibis) v CHVÚ Senianske rybníky v roku 2016. Vtáky, Leto 2016: 11.

Pačenovský, S., Chrašč, P. & Repel, M. 2016. Sledovanie jesennej migrácie vtáctva na východe Slovenska v roku 2016. Vtáky, Jeseň 2016: 12-13.

Ridzoň, J. 2016. Desať rokov sčítania bežných druhov vtáctva na Slovensku. Vtáky, Jar 2016: 8-9.

Baláž, M. 2017. Sčítanie zimujúcich vodných vtákov na Slovensku v januári 2017. Vtáky, Jeseň 2017: 13.

Benko, Š., Chudý, A. & Ridzoň, J. 2017. Znovuzrodenie Vtáčieho ostrova na Dunaji. Vtáky, Leto 2017: 8-9.
Danko, Š., Balla, M., Repel, M. (eds) a kolektív, 2017. Vtáctvo slovenskej časti Medzibodrožia. Slovenská ornitologická spoločnosť / BirdLife Slovensko, Bratislava. 505 pp.
Chudý, A. & Benko, Š. 2017. Hniezdenie čajok a rybárov na Hrušovskej zdrži v rokoch 2012-2017. Vtáky, Leto 2017: 6-7.
Jenčo, M., Repel, M. & Demko, M. 2017. Bird-ringing results in Slovakia in 2016. Tichodroma 29: 33-41.
Jureček, R. & Valachovič, D. 2017. Ostrovy pre hniezdenie vodných a na vodu viazaných druhov vtákov. Chránené územia Slovenska 89: 7-10.
Kadlečík, J., Lešová, A. & Antal, V. 2017. Podarí sa obmedziť vyrušovanie vodného vtáctva v zime? Chránené územia Slovenska 88: 21-23.
Kvetko, R. & FK SOS/BirdLife Slovensko, 2017. The 17th report of the Rarities Committee of the Slovak Ornithological Society/BirdLife Slovakia. Tichodroma 29: 42-48.
Kajtoch, L., Lešo, P., Matysek, M., Kata, M., Gacek, S., Zontek, C., Bisztyga, A., Gwiazda, R. 2017. Do flocks of great cormorants and goosanders avoid spatial overlap in foraging habitat during the non-breeding season? Aquatic Ecology 51 (3): 473-483.
Ridzoň, J. 2017. Kormorány (po)odleteli. Vtáky, Jar 2017: 12-13.
Ridzoň, J. 2017. Vtákom sťahujúcim sa do Afriky a južnej Ázie sa u nás nedarí. Výsledky sčítania bežných druhov za roky 2005-2016. Vtáky, Leto 2017: 12-13.
Ridzoň, J., Svetlík, J., Chudý, A., Gúgh, J., Benko, Š. & Kvetko, R. 2017. Nízka voda v Hrušovskej zdrži - veľká radosť ornitológov a birdwatcherov. Vtáky, Jeseň 2017: 14-15.
Some information available on web sites of the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic (www.sopsr.sk) and the Slovak Ornithological Society/BirdLife Slovakia (www.vtaky.sk); Research results usually published in Journal Tichodroma (www.tichodroma.sk/archiv.html); Reports on winter waterbird censuses in Slovakia are available on the web (<http://www.vtaky.sk/stranka/95-Zimne-scitanie.html>);

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

Tichodroma

Field for additional information (optional)

> None

54. Has your government provided over the past triennium funds and/or logistical support for the International Waterbird Census at international or national level? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 3.1)

Yes

Nationally

Yes

Please provide details

> The IWC is coordinated by the Slovak Ornithological Society/BirdLife Slovakia and implemented mostly by volunteers, but in some regions the census is made and/or coordinated by State Nature Conservancy staff members.

Internationally

No

Please explain the reasons

> Lack of funds.

Field for additional information (optional)

> None

55. Has your country donated funds to the African-Eurasian Waterbird Monitoring Partnership Fund in the past triennium (Resolution 6.3)?

No

Please explain reason

> Lack of funds.

56. Has the impact of lead fishing weights on waterbirds been investigated in your country? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.3.12). When answering this question please also consider question 38 in chapter 5 - Management of human activities.

No

Are there plans to investigate the impact of lead fishing weights on waterbirds in your country?

Yes

Please provide further details

> It is included in the Action Plan 2015 - 2018 for implementation of the national wetland policy 2015 - 2021.

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 6. Research and Monitoring

> None

Pressures and Responses

7. Education and Information

7.1. Communication, Education and Public Awareness

57. Has your country developed and implemented programmes for raising awareness and understanding on waterbird conservation and about AEWA specifically? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 4, Target 4.3 and AEWA Action Plan, paragraphs 6.1-6.4, Resolution 3.10, Resolution 5.5)

Being developed

Please provide starting date and expected finalisation date of the development process; contact details of a contact person for each programme

> This measure was included in the new Action Plan 2015-2018 to the Updated Programme of Wetland Management in Slovakia 2015-2021, as well as in the Action Plan for implementation of measures of the updated National Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 (2014). It will be a part of the national Strategy for implementation of the CMS and its instruments (planned to be developed by the end of 2018).

Will the programme specifically focus on AEWA and on the provisions of its Action Plan?

Yes

Field for additional information (optional)

> Current activities include provisions of the AEWA Action Plan (training programmes, information materials). Different events (Danube Day, European Birds Day, World Wetlands Day, World Migratory Bird Day, camps, excursions, conferences) are used to highlight the themes.

58. Has a National AEWA Focal Point for Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) been nominated by your country? (Resolution 5.5)

Yes

Is the National CEPA Focal Point from the government or non-governmental sector?

Government

Has the AEWA CEPA Focal Point begun coordinating national implementation of the Communication Strategy?

Yes

Please provide details

> The national Focal Point developed a draft CEPA programme for implementation of the Ramsar and the Carpathian Wetland Initiative communication plan, this CEPA programme will be completed with AEWA Communication Strategy and it will be included also in the Strategy for implementation of the Bonn Convention (CMS) and its instruments (planned to be developed by the end of 2018).

How can the cooperation between the appointed AEWA CEPA Focal Point and the Ramsar CEPA Focal Points be described?

They are the same person

59. Have measures been taken by your country to implement the provisions related to "Education and Information" in the AEWA Action Plan over the last triennium? (AEWA Action Plan, Paragraphs 6.1-6.4)

Yes

Please indicate which measures have been taken:

a. National training programmes have been arranged for personnel responsible for implementing AEWA

No

Please explain the reasons

> The national training programme will be developed in 2018.

Field for additional information (optional)

> None

b. Training programmes and materials have been developed in cooperation with other Parties and/or the

Agreement Secretariat

No

Please explain the reasons

> Training programmes and materials will be developed in 2018.

Field for additional information (optional)

> None

c. AEWA related information and training resources have been exchanged with other Parties and/or shared with the Agreement Secretariat

No

Please explain the reasons

> No such resources available yet.

Field for additional information (optional)

> None

d. Specific public awareness campaigns for the conservation of populations listed in Table 1 have been conducted

Yes

How can the effectiveness of the measures be rated?

High

Please provide details

> Long-term awareness campaign is focused on white stork (campaign of the Slovak Ornithological Society/BirdLife Slovakia); Participation in International Census of White Stork; Educational materials produced. Effectiveness of the measures can be measured by positive attitude of public to white storks, support for their nesting, monitoring of migration, nesting, breeding success.

"Welcoming Cranes" events organized on spring in the Senianske rybníky SPA during last years become a kind of festival on cranes and other waterbirds and is increasingly popular among public.

Field for additional information (optional)

> None

60. Have World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) activities been carried out in your country during this reporting cycle? (Resolution 5.5)

Yes

Please describe the activity/activities briefly and upload any sample materials, links or photos available related to the activity/event.

> The information is placed on the web page of the State Nature Conservancy (SNC) and the activities are included in the annual work plan of SNC. Administrations of protected areas organize events every year connected with WMBD. The WMBD is promoted also in web site and magazine of the Slovak Ornithological Society/BirdLife Slovakia and various activities are organized. About activities is regularly informed also AEWA Secretariat (e.g. <http://www.worldmigratorybirdday.org/2018/events-per-country/sk>).

61. Has your country provided funding and/or other support, as appropriate (e.g. expertise, network, skills and resources) towards the implementation of the AEWA Communication Strategy? Please consider both national and international funding and different types of support provided. (Strategic Plan 2009- 2017, Objective 4, Target 4.1 and Resolution 3.10, Resolution 5.5)

No

Please explain the reasons

> Insufficient funds, co-financing provided for projects.

62. In Resolution 3.10 the Meeting of the Parties encouraged Contracting Parties to host AEWA Exchange Centres for their respective regions. Has your country considered/shown interest in hosting a Regional AEWA Exchange Centre? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 2 and Resolution 3.10)

It is currently considering

Please provide details on the answer given above

> The State Nature Conservancy established the Carpathian Wetland Centre in 2014, which can serve also as the AEWA Exchange Centre for the Carpathian region, but currently there is no specific staff working for the Centre and its funding.

63. Training for CEPA (Communication, Education and Public Awareness) at national level is supposed to be conducted by staff who have been trained in the framework of an AEWA Training of Trainers programme. Have staff who were trained as part of a Training of Trainers workshop conducted national CEPA training in your country in the past triennium? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 4, Target 4.2)

Other

Please explain

> There has not been a staff member trained in the framework of AEWA Training of Trainers programme.

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 7.1. AEWA Communication Strategy

> A documentary film "Inventory and monitoring of birds in Special Protection Areas in Slovakia" was produced by the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic and waterbirds and wetlands are highlighted.

Pressures and Responses

8. Implementation

64. Has your country approached non-contracting party range states to encourage them to accede to the Agreement? (Resolution 3.10)

Report only on activities over the past triennium

No

Please explain the reasons

> Insufficient capacity.

65. Has your country supported/developed international co-operation projects for the implementation of the Agreement, according to the priorities outlined in the AEWA International Implementation Tasks (IIT) for the current triennium? (Resolution 6.13).

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl** button on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

Yes

Please list the IIT projects (**see the full roster here**) to which grants have been provided or for which initiatives have been undertaken and briefly provide any relevant information

> There was no direct support for IIT projects, but relevant projects of transborder cooperation (PL-SK, CZ-SK, HU-SK, SK-UA) were developed and supported for exchange of information, research, surveys and monitoring, exchange or transfer of expertise, implemented mostly by the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic, SOS/BirdLife Slovakia and Regional Association for Nature Conservation and Sustainable Development Bratislava (BROZ). Several LIFE project have been co-financed by the Slovak government and implemented in cooperation with organizations in neighbouring countries. E.g. project LIFE14 NAT/SK/001306 Restoration and management of Danube floodplain habitats is implemented by BROZ in cooperation with Duna-Ipoly NP Directorate in Hungary; project LIFE10 NAT/SK/080 Conservation and restoration of Natura 2000 sites in transborder region of Bratislava is implemented by BROZ in cooperation with Pisztráng Kör (Hungary) and Donau-Auen NP Administration (Austria). Project LIFE07 NAT/SK/000707 Protection of populations of threatened bird species in natural habitats of the inner Danube delta was implemented by BROZ and other Slovak institutions in cooperation with EDUVIZIG (Hungary) and Szigetközi Természetvédelmi Egyesület (Hungary). Slovak organizations (State Nature Conservancy, BROZ) participate in international projects (e.g. INTERREG DTP project Bridging the Danube Protected Areas towards a Danube Habitat Corridor DANUBEparksCONNECTED).

66. Does your country have in place a national coordination mechanism for implementation of AEWA, possibly linking to national coordination mechanisms for other biodiversity Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs)? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 5, Target 5.7)

No

Please explain the reasons

> The implementation of AEWA is a part of the work of the Slovak Ramsar Committee composed of different stakeholders. National Focal Points and Administrative Authorities are the same for the Ramsar Convention and AEWA.

67. Has your country concluded, or considered concluding, twinning schemes between sites with other countries, the sites of which share common migratory waterbirds or conservation issues? (Resolution 5.20)

Yes

Please provide details on each twinning arrangement

> Memorandum of Understanding was signed in 2014 between the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic and Duna-Ipoly National park Directorate in Hungary for cooperation development in transboundary Ramsar Site Ipeľ/Ipoly River Valley (including monitoring of waterbirds, research and exchange of data); Cooperation of Austria, Czech Republic and Slovakia in trilateral transboundary Ramsar Site Floodplains of the Morava-Dyje-Danube Confluence (Austria, Czech Republic, Slovakia) is based on the Memorandum of Understanding (2001) and is organized within the Trilateral Ramsar Platform. Its activities include joint inventory, conservation and management of waterbirds and their habitats.

The State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic has signed cooperation agreements with directorates of national parks and nature conservation agencies of neighbouring countries and annual joint work plans include monitoring and inventory of animals, including birds.

68. Are those officers in your country's government responsible for AEWA implementation

co-ordinated and engaged with national processes to implement and to assess delivery of the CBD Strategic Plan 2011 - 2020 including the Aichi targets?

Yes

Please provide details

> Both on the level of the Ministry of Environment and the implementing agency the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic are officers in the same department or are responsible for several conventions (including CBD and Ramsar Convention).

69. Are the AEWA priorities incorporated into your country's National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan (NBSAP) and other strategic planning processes (Resolution 6.3)?

69.1 NBSAP

Yes

Please provide details

> The Action Plan for implementation of the national Biodiversity Strategy up to 2020 includes goals, objectives and actions related to migratory waterbirds and their habitats.

69.2 Other strategic planning processes

Yes

Please name the other strategic planning processes

> Programme of wetland management in Slovakia for 2015-2021 and Action Plan for wetlands for 2015-2018; (Updated) Nature and Landscape Protection Policy; Priority Action Framework for financing Natura 2000 in the Slovak Republic for EU programming period 2014-2020

Please provide details

> Strategy for implementation of Bonn Convention (CMS) and its instruments will be developed by the end of 2018.

70. Please report any activity undertaken to promote with the development agency of your country or other appropriate governmental body the relevance of AEWA implementation in the context of SDG-delivery and to stress the need to better integrate actions for waterbird and wetland conservation within relevant development projects (Resolution 6.15).

AEWA relevance for SDG implementation was NOT promoted

Please explain the reasons

> National priorities for implementation of Agenda 2030 will be elaborated by the end of 2018 and AEWA priorities can be integrated.

71. How would your country suggest promoting further links between the biodiversity MEAs to which your country is a Contracting Party, so as to make your work more efficient and effective?

> The State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic is represented in an Informal Advisory Group on synergies among biodiversity-related conventions established in 2017 under the CBD and it provides advice on prioritization and implementation of actions towards more efficient work of conventions .

72. Has your country donated funds to the AEWA Small Grants Fund over the past triennium? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 5, Target 5.4)

No

Please explain the reasons

> Not sufficient funds in the budget.

73. Has your country donated other funding or provided in-kind support to activities coordinated by the Secretariat?

No

Please explain the reasons

> Insufficient funds and capacity.

74. Please report on the implementation of Resolution 6.21 on Resource mobilisation for the implementation of AEWA.

74.1 Did your country's government provide in the last triennium financial and/or in-kind resources to support national activities which are intended to achieve the objectives of this Agreement, particularly those in line with the AEWA Strategic Plan including the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa, and in accordance with your national plans, priorities and programmes?

Yes

Please describe the resources provided

> The implementation of AEWA Strategic Plan is a part of the work plan and activities of the national nature conservation agency - the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic. Co-financing of relevant projects was provided (LIFE projects, Norway grants), implemented by governmental and non-governmental organizations.

74.2 Does your country's government have unpaid dues to the AEWA Trust Fund (annual assessed contributions to the Agreement's budget as approved by each session of the Meeting of the Parties)?

No

74.3 Has your country's government provided funding to support developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition, to meet their obligations under AEWA, and the implementation of the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa 2012-2017? Under this question please report for support provided outside of formal and established intergovernmental cooperation. For the latter, please refer to the next question 74.4.

No

Please explain the reasons

> Lack of funds.

74.4 Does your country's government participate in any South-South, North-South or triangular cooperation to enhance financial and technical support for the successful implementation of AEWA activities?

No

Please explain the reasons

> Lack of capacity.

74.5 Does your country's government use innovative financing mechanisms for implementing the AEWA Strategic Plan such as a (national) Migratory Waterbirds Fund?

No

Please explain the reasons

> Proposals for innovative financing mechanisms will be included in the new nature conservation policy and the Strategy for implementation of Bonn Convention (CMS) and its instruments.

74.6 Does the implementation of AEWA in your country benefit from synergies between biodiversity-related conventions at national level, amongst others, through information sharing on potential funding opportunities and sharing of financial resources such as the Desertification Fund, Green Climate Fund, the Adaptation Fund, and the Global Environmental Facility?

Yes

Please describe each synergetic arrangement and acquired benefits

> National focal points of biodiversity-related conventions and relevant sectors and experts are contacted, consulted and participate in meetings of respective working groups and share information and knowledge.

Pressures and Responses

9. Climate Change

75. Please outline relevant climate change research, assessments and/or adaptation measures that are relevant to migratory waterbirds and which have been undertaken or planned in your country. (Resolution 5.13)

a. Research and studies of climate change impacts on waterbirds

Planned

Please provide details

> Measures are included in adopted and/or recently updated strategic documents (national climate change adaptation strategy, biodiversity strategy and its Action Plan, national wetland policy and its Action Plan). The issue will be dealt with in the new Strategy for implementation of the Bonn Convention (CMS) and its instruments.

b. Assessment of the potential vulnerability to climate change of key habitats used by waterbird species (including those outside protected area networks) (Please note that the question asks about habitats, rather than sites. Question 27 in Section 4, sub-section 4.2 investigates vulnerability of sites to climate change)

Planned

Please provide details

> See above

c. Assessment of the potential vulnerability of waterbird species to climate change.

Planned

Please provide details

> See above

d. Review of relevant national conservation policies relevant to waterbirds and climate change.

Planned

Please provide details

> See above

e. National Action Plan for helping waterbirds adapt to climate change (as a separate implementation process or as part of a larger national framework for biodiversity adaptation to climate change. Please note that Question 28 in Section 4, sub-section 4.2 investigates national measures for increasing resilience of the ecological network for waterbirds to climate change).

Planned

Please provide details

> See above

f. Other undertaken or planned relevant activities.

No

76. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines on measures needed to help waterbirds to adapt to climate change?

No

Please explain the reasons. What other guidance has been used instead?

> These were used during process of update of the national Adaptation Strategy (2017). Relevant AEWA guidelines will be translated into Slovak language and distributed to relevant stakeholders and used in development of relevant documents.

Pressures and Responses

10. Avian Influenza

77. What issues have proved challenging in responding nationally to the spread of the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in the last triennium and what further guidance or information would be useful in this respect?

77.1 List challenges

> Measures to prevent the spread of the HPAI were adopted in 2005 and are regularly updated. The relevant decisions of the European Commission are also available on the web. The non-stop telephone line was established by the Ministry of Agriculture in 2006 for reporting on found dead birds. Information on the disease, preventive measures and other instructions are available on web sites of the Ministry of Agriculture, Authority for the Public Health, State Veterinary and Food Administration, Slovak Hunters Chamber, special portal was established on avian influenza. However generally information on wildlife or ecological / nature conservation aspects of the disease is missing.

77.2 List required further guidance or information

> Translation of existing guidance and information into the national language concerning waterbirds and wetlands and their publishing on the web to understand the risk of diseases that can be transmitted from these animals to humans and to ensure decisions and responses to disease outbreaks are effective and factually based.

77.3 Field for additional information (optional)

> None

11. Confirmation

Confirmation of information verification and approval for submission

Please confirm:

In addition a scanned copy of an official letter from the relevant state institution, approving the report for submission, can be attached.

I declare that the information provided in the Report on the implementation of AEWA for the period 2015-2017 has been verified and the report has been approved for submission by the appropriate state institution in the country.

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[AEWA national report 2364-2018.pdf](#) - Submission letter Ministry of Environment Slovak Republic

Date of submission

> 4 June 2018