

8th SESSION OF THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES

26 – 30 September 2022, Budapest, Hungary

*“Strengthening Flyway Conservation in a Changing World”***ANALYSIS OF THE REPORTS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AEWA PLAN OF ACTION FOR AFRICA FOR THE PERIOD OF 2019-2020**

Prepared for the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat by the UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC)¹

Introduction

The second AEWA Plan of Action for Africa (PoAA) which covers the period 2019-2027 was adopted by Resolution 7.1 of the 7th Meeting of the Parties (MOP7) to AEWA (South Africa, December 2018). It outlines actions and processes to be conducted at the national level (by the AEWA African Contracting Parties) and at the Agreement level (by the bodies of the Agreement and other stakeholders) in order to implement the AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027 in the African region.

Resolution 7.1, in operative paragraph 11, also instructs the AEWA Standing Committee (StC), working with the Technical Committee (TC) and the Secretariat, to establish a module on the implementation of the AEWA PoAA 2019-2027 in the national report format and to integrate the module in time for reporting to MOP8. Meanwhile, operative paragraph 8 of the same Resolution requests the AEWA StC, in collaboration with the TC and the Secretariat, to monitor the implementation of the AEWA Strategic Plan and the PoAA 2019-2027 and to report progress to each ordinary session of the Meeting of the Parties. Finally, operative paragraph 13 of this resolution established the deadline for submission of reports on the implementation of the PoAA for no later than 240 days before the opening of MOP8, which corresponded to a submission deadline of 7 February 2021, considering the previously scheduled dates for MOP8 in 2021 (5-9 October 2021 in Budapest, Hungary)

The draft template for the AEWA PoAA reporting module for the period of 2019-2020 (for the purpose of reporting to MOP8) was prepared by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat. It was then reviewed by the AEWA Technical Committee in September 2020, as well as by the AEWA Standing Committee in October 2020, with the latter approving the development of the online module for National Reporting to MOP8 on the implementation of the PoAA, based on the approved PoAA reporting template. The PoAA online reporting module was developed using the CMS Family Online Reporting System (ORS) and was rolled out in December 2020 for the compilation and submission of PoAA Reports to MOP8.

Submitted PoAA reports were reviewed by the AEWA Secretariat and reverted to Parties as part of the advisory services to improve the quality and quantity of information provided in the reports. Resubmitted reports were then considered as final submissions.

By the submission deadline of 7 February 2021, only 5 out of 38 due reports had been submitted through the ORS (a 13% submission rate). The submission deadline was extended initially to 19 February 2021 and eventually to 24 March 2021 (the latter being the cut-off date for initiating the analysis of the reports). All reports submitted before this final cut-off date were analysed. By the cut-off date of 24 March 2021, 20 out of

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the 38 reports due had been submitted/re-submitted through the ORS, equivalent to a 53% submission rate for this first ever reporting cycle for the AEWA PoAA.

The analysis of PoAA national reports for the period of 2019-2020 was commissioned by the Secretariat to UNEP-WCMC, thanks to the generous contribution by the Government of the United Kingdom through its Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and in accordance with a detailed analysis framework developed by the Secretariat. A first and second draft of the analysis were reviewed and commented by the Secretariat in April and June 2021, respectively. The outcomes of the analysis were used to compile the present final report on Analysis of Reports on the Implementation of the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa for the period of 2019-2020 . The report was presented to the 18th meeting of the AEWA Standing Committee (28 July 2021, in virtual format) for consideration, and was approved for submission to MOP8, subject to a final review by the Secretariat, with the required final review conducted in the end of July 2021.

Action requested from the Meeting of the Parties

The Meeting of the Parties is invited to note the Analysis of the Reports on the Implementation of the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa for the period of 2019-2020, and to take its conclusions and recommendations into account in the decision-making process.



ANALYSIS OF NATIONAL REPORTS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AEWA PLAN OF ACTION FOR AFRICA

2019–2020

Analysis of National Reports on the implementation of the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa, 2019-2020

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

AEWA	Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds / African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement	MOP	Meeting of the Parties
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity	NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
CEPA	Communication, Education and Public Awareness	NFP	(AEWA) National Focal Point
CEPA FP	(AEWA) CEPA Focal Point	NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
CMS	Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals	NSAP	National Species Action Plan
CSR	(AEWA) Conservation Status Report	PoAA	(AEWA) Plan of Action for Africa
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment	Ramsar	The Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar Convention)
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations	REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
FP	Focal Point	R-METT	Ramsar Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool
IBA	Important Bird and Biodiversity Area	SAP	Species Action Plan
IMSAP	(AEWA) International Multi-Species Action Plan	SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
ISWG	(AEWA) International Species Working Group	SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
ISSAP	(AEWA) International Single Species Action Plan	SPMS	(CMS) Strategic Plan for Migratory Species
IWC	International Waterbird Census	UN	United Nations
MAB	(UNESCO) Man and the Biosphere Programme	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreement	WHC	World Heritage Convention
		WHS	World Heritage Site



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA) is an intergovernmental treaty dedicated to the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats in the African-Eurasian region. The 2019-2027 Plan of Action for Africa (PoAA) acts as a guide for African Parties aiming to fulfil the five objectives of the AEWA Strategic Plan, which focus on (1) strengthening species conservation and recovery; (2) ensuring that the use of waterbirds is sustainable throughout their flyways; (3) ensuring there is a robust network of protected areas managed to maintain waterbird populations; (4) ensuring there is sufficient quantity and quality of habitat for AEWA species to thrive; and (5) strengthening the knowledge, capacity, recognition, awareness and resources required for the Agreement to reach its aims.

Progress towards the implementation of the PoAA is tracked using a reporting module, which was instructed to be established by AEWA Resolution 7.1 in time for reporting to the 8th Meeting of the Parties (MOP8). Through this module, African Parties provide feedback on the implementation of a selected set actions that are expected to have been undertaken during each of the PoAA's reporting periods. **This report provides an analysis of PoAA national reports that were received for the first reporting period of the plan, which spanned from 2019-2020.** For this period, the reporting module contained 48 principal questions, which asked about actions towards the achievement of all five AEWA Strategic Plan objectives, but which were primarily focused on the delivery of objectives (1) and (3). The report has two aims: firstly, to evaluate early progress towards the PoAA's implementation, and secondly to identify areas where further work and resources may need to be invested in order for the expected results of the plan to be fulfilled during the PoAA's term of validity.

Twenty Parties submitted PoAA national reports by the extended deadline of 24 March 2021 (hereafter referred to as the '**reporting Parties**'), representing 53% of the 38 African AEWA Contracting Parties. The sub-region with the highest rate of submission was Southern Africa, with over 86% (six out of seven) of AEWA Parties in that sub-region submitting a report by the deadline. In contrast, the Central Africa sub-region had the lowest submission rate of 20% (one out of five AEWA Parties). An overall reporting rate of just over half of the African AEWA Parties for this first reporting period means that limited conclusions can be made regarding whether the patterns indicated in this analysis are representative for the African region overall. However, while this highlights that an important consideration for future reporting cycles will be to increase reporting capacity among Parties that did not submit, it should be remembered that the COVID-19 pandemic meant that 2020 was an extraordinary year in which normal implementation and reporting mechanisms may have become disrupted.

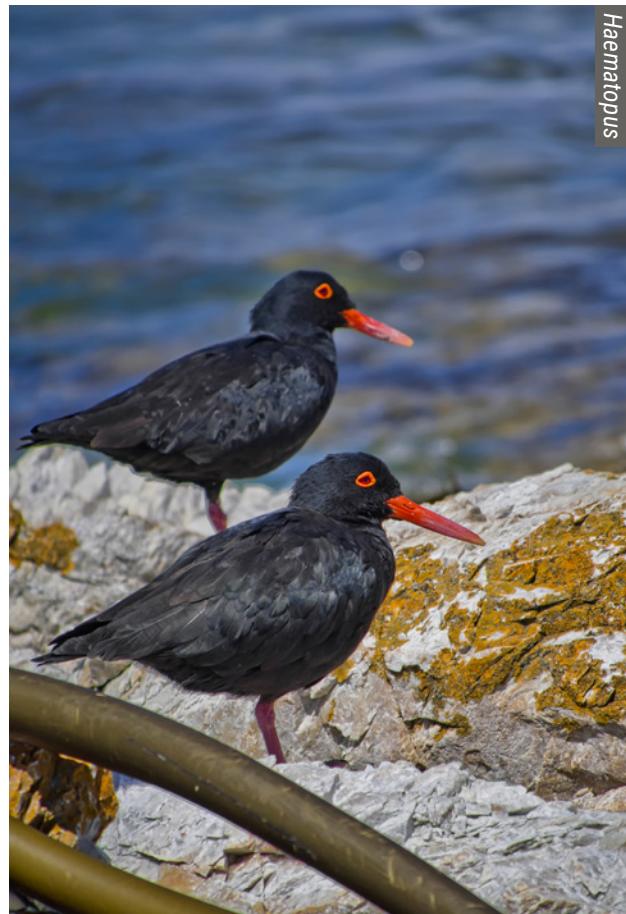


Figure A shows the average progress made by the 20 reporting Parties as a whole towards completing the actions specified in the 2019-2020 reporting module.¹ It should be noted that some objectives required far more actions than others during this reporting phase, and as such may have been harder for Parties to achieve and require more resources to implement. For example, Parties were asked to report on 15 actions towards completing objective 1 (species conservation), but were only asked to report on four actions towards completing objective 4 (relating to habitats in the wider environment), with the latter having more actions scheduled for delivery later in the PoAA's implementation period. The percentage of reporting Parties indicating that they had completed particular actions towards an objective varied widely; however, overall, most progress has been made towards completing actions

aiming to ensure that there is sufficient quantity and quality of **habitat in the wider environment** for achieving and maintaining favourable conservation status for migratory waterbird populations (objective 4). Moderate progress has been made in achieving actions toward establishing and sustaining a coherent and comprehensive **flyway network of protected areas** for AEWA waterbird populations (objective 3), and in ensuring and strengthening the **knowledge, capacity, recognition, awareness** and **resources** required for the Agreement to achieve its conservation objectives (objective 5); whereas the objectives where least progress has been made to date are strengthening **species conservation and recovery and reducing causes of unnecessary mortality** (objective 1) and ensuring that any **use and management of migratory waterbird populations is sustainable** across their flyways (objective 2).

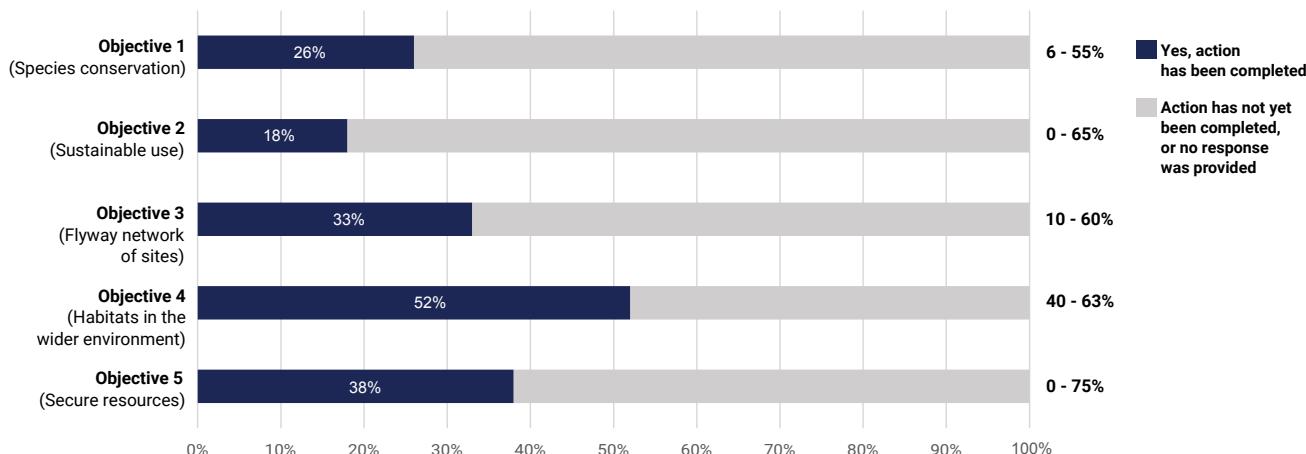


Figure A: The PoAA reporting module for 2019-2020 asked 48 questions regarding whether Parties have achieved specific actions towards achieving the five principal objectives of the AEWA Strategic Plan. Bars indicate the average percentage of reporting Parties (i.e. the 20 Parties out of the 38 African Contracting Parties to AEWA that submitted their questionnaire by the deadline) that answered 'yes' (i.e. that a specified action had been completed) to questions posed under each objective (see footnote on previous page for the full methodology used to generate this figure). Numbers on the right indicate the range of the percentage of Parties responding 'yes' across all questions for each objective.

Answers to 13 questions within the reporting module were additionally analysed at the sub-regional level². Figure B shows the average percentage of reporting Parties in each sub-region that indicated completing actions for these questions, with the number of Parties submitting a report by the deadline for each sub-region indicated in brackets. The average percentage of Parties answering that they had

completed the actions specified in these questions was similar among sub-regions; while Southern Africa had the highest average percentage of reporting Parties that indicated that they had completed actions, Northern Africa had the highest average percentage of reporting Parties that indicated that actions were either completed or underway.

1 This was quantified by calculating the mean proportion of Parties that responded 'yes' to individual questions under each strategic plan objective in the reporting module. Percentages were calculated from principal questions only (answers to follow-up questions were not taken into account), with totals calculated only from the total number of Parties that indicated that a question was applicable to them. Question 3.4 was excluded from this analysis; this is because the principal question did not ask whether an action had been completed.



Figure B: Progress indicated by reporting Parties towards the 13 questions within the 2019-2020 reporting module where a sub-regional analysis was conducted. Bars represent the percentage of reporting Parties that answered 'Yes' (that the action has been completed), 'In Progress' (indicating that the required action is underway), or 'No' (that the action has not been completed). In cases where a Party indicated that a question was not applicable to them, this question/Party combination was excluded from the analysis.

Finally, 11 of the questions posed by the reporting module related to actions required to fulfil activities that were highlighted in the PoAA as being of highest priority. Progress towards achieving these priority

actions is shown in Figure C. Progress levels were again varied, but in two instances (Q 2.4 and 5.7), no reporting Parties informed that they had completed the actions specified in the question.

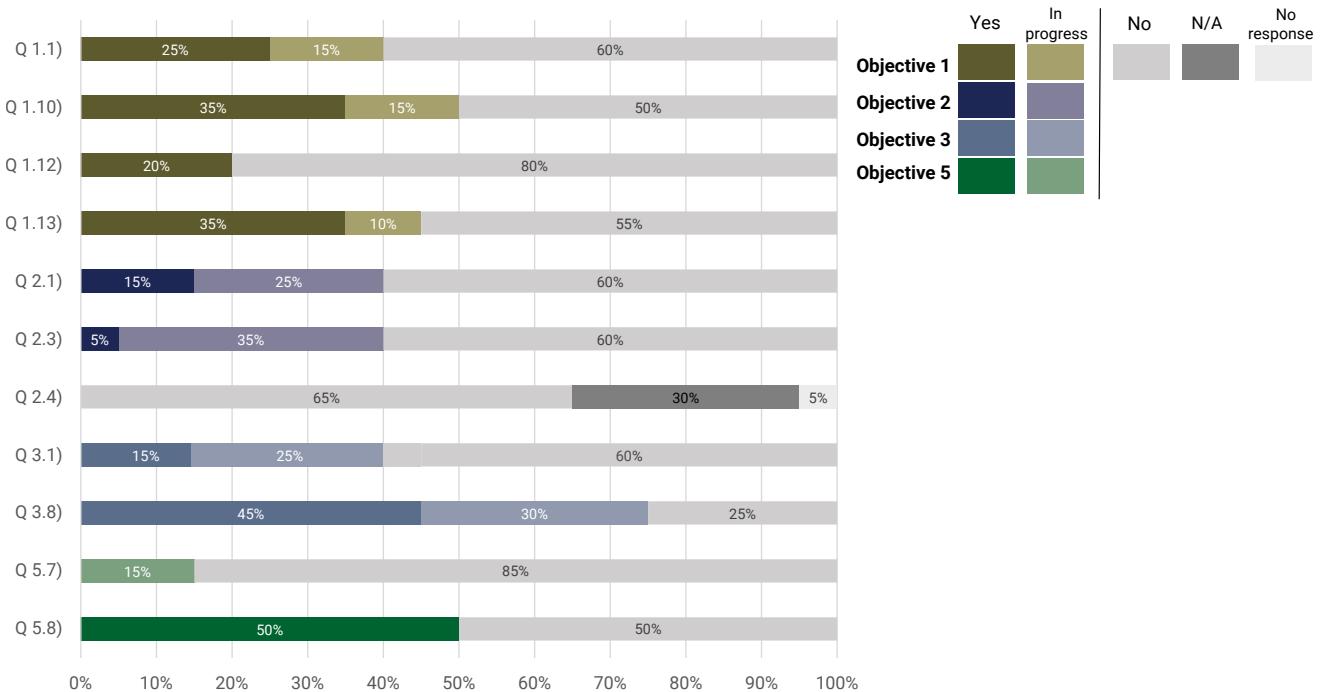


Figure C: Progress indicated by reporting Parties towards the 11 questions within the reporting module relating to PoAA actions identified as being of highest priority. Bars represent the percentage of reporting Parties that answered 'Yes' (that the action has been completed), 'In Progress' (indicating that the required action is underway), or 'No' (that the action has not been completed).



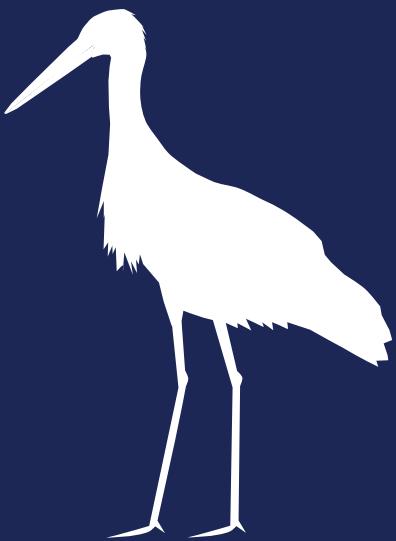
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As this is the first reporting cycle for the 2019-2027 PoAA, limited conclusions can be drawn from these data about whether Parties are on course to meet the strategic objectives by the end of the plan in 2027. However, based on the limited progress in certain areas reported to date, a general focus on helping Parties to achieve actions towards meeting objectives 1 and 2 of the PoAA should be a key priority going forward. It should be noted however that the averages presented in Figure A mask a wide range of progress levels towards particular actions relating to an objective. For example, the proportion of respondents reporting that they had achieved particular actions towards objective 5 varied from zero to 75%. As such, targeted work will be needed across all the five objectives to fully achieve the aims articulated in the plan. Based on progress reported towards questions relating to actions determined by the PoAA as being of highest priority, particular focus in future could also be directed towards (1) facilitating national processes relating to the enforcement of relevant domestic legislation, and building capacity for Parties to review whether their domestic legislation remains aligned with the

relevant AEWA provisions (including updates adopted at Meetings of the Parties (MOPs)), and (2) building capacity for and/or facilitating the development of national AEWA PoAA implementation plans.

Reasons given by reporting Parties as to why actions had not yet been completed often centred around a lack of resources or technical and financial capacity. However, on several occasions Parties reported that they had not implemented actions because these were dependent upon the outcome of reviews or a process of implementing legislation that was currently underway. This suggests that Parties are laying the groundwork required for delivery of some actions, and, as such, the next reporting period could show greater progress towards the implementation of PoAA actions that were expected to have been delivered during this first reporting phase. With seven years remaining until the end of the current PoAA, it is hoped that Parties continue to cooperate together, coordinate actions, share experiences, and maintain their progress and commitment towards meeting AEWA's five principal objectives, working to ensure that migratory waterbirds are conserved for the benefit of present and future generations.

FIRST REPORTING PERIOD IN NUMBERS



53%

PoAA Contracting Parties submitted a national report

45%



reporting Parties have a mechanism to monitor and record adverse impacts at key sites for AEWA populations

35%

of respondents have developed a national waterbird monitoring scheme



collaborations between Parties to conserve and manage habitats outlined



16

new sites formally proposed for Ramsar site designation



Only

3/20

reporting Parties have a mechanism to estimate waterbird harvest



INTRODUCTION

The African region constitutes a significant part of the AEWA flyway, and provides key habitats that are essential for the survival of waterbird species, many of which are globally threatened. In 2008, noting with concern that Africa held the highest proportion of waterbird populations recognized as being Globally Threatened, and recognising that additional efforts were needed for the implementation of the Agreement in Africa, Parties established the African Initiative for the Conservation of Migratory Waterbirds and their Habitats in Africa³. One of the key activities suggested was the development of a Plan of Action for Africa (PoAA), to serve as the operational guideline for implementation of the AEWA Strategic Plan in this region. Two PoAAs have since been adopted; the first spanned the period 2012-2018⁴, and the second, which began in 2019, will continue to 2027.

The current PoAA defines processes and actions that are necessary to reach a series of targets to achieve the five objectives of the AEWA Strategic Plan (Table A). These require various actors, including AEWA Contracting Parties and the AEWA Secretariat, to work to address issues relating to species conservation, ensuring the sustainable use of migratory waterbird populations, establishing and

sustaining a network of protected areas along the AEWA flyway, ensuring that the quantity and quality of habitat in the wider environment is sufficient for migratory waterbird populations to thrive, and ensuring that there is sufficient knowledge, capacity, recognition, awareness and resources in place for the Agreement to attain its objectives, at the national, regional and flyway level. Progress in implementing the PoAA is monitored through national reports submitted by African Contracting Parties (PoAA national reports) as outlined in Resolution 7.1 adopted at MOP7; these reports are distinct from the national reports required by Article V.1(c) of the AEWA text, and differ in that they are intended to provide more granular information on progress within the processes and actions defined within the PoAA itself.

This document provides an analysis of the PoAA national reports submitted by Parties for the 2019-2020 reporting period. As this is the **first reporting period** of the 2019-2027 plan, the analysis establishes a baseline against which to compare future reporting cycles; but also identifies areas where further work and resources may need to be invested in order for the plan to fulfill its aims over the longer term.

Table A: The five objectives of the AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027.

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

3 Adopted for the period of 2012-2017 by Resolution 4.9 at AEWA MOP4 and extended to 2018 through Resolution 6.14 at AEWA MOP6.

4 A report on its implementation can be found in Doc. AEWA/MOP 7.11

All PoAA national reports for the MOP8 reporting cycle were submitted through the Online Reporting System (ORS) for the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) Family. The original deadline for submitting PoAA national reports for the 2019-2020 reporting period was 7 February 2021 (i.e. 240 days before the opening date of MOP8, in line with AEWA Resolution 7.1), with 1 March 2021 established as the cut-off date for extraction of data. This submission deadline was extended to 19 February 2021 and subsequently to 24 March 2021, which was the final cut-off date for the acceptance of PoAA reports included within this analysis. In total, **20 reports were received** by this final cut-off date, representing 53% of the 38 AEWA Contracting Parties from which national reports were due (Table B and Figure D). The African sub-region with the highest rate of submission was Southern Africa, with over 86% of AEWA Parties in that region submitting a report by the deadline, followed by Northern Africa (60% of AEWA Parties submitted a report by the deadline), Eastern Africa (50%), Western Africa (46%) and Central Africa (20%). **Unless otherwise specified, the percentages provided in this report refer to the 20 Parties whose reports were included in this analysis, and not to the total number of AEWA Contracting Parties in Africa.**

Within this report, questions posed to Parties via the 2019-2020 reporting module have been mapped to their most relevant target in the AEWA Strategic Plan,

with its five sections corresponding to the Strategic Plan's five principal objectives. Each section begins with a summary of questions posed to Parties via the PoAA national report module and a summary of progress based on the answers provided to these questions. This is followed by a detailed analysis of the individual questions within each section and their follow-ups. The initial questions posed to Parties are shown in full, but the text of follow-up questions has been omitted. The full text of both main questions and follow-ups, alongside the answers and accompanying text provided by Parties, can be viewed in the annexes that accompany this document.

Readers should note that, within the online PoAA MOP8 reporting module, there were three questions originally posed to Parties that were dependent on a pre-condition that had not been fulfilled at the time of analysis (Questions 1.6, 1.7 and 5.1). These questions were therefore omitted, however the original question numbers contained within the online PoAA MOP8 reporting module have been maintained in this document for ease of reference. It should also be noted that, in a small number of cases, categorical answers provided by reporting Parties were contradicted by additional information provided in the form of accompanying text. In these cases, categorical answers were changed to reflect the status indicated in the accompanying text provided; a full list of these changes is provided in an additional annex.

Table B: Submission of PoAA national reports by African AEWA Parties for the 2019-2020 reporting period. Parties **shaded in grey** submitted a PoAA national report by the deadline of 24 March 2021.

Northern Africa	Eastern Africa	Southern Africa	Western Africa	Central Africa
Algeria	Burundi	Botswana	Benin	Central African Republic
Egypt	Djibouti	Eswatini	Burkina Faso	Chad
Libya	Ethiopia	Madagascar	Côte d'Ivoire	Congo
Morocco	Kenya	Malawi	The Gambia	Equatorial Guinea
Tunisia	Rwanda	Mauritius	Ghana	Gabon
	Sudan	South Africa	Guinea	
	Uganda	Zimbabwe	Guinea-Bissau	
	United Republic of Tanzania⁵		Mali	
			Mauritania	
			Niger	
			Nigeria	
			Senegal	
			Togo	

⁵ Hereafter referred to as Tanzania.

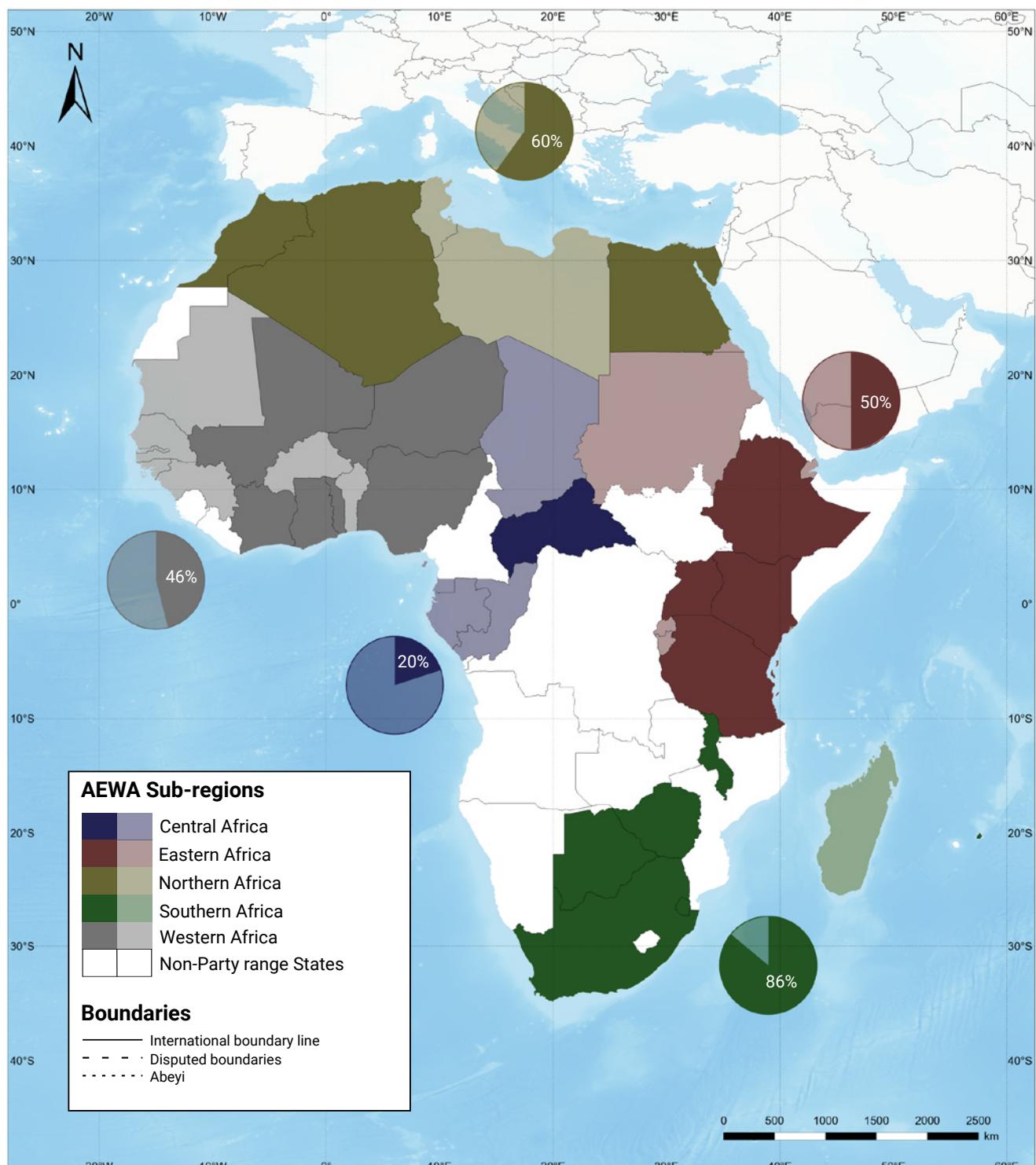


Figure D: Submission of PoAA national reports by African AEWA Parties for the 2019-2020 reporting period. Shaded countries are African Contracting Parties to AEWA, colour coded by their respective sub-region; darker shading represents those Parties who submitted PoAA national reports by the deadline of 24 March 2021. Percentages on the pie charts represent the proportion of Parties who submitted PoAA national reports by the deadline for each sub-region.





1. SPECIES CONSERVATION

OBJECTIVE 1

To strengthen species conservation and recovery and reduce causes of unnecessary mortality

African AEWA Parties were asked 15 questions relating to the species conservation objective. Five questions focused on the establishment of legal measures required by the AEWA Action Plan and assessed the status of compliance with, and enforcement of, domestic legislation relating to AEWA species conservation. One question gauged national contributions to the implementation of AEWA International Single Species Action Plans (ISSAPs)/International Multi-Species Action Plans (IMSAPs) relevant to African AEWA Parties, and the final nine questions evaluated the extent to which waterbird population monitoring schemes/activities have been undertaken and coordinated across international boundaries. Four questions in this section (1.1, 1.10, 1.12 and 1.13) related to actions that the PoAA designates as being of highest priority; these actions contribute to the delivery of PoAA targets 1.1.a, 1.1.b, 1.4.a, and 1.4.b.

The results indicate that most progress has been made in **influencing multilateral processes for advancing AEWA priorities** related to preventing four causes of unnecessary additional mortality⁶, and other key threats to migratory waterbirds and their habitats (see Q1.17), with 55% of reporting Parties indicating that they had undertaken actions to achieve this. Fifty-three percent of reporting Parties (who noted that this question was applicable to them) additionally indicated that their country has undertaken actions to **raise the awareness of relevant national stakeholders regarding updates to domestic legislation** and related obligations resulting from the amendments to the AEWA text Annex 3, Table 1 as adopted by MOP7 (see Q1.5), and 40% of reporting Parties noted that they had established **measures to strengthen compliance with domestic legislation** relating to the conservation of AEWA species (see Q1.4).

Less progress has been made (1) in the production of **national lists of waterbird populations** for which countries host >1% of the population and which have been identified as being in unfavourable conservation status and requiring conservation and management guidance (see Q1.9), and (2) **in the incorporation of monitoring of the drivers of waterbird population trends** into national biodiversity monitoring programmes (see Q1.14). For both questions, only 6% of reporting Parties that indicated that this question was applicable to them reported completing these actions.

Regarding the questions relating to the highest priority actions under this objective, 25% of reporting Parties indicated that they have established a workflow to update relevant domestic legislation to take into account the amendments to the AEWA Annex 3, Table 1 adopted by MOP7 (Q1.1), although a number of Parties that responded 'no' noted that it had not been necessary to establish such a workflow as their domestic legislation already took these amendments into account. Thirty-five percent of reporting Parties indicated that they had developed or updated waterbird monitoring schemes (Q1.10), with the same percentage indicating that they had established mechanisms to collect information on drivers of waterbird population trends in collaboration with existing schemes such as the International Waterbird Census (IWC) and Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBA) (Q1.13). Over 80% of reporting Parties, however, indicated that they had not conducted joint waterbird monitoring activities at a transboundary or flyway level (Q1.12).

⁶ Energy infrastructure (especially powerlines, wind turbines); illegal taking & killing; fisheries bycatch; and invasive alien species.

TARGET 1.1

The legal measures required by the AEWA Action Plan (for species conservation) are transposed into all Parties' domestic legislation and enforced effectively

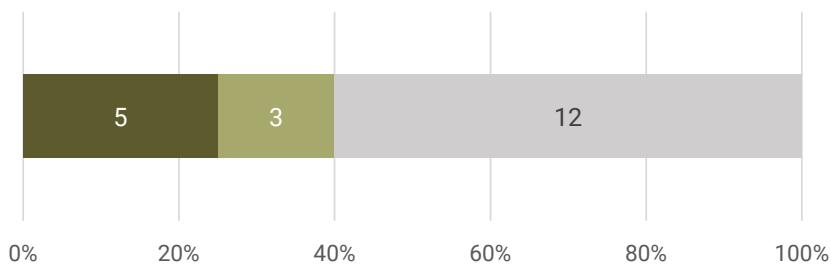
Q 1.1: Has a collaborative workflow/process been established, following the 7th Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP7) to AEWA, which guides the **review and update of relevant domestic legislation** taking into account the amendments to the AEWA Annex 3, Table 1 as adopted by MOP7 (PoAA Targets 1.1.a and 1.1.b)?

While five reporting Parties (25%) reported that they had established a process to guide the review and update of domestic legislation, and a further three (15%) reported that this was underway, the majority of respondents (60%) reported that a process has not yet been established. Some Parties that responded 'no', however, noted that it had not been necessary to establish a workflow to update domestic legislation, as legislative measures already in place took the amendments to the AEWA Annex 3, Table 1 into account.

Of the five reporting Parties that have established such a process, one Party established it prior to MOP7 (as per the timeline in the PoAA), one Party

established it within six months of MOP7, and three Parties established it later than six months after MOP7. Four of these Parties additionally indicated that the necessary documentation for the formal submission of required amendments had not yet been prepared, while the remaining respondent, Uganda, noted that this documentation was not required as no updates or new provisions to domestic legislation were necessary. All four Parties that indicated that documentation had not yet been prepared reported either that a process to do so was either underway (Nigeria, Eswatini and Egypt), or was planned (Botswana).

(A)

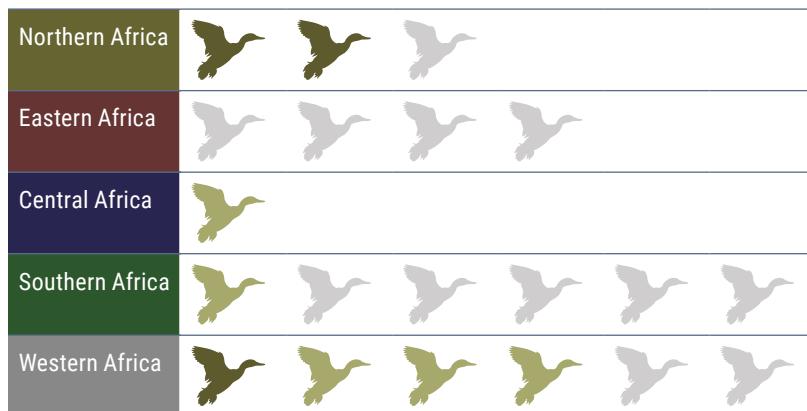


Yes

No (but the establishment of a workflow/process is currently underway)

No (a workflow/process has not been established)

(B)



1 Contracting Party

Figure 1.1: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether a collaborative workflow /process has been established, following the 7th Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP7) to AEWA, which guides the review and update of relevant domestic legislation taking into account the amendments to the AEWA Annex 3, Table 1 as adopted by MOP7 (Q1.1). (A) shows responses from all reporting Parties, (B) shows Party responses by sub-region.



Q 1.2: Has a review been undertaken in your country to assess the status of enforcement of relevant domestic legislation relating to AEWA species conservation (PoAA Target 1.1.c)?

Three reporting Parties (15%; Mali, Malawi and Eswatini) noted that they had completed reviews on the enforcement of domestic legislation relating to AEWA species conservation, with a further five (25%) reporting that such reviews were currently underway. Mali was the only Party to report on the outcome of its review, indicating that it had found the status of enforcement of relevant legislation to be partially adequate.

The remaining reporting Parties provided a variety of reasons to explain why a review of the status of enforcement of relevant domestic legislation had not yet been conducted. One Party noted a lack of funds for data collection, whereas others noted that a review was planned in future, once new or revised legislation had been adopted and had been in place for an appropriate period of time. Some Parties clarified that an assessment had not been conducted because they did not consider there to have not been any significant breaches of domestic legislation.

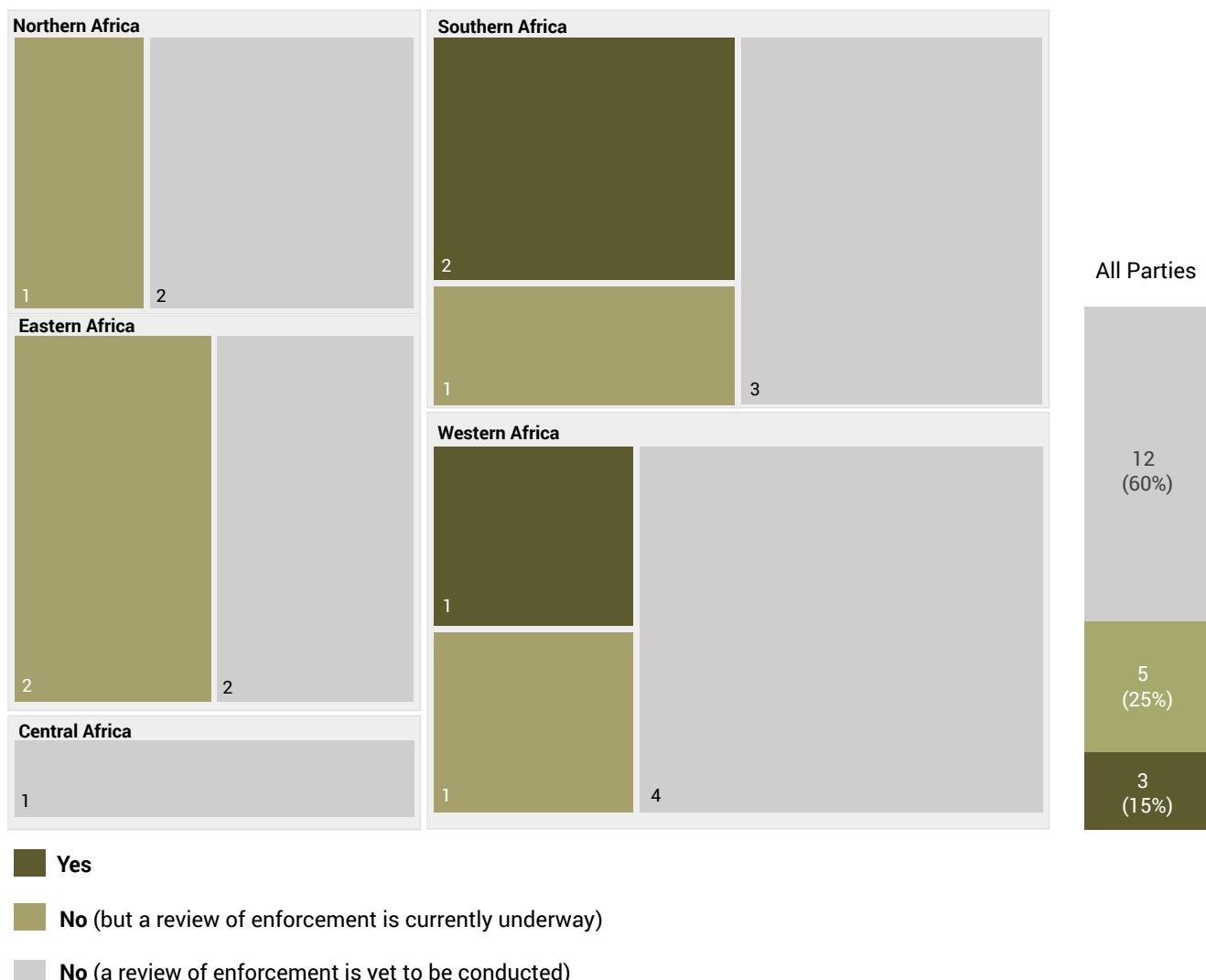


Figure 1.2: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether a review has been undertaken in their country to assess the status of enforcement of relevant domestic legislation relating to AEWA species conservation (Q1.2).

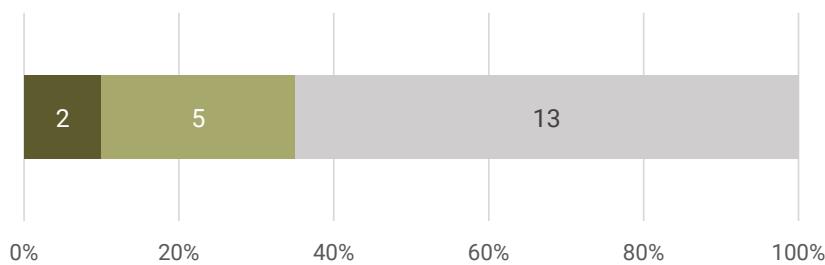
Q 1.3: Has a review been undertaken in your country to assess the degree of compliance of relevant domestic legislation with the obligations relating to AEWA species conservation (PoAA Target 1.1.c)?

Only two reporting Parties (10%; Niger and Mauritius) reported that they have completed a review to assess the degree of compliance of domestic legislation with obligations relating to AEWA species conservation, although a further five reporting Parties (25%) noted that a review was currently underway. Mauritius assessed its domestic legislation as partially compliant, noting that, to date, Mauritius did not have any legislation pertaining specifically to AEWA. A regulation pertaining to species protection, including migratory birds, was noted to be in the drafting stages. Niger assessed its domestic legislation as fully compliant.

Thirteen reporting Parties (65%) reported that a review of the degree of compliance of domestic legislation with obligations relating to AEWA species conservation has not yet been undertaken; a number of Parties explained that this was because domestic

level legislation was formulated in such a way to ensure compliance with international agreements, thus this was not considered to be necessary. Some Parties that indicated that a review was yet to be undertaken nevertheless indicated that some first steps had been taken towards reviewing this in future. For example, the Central African Republic noted that draft terms of reference for such a review had been drafted in order to begin a fundraising process, and South Africa noted that their implementing legislation would be one of the factors considered as part of a broader process to amend their National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act in line with the country's international obligations. Two Parties (Côte d'Ivoire and Mali) that reported not conducting a review explained that they were in the process of finalising and adopting new national legislation pertaining to AEWA species.

(A)



Yes

No (but a review is currently underway)

No (a review has not yet been undertaken)

(B)



1 Contracting Party

Figure 1.3: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether a review has been undertaken in their country to assess the degree of compliance of relevant domestic legislation with the obligations relating to AEWA species conservation (Q1.3). (A) shows responses from all reporting Parties, (B) shows Party responses by sub-region.



Q 1.4: Following MOP7, has your country established any **measures to strengthen compliance with domestic legislation** relating to the conservation of AEWA species (PoAA Target 1.1.c)?

Measures to strengthen compliance with domestic legislation relating to the conservation of AEWA species have been established by eight reporting Parties (40%), while a further six reporting Parties (30%) are in the process of being establishing such measures. The principal reason given by the remaining six respondents as to why such measures

had not been established was the need to await the implementation of new or updated legislation. One Party (Uganda) noted that measures had not been necessary because there was no significant evidence of non-compliance with national legislation relating to AEWA species.

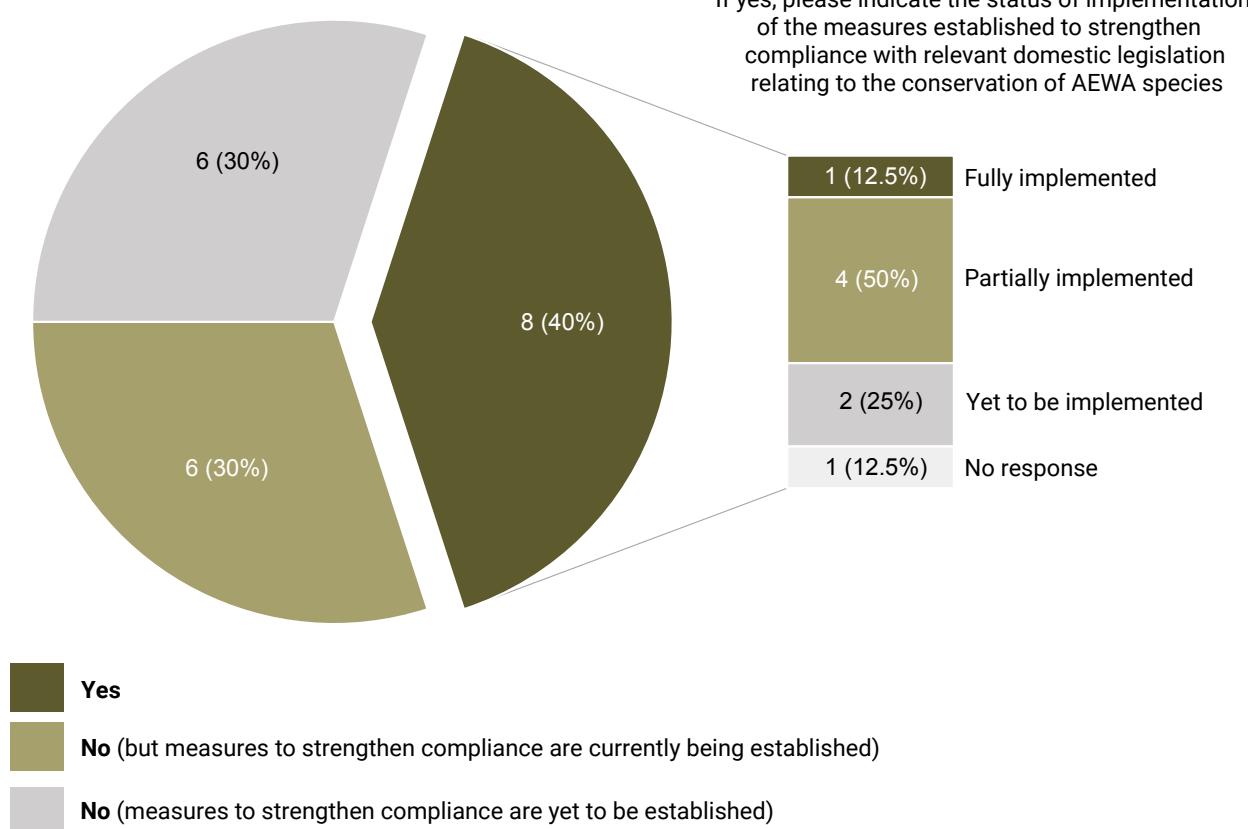


Figure 1.4: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether, following MOP7, their country has established measures to strengthen compliance with domestic legislation relating to the conservation of AEWA species (Q1.4).

Q 1.5: Has the national AEWA implementing agency in your country taken any actions to raise the awareness of relevant national stakeholders regarding any updates to domestic legislation and related obligations that resulted from the amendments to the AEWA Text Annex 3, Table 1 adopted by AEWA MOP7 (PoAA Target 1.1.c)?

Eight reporting Parties (53% of all reporting Parties who indicated that this question was applicable to them) indicated that awareness raising activities for relevant national legislation amendments had been undertaken. Activities included hosting workshops to discuss the outcomes of MOP7 with relevant stakeholders (South Africa), as well as holding meetings with relevant stakeholders (e.g. the Ministry of Agriculture, BirdLife Partners, other Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and community representatives as was the case in Egypt, or with ministry representatives, national park managers, and civil society organisations, as was the case with the commission in charge of the Central African Republic's work to review their law on the management code for wild fauna and protected areas). Awareness of national legislation relating to the Environment Management Act for wetland management was also enhanced for various stakeholders during training sessions in Zimbabwe.

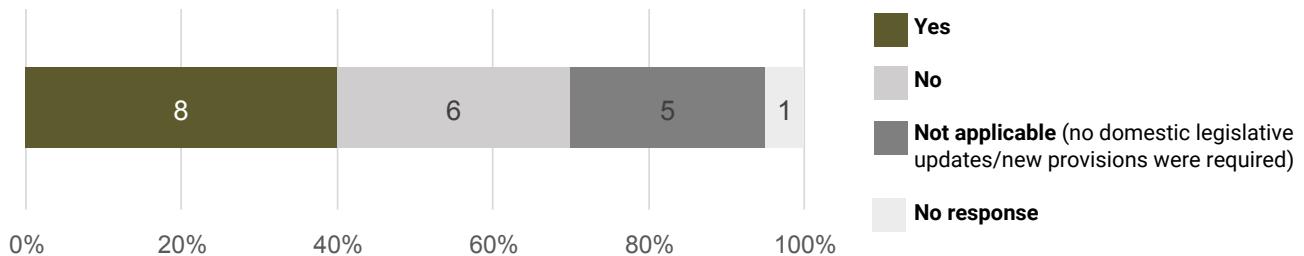


Figure 1.5: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether the national AEWA implementing agency in their country has taken any actions to raise the awareness of relevant national stakeholders regarding any updates to domestic legislation and related obligations that resulted from the amendments to the AEWA Text Annex 3, Table 1 adopted by AEWA MOP7 (Q1.5).

**TARGET 1.2**

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

Q 1.8: For each of the existing AEWA ISSAPs/IMSAPs (i.e. Species Action Plans – SAPs) relevant for your country and for which International Species Working Groups (ISWG) have been convened, please indicate what actions have been conducted in your country to contribute to the implementation of the plans (PoAA Targets 1.2.c, 1.2.d and 1.2.g):

A total of sixteen species in the African region have existing AEWA ISSAPs, and a further nine seabird species are covered by the Benguela Current Upwelling System Coastal Seabirds IMSAP⁷ (hereafter the Benguela Coastal Seabirds IMSAP). Within this question, Parties were asked to indicate whether they had achieved the following actions for each existing AEWA ISSAP/IMSAP for which the Party is a range State of the species concerned:

- Q 1.8.1: Has a government representative to the ISWG has been designated?
- Q 1.8.2: Has a national expert to the ISWG has been designated?
- Q 1.8.3: Has a national Species Action Plan (NSAP) has been developed?
- Q 1.8.4: Has a national Species Working Group been established?
- Q 1.8.5: Have any activities been conducted in your country to contribute to the implementation of the SAPs (including to elevate the importance of the species)?
- Q 1.8.6: Since MOP7, have any in-kind and/or financial resources been secured for implementation of the SAPs?
- Q 1.8.7: Has the ISSAP/IMSAP been taken into consideration in the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)?

The responses to these questions are summarized in Figure 1.6 below on a SAP-by-SAP basis. Readers should note, however, that, as Figure 1.6 indicates, a full picture of the proportion of African Party range States for each ISSAP/IMSAP that have implemented the actions specified in Q1.8.1 to 1.8.7 is not available, because not all African Party range States submitted PoAA national reports by the deadline to be included in this analysis. The **donut charts** in Figure 1.6 show the number of African Parties for each ISSAP/IMSAP that submitted a national report by the deadline as a

proportion of the total number of African Contracting Parties for which the ISSAP/IMSAP is relevant (i.e. African Parties that are range States of the species covered in the SAPs). However, the percentages indicated in the **bar charts** in Figure 1.6 were calculated based on the information provided by reporting Parties only. For three ISSAPs/IMSAPs (the Slaty Egret (*Egretta vinaceigula*), Northern Bald Ibis (*Geronticus eremita*), White-winged Flufftail (*Sarothrura ayresi*), and the IMSAP for Benguela Coastal Seabirds), all African Parties for which the ISSAP/IMSAPs were relevant submitted PoAA national reports; responses for these four SAPs therefore give an indication of the status of these actions across all African AEWA Parties for which the ISSAP/IMSAP is relevant.

Overall progress on individual ISSAP/IMSAPs was calculated by multiplying the number of reporting Parties that were relevant for each SAP by the number of possible actions. For the Madagascar Pond Heron (*Ardeola idae*) ISSAP, for example, the seven sub-questions outlined above were posed to five reporting Parties for which the SAP was relevant, to give a total of 35 potential actions. In total, five actions were reported to have been completed (i.e. had 'Yes' responses) for this ISSAP across all relevant reporting Parties; the SAP was therefore given an overall progress rating of 14%. For the Ferruginous Duck (*Aythya nyroca*) ISSAP, only Q 1.8.3 to 1.8.7 were relevant as an ISWG for this species has not yet been convened; the total number of sub-questions was therefore five, which multiplied by the total number of reporting Parties for which the SAP was relevant (9) gave a total of 45 potential actions. Using this metric, the four ISSAPs for which most progress was reported were the Northern Bald Ibis (*Geronticus eremita*), Grey Crowned Crane (*Balearica regulorum*), White-winged Flufftail (*Sarothrura ayresi*), and the White-headed Duck (*Oxyura leucocephala*). In addition, all actions specified in the seven sub-questions posed to

⁷ African Penguin (*Spheniscus demersus*), Bank Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax neglectus*), Cape Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax capensis*), Cape Gannet (*Morus capensis*), African Oystercatcher (*Haematopus moquini*), Crowned Cormorant (*Microcarbo coronatus*), Damara Tern (*Sternula balaenarum*), Caspian Tern (*Hydroprogne caspia*), Greater Crested Tern (*Thalasseus bergii* ssp. *bergii*).

Parties were completed for the Benguela Coastal Seabirds IMSAP. The species where least progress was reported were the Great Snipe (*Gallinago media*) and the Eurasian Spoonbill (*Platalea leucorodia*); in total only 7% of all the possible actions were achieved across all Parties. In general, Parties reported more progress towards achieving actions to implement ISSAP/IMSAPs for the species for which an AEWA ISWG has been convened.

On a Party by Party basis, six of the nineteen reporting Parties that provided a response to Q1.8⁸ indicated that no progress had been made on any of the questions above for the implementation of any ISSAP relevant for their country. Morocco (with 7 ISSAPs) and Eswatini (with 1 ISSAP) reported the most progress out of all the Parties, respectively responding 'Yes' to 49% and 43% of actions across all ISSAPs relevant for their country. Ethiopia (10 ISSAPs) and South Africa (8 ISSAPs and 1 IMSAP) also reported a high relative level of progress (30% and 35%, respectively). However, some responding Parties stated that certain species were either vagrant, not confirmed to occur, or did not face any threats in their countries, and therefore that actions had not been taken towards the implementation of these ISSAPs, or that more threatened species had been prioritized.

More detailed information regarding the responses for each sub-question is given below:

Q 1.8.1: Designation of government representatives to the ISWG: At time of writing, ISWGs have not been convened for Ferruginous Duck (*Aythya nyroca*), Shoebill (*Balaeniceps rex*), Great Snipe (*Gallinago media*), Black-winged Pratincole (*Glareola nordmanni*), Maccoa Duck (*Oxyura maccoa*) and Eurasian Spoonbill (*Platalea leucorodia*), and therefore no government representatives to the ISWG have been appointed for these species. At least one government representative to the ISWG has been appointed for the remaining 10 ISSAPs and the one IMSAP. All reporting Parties relevant to the Benguela Coastal Seabirds IMSAP, Northern Bald Ibis (*Geronticus eremita*) ISSAP and Sociable Lapwing (*Vanellus gregarius*) ISSAP reported completing this action.

Q 1.8.2: Designation of national experts to the ISWG: Of the ten species for which an ISWG has been convened, at least one national expert to the ISWG has been appointed for nine ISSAPs (no

national experts to the ISWG were reported to have been appointed for the Madagascar Pond-heron (*Ardeola idea*)). A national expert was additionally reported to have been appointed to the ISWG for the IMSAP for Benguela Coastal Seabirds. The Northern Bald Ibis (*Geronticus eremita*), Grey Crowned Crane (*Balearica regulorum*), Sociable Lapwing (*Vanellus gregarius*), and Benguela Coastal Seabirds IMSAP have representatives covering all relevant reporting Parties, and in the case of the Northern Bald Ibis and the Benguela Coastal Seabirds IMSAP, all African Party range States.

Q 1.8.3: Development of NSAPs: At least one NSAP was reported to have been developed for six ISSAPs and the one IMSAP, by a total of six different Parties. The ISSAP/IMSAPs where NSAPs have been developed by the highest proportion of reporting Parties were the Benguela Coastal Seabirds IMSAP, the White-headed Duck (*Oxyura leucocephala*) ISSAP, and the Grey Crowned Crane (*Balearica regulorum*) ISSAP. No NSAPs have yet been developed for the Madagascar Pond-heron (*Ardeola idea*), Ferruginous Duck (*Aythya nyroca*), Corncrake (*Crex crex*), Slaty Egret (*Egretta vinaeceigula*), Great Snipe (*Gallinago media*), Black-winged Pratincole (*Glareola nordmanni*), Maccoa Duck (*Oxyura maccoa*), Eurasian Spoonbill (*Platalea leucorodia*), and Sociable Lapwing (*Vanellus gregarius*).

Q 1.8.4: Establishment of National Species Working Groups: A total of ten National Species Working Groups were reported to have been established for a total of seven ISSAPs and the one IMSAP. The Northern Bald Ibis (*Geronticus eremita*) and the White-winged Flufftail (*Sarothura ayresi*) had the highest rate of National Species Working Group establishment, with National Species Working Groups established by two-thirds of reporting Parties for which the ISSAP was relevant. South Africa, the only relevant Contracting Party for the Benguela Coastal Seabirds IMSAP, also reported completing this action. No national working groups were reported to have been established for the Madagascar Pond-heron (*Ardeola idea*), Ferruginous Duck (*Aythya nyroca*), Great Snipe (*Gallinago media*), Black-winged Pratincole (*Glareola nordmanni*), Black-tailed Godwit (*Limosa limosa*), Maccoa Duck (*Oxyura maccoa*), Eurasian Spoonbill (*Platalea leucorodia*), and Sociable Lapwing (*Vanellus gregarius*).



Balearica regulorum



Q 1.8.5: Activities conducted to contribute to the implementation of SAPs: Eleven reporting Parties described having conducted activities at the national level to contribute to the implementation of a total of twelve of the seventeen SAPs. The Grey Crowned Crane (*Balearica regulorum*), Lesser Flamingo (*Phoeniconaias minor*), Northern Bald Ibis (*Geronticus eremita*), and White-winged Flufftail (*Sarothrura ayresi*) ISSAPs, and the Benguela Coastal Seabirds IMSAP, had the highest proportion of relevant reporting Parties that had conducted activities at national level. No Parties reported conducting activities for the implementation of SAPs for Ferruginous Duck (*Aythya nyroca*), Great Snipe (*Gallinago media*), Eurasian Spoonbill (*Platalea leucorodia*), and Sociable Lapwing (*Vanellus gregarius*). Examples of activities conducted include monitoring and surveying efforts, general awareness campaigns, and the development and dissemination of National SAPs.

Q 1.8.6: In-kind and/or financial resources for implementation of SAPs: These were reported to have been secured for the implementation of eight SAPs in total, by seven different reporting Parties. The Northern Bald Ibis (*Geronticus eremita*) ISSAP, White-winged Flufftail (*Sarothrura ayresi*) ISSAP and

the Benguela Coastal Seabird IMSAP were the three SAPs with the highest proportion of responding Parties that reported securing resources. No resources were yet reported to have been secured for the implementation of the ISSAPs for the Madagascar Pond-heron (*Ardeola idea*), Corncrake (*Crex crex*), Slaty Egret (*Egretta vinaeaeigula*), Great Snipe (*Gallinago media*), Black-winged Pratincole (*Glareola nordmanni*), Maccoa Duck (*Oxyura maccoa*), Eurasian Spoonbill (*Platalea leucorodia*), and Sociable Lapwing (*Vanellus gregarius*). Parties also frequently highlighted lack of funds when reporting that no progress had been made on action points Q1.8.1 to Q1.8.5.

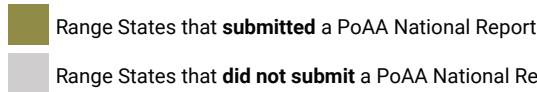
Q 1.8.7: Consideration of ISSAP/IMSAP in NBSAPs: Nine reporting Parties indicated that their relevant ISSAP and/or IMSAPs had been taken into consideration in their NBSAPs; this was the sub-question with the most progress reported, with 40% of all possible actions⁹ reported as achieved. Every ISSAP/IMSAP had at least one Party which had considered it in their NBSAPs, with the exception of the Sociable Lapwing (*Vanellus gregarius*), for which the only relevant reporting Party reported that this action had not been completed.

⁹ Total number of 'yes' responses for this sub-question/ total number of relevant reporting Parties (Parties that are both range States of the relevant species and that submitted a national report by the deadline) across all SAPs.

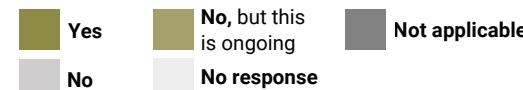
Figure 1.6: Responses from reporting Parties indicating what actions have been conducted in their country to contribute to the implementation of relevant AEWA ISSAPs/IMSAPs (Q1.8). Donut charts show how many Contracting Party African range States submitted PoAA National Reports by the deadline (respondent range States per ISSAP/IMSAP), the horizontal bar charts show relevant reporting Party responses to each sub-question. The donut chart inset further shows the most recent global IUCN Red List status and population trend at time of writing. See main body of text above for each sub-question. IUCN threat categories: LC – Least Concern, NT – Near Threatened, VU – Vulnerable, EN – Endangered, CR – Critically Endangered.

Key

Donut chart - AEWA Contracting Party reporting



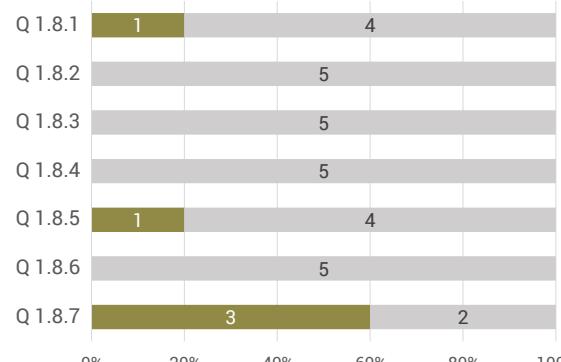
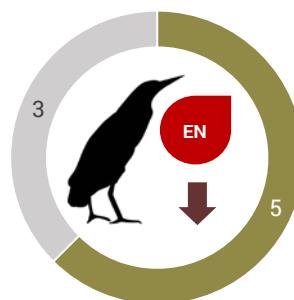
Bar chart - Question 1.8 responses



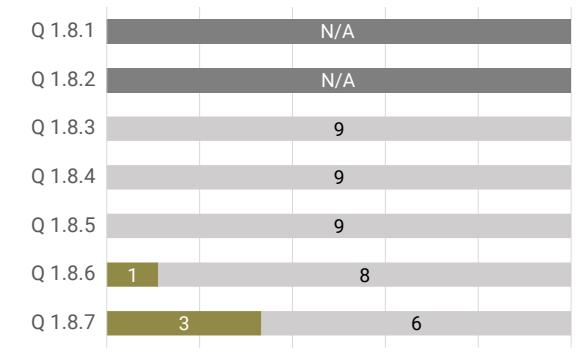
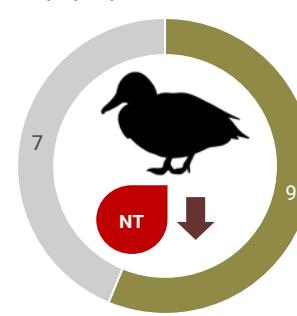
Species status (IUCN Red List)



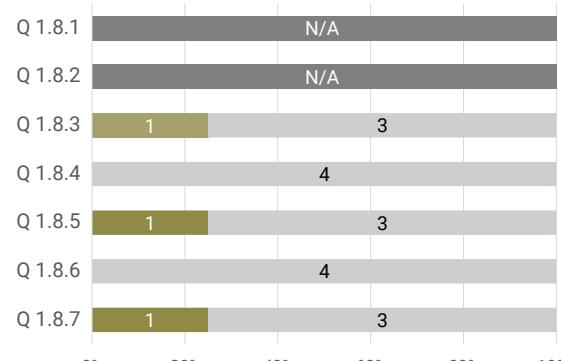
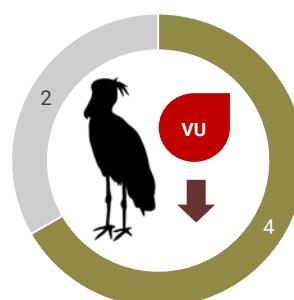
Madagascar Pond-heron
Ardeola idae



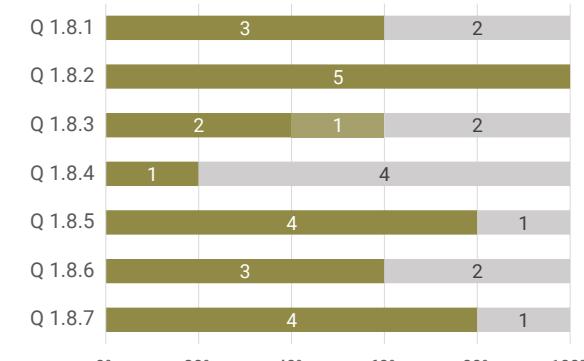
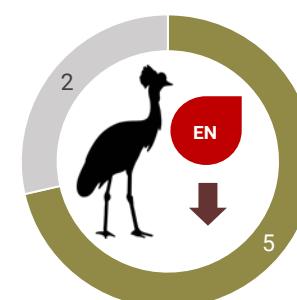
Ferruginous Duck
Aythya nyroca

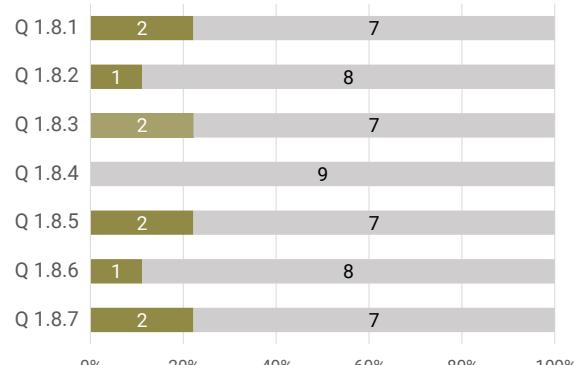
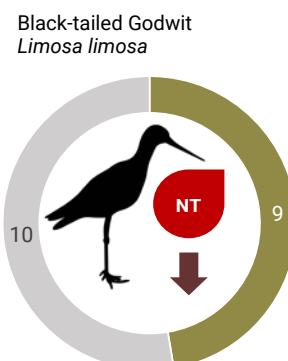
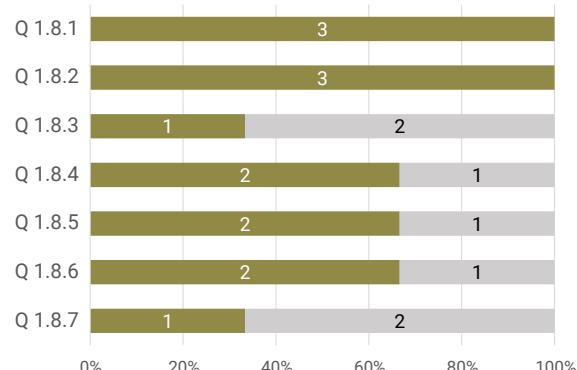
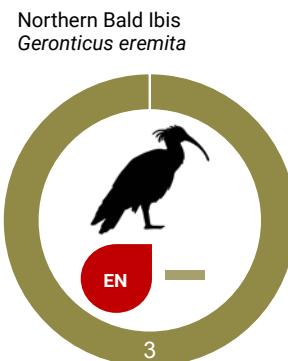
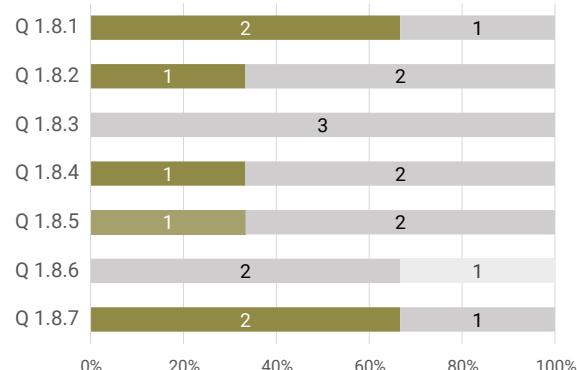
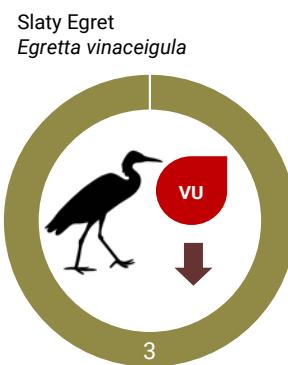
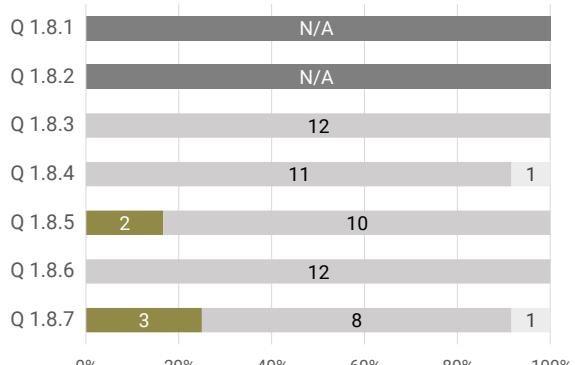
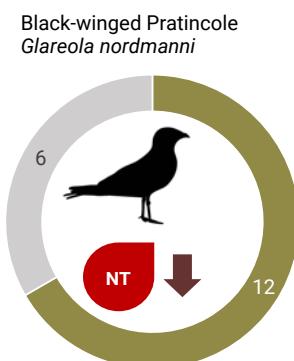
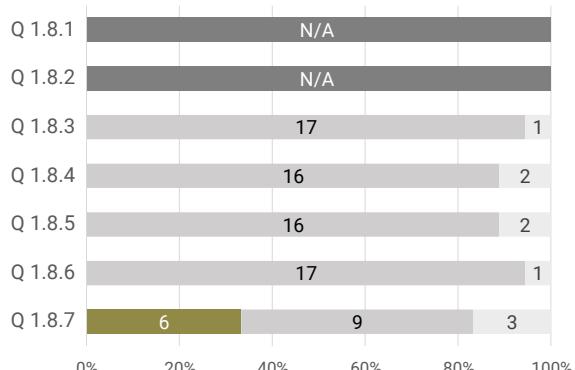
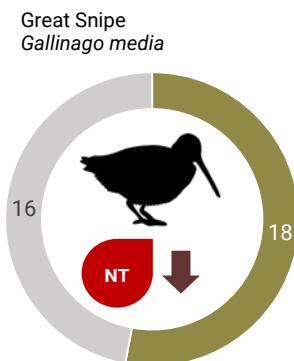
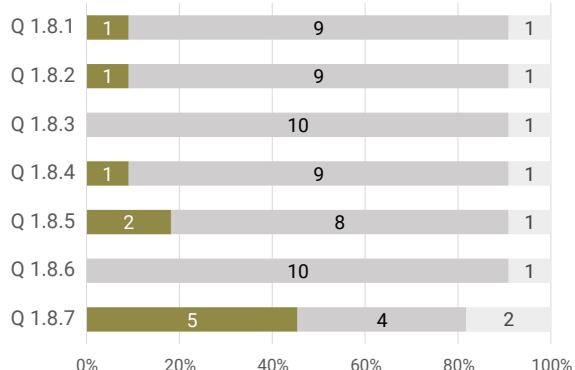
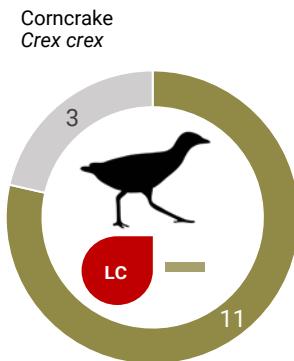


Shoebill
Balaeniceps rex

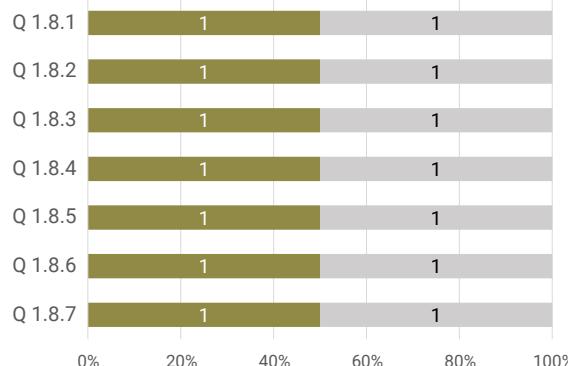
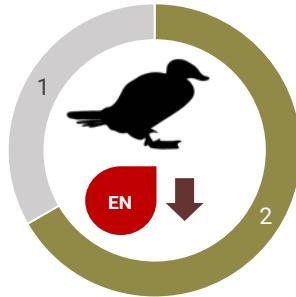


Grey Crowned Crane
Balearica regulorum

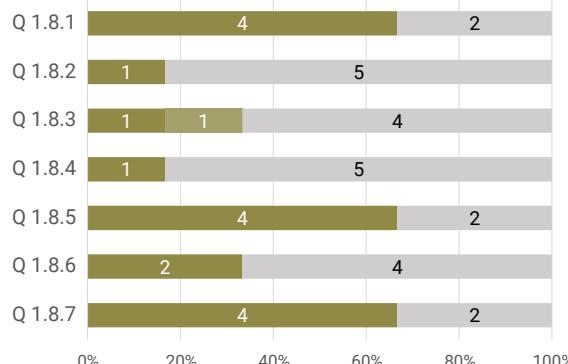
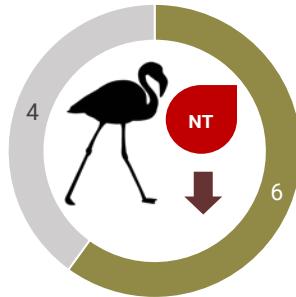




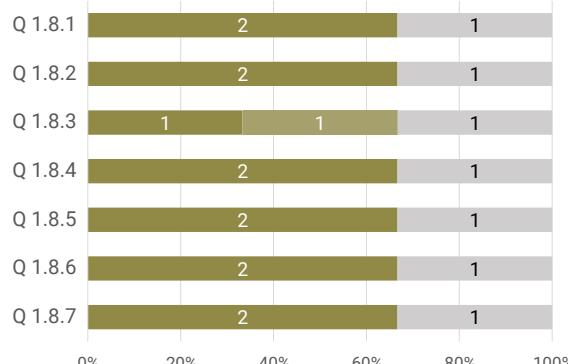
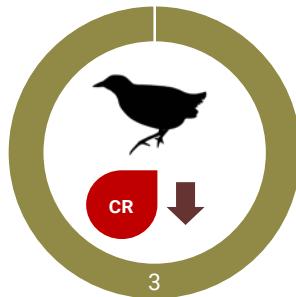
White-headed Duck
Oxyura leucocephala



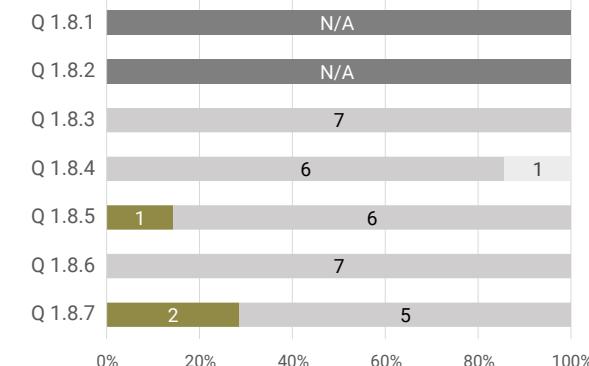
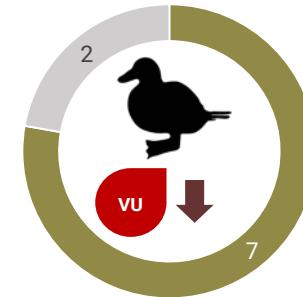
Lesser Flamingo
Phoeniconaias minor



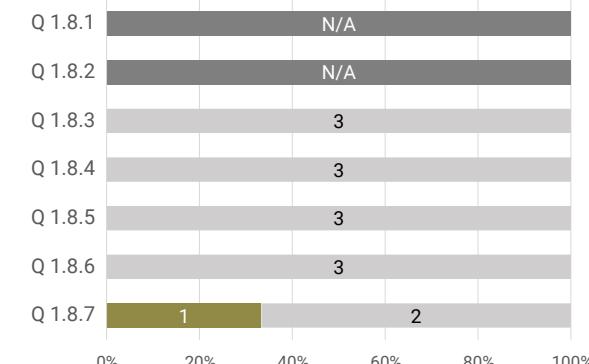
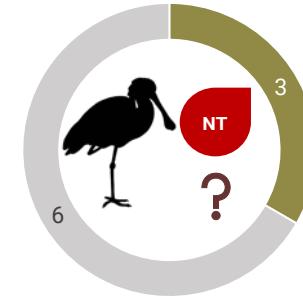
White-winged Flufftail
Sarothrura ayresi



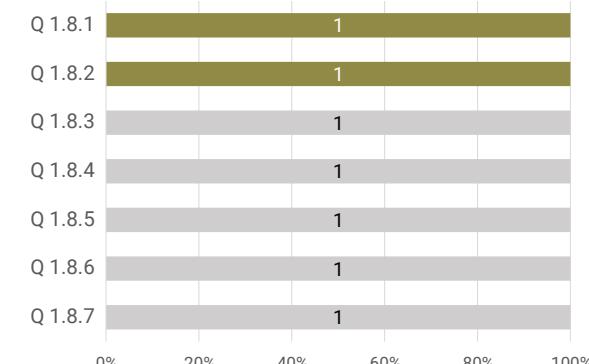
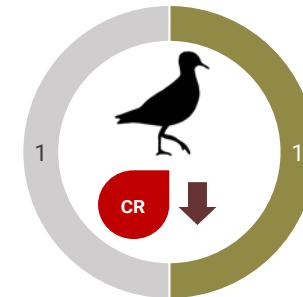
Maccoa Duck
Oxyura maccoa



Eurasian Spoonbill
Platalea leucorodia

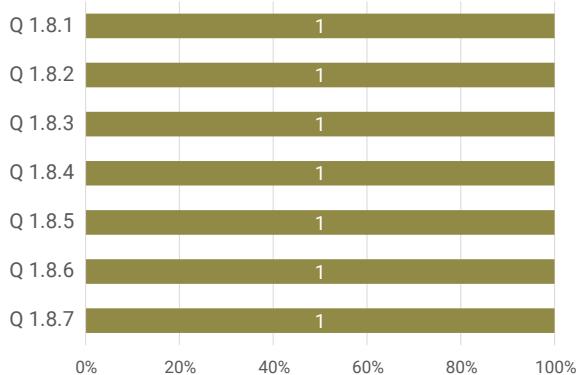


Sociable Lapwing
Vanellus gregarius





Benguela Current Upwelling System Coastal Seabirds**



** Species included:

African Penguin (*Spheniscus demersus*)



Crowned Cormorant (*Microcarbo coronatus*)



Bank Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax neglectus*)



Damara Tern (*Sternula balaenarum*)



Cape Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax capensis*)



Caspian Tern (*Hydroprogne caspia*)



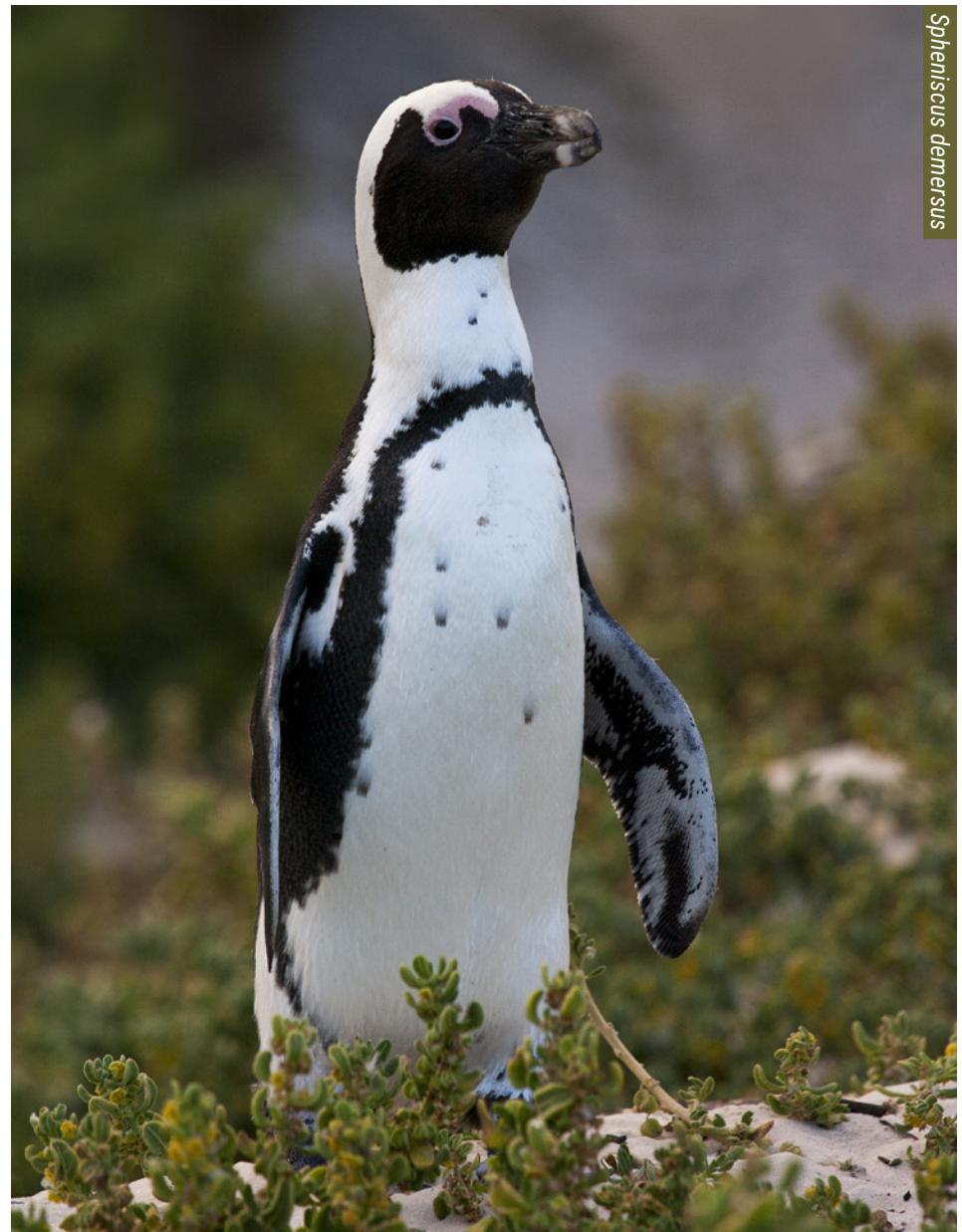
Cape Gannet (*Morus capensis*)



Greater Crested Tern (*Thalasseus bergii* ssp. *bergii*)



African Oystercatcher (*Haematopus moquini*)



TARGET 1.3

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

Q 1.9: Has your country produced the **national list of waterbird populations** for which it hosts >1% of the population and which have been identified as being in unfavourable conservation status and requiring conservation and management guidance (PoAA Target 1.3.c)?

Of the sixteen reporting Parties that identified this question as being applicable to them, 10 (63%) indicated that a national list of waterbird populations meeting the criteria outlined in the question had not yet been produced, although a number indicated that there were plans to prepare this in future (usually by late 2021/2022). Five additional reporting Parties answered that the process to produce such a list is underway. Nigeria was the only respondent that reported that a list had been completed, noting that this had been achieved within 18 months following

MOP7 as per the timeline in the PoAA. Nigeria further explained that a national work plan to guide the implementation of conservation actions for the populations for which it hosts >1% of individuals had not yet been completed, but was underway and expected to be in place by mid-2022. One Party noted that it would be beneficial for Parties to have training on using the Critical Site Network tool to extract information on global population thresholds for AEWA species.

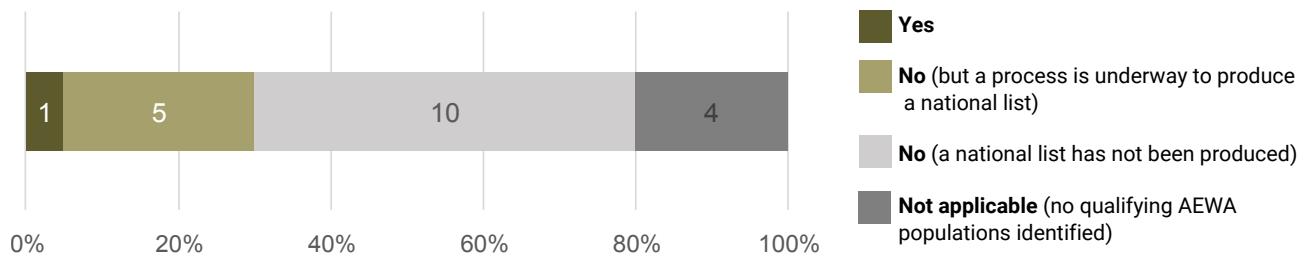


Figure 1.7: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether their country has produced the national list of waterbird populations for which it hosts >1% of the population, and which have been identified as being in unfavourable conservation status and requiring conservation and management guidance (Q1.9).

**TARGET 1.4**

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

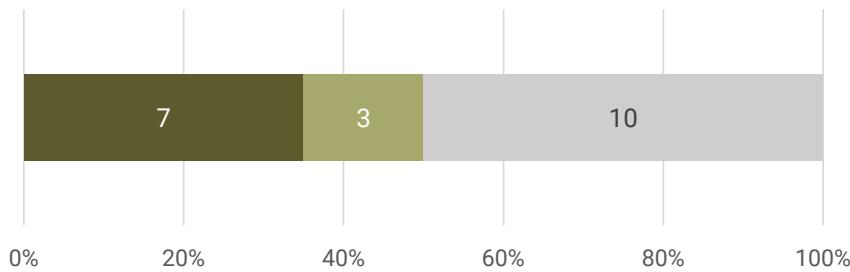
Q 1.10: Has a national waterbird monitoring scheme been developed/updated for your country (PoAA Target 1.4.a)?

In total, seven reporting Parties (35%) indicated that they had developed or updated their waterbird monitoring schemes; one Party noted that this had been developed/updated within 12 months following MOP7 (as required by the PoAA), two noted that this had been developed/updated later than 12 months after MOP7, and the remaining four explained that a national waterbird monitoring scheme had been developed for their country prior to MOP7, but had not yet been updated. All but one of these plans were

reported to take into account relevant site management and other national and international priorities.

A lack of financial resources was the principal reason given as to why reporting Parties had not yet updated or developed a waterbird monitoring scheme; however, many of these Parties indicated that, although no overarching scheme was in place, waterbird counts have been undertaken for specific areas at specific times of year.

(A)



(B)



Yes

No (but a scheme is in the process of being developed/updated)

No (a scheme has not yet been developed/updated)

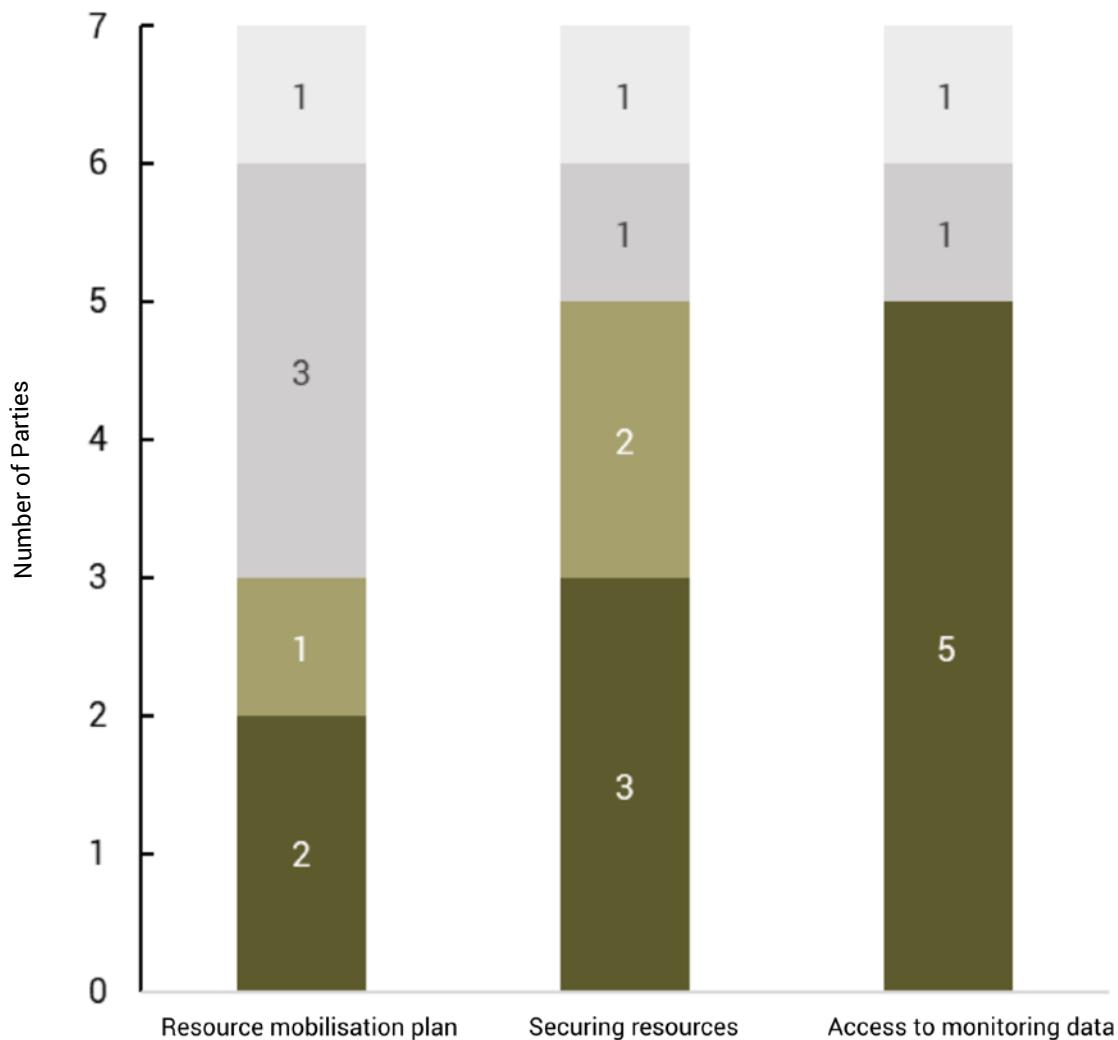


1 Contracting Party

Figure 1.8: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether a national waterbird monitoring scheme has been developed or updated for their country (Q1.10). (A) shows responses from all reporting Parties, (B) shows Party responses by sub-region.

The seven reporting Parties that have developed monitoring schemes were additionally asked three follow-up questions regarding actions conducted to support their implementation. They were asked (1) whether a time bound national resource mobilization plan to secure resources had been included in the

scheme, (2) whether any resources had so far been secured, and (3) whether access to waterbird monitoring data had been granted to key stakeholders. Answers provided by these seven Parties to each of these elements are shown in Figure 1.10.



Key:

	Resource mobilisation plan	Securing resources	Access to monitoring data
A plan has been included in the national waterbird monitoring scheme		Resources (financial and/or in-kind) have been secured to support the implementation of the national waterbird monitoring scheme	Access to waterbird monitoring data has been granted to key stakeholders
A plan is in the process of being developed		Resource mobilization efforts have been deployed but no resources have been secured so far	
The national waterbird monitoring scheme does not include a resource mobilization plan		No efforts have been made so far to secure resources for the implementation of the national waterbird monitoring scheme	Access to waterbird monitoring data is currently not granted to key stakeholders
No response		No response	No response

Figure 1.9: Follow-up questions to Question 1.10.



Q 1.11: At the time of reporting, has a **national committee** been established/re-activated to coordinate the waterbird monitoring activities conducted by different stakeholders in your country (PoAA Target 1.4.a)?

Figure 1.10: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether, at the time of reporting, a national committee has been established or re-activated to coordinate the waterbird monitoring activities conducted by different stakeholders in their country (Q 1.11)



Fifty percent of reporting Parties indicated that a national committee to coordinate waterbird monitoring activities conducted by different stakeholders had yet to be established. Of the remainder, four Parties (20%) noted that a new committee had been established or an existing committee had been activated, two Parties (10%) indicated that a committee existed but did not require activation, a further two Parties (10%) noted that a committee existed but required re-activation, and finally two Parties (10%) noted that a committee was in the process of being established.

Of the reporting Parties that indicated that a committee had not yet been established, three (Central African Republic, Ethiopia and Mauritius) emphasized that this was a future priority, and another (Egypt) indicated that a joint monitoring program involving different stakeholders was being discussed. A further three respondents (Mali, Morocco and Zimbabwe) explained that, while no overarching committee had been created, some form of informal network or subcommittee was in place to play this role.

Q 1.12: Following MOP7, has your country conducted any **joint waterbird monitoring activities** with neighbouring countries (transboundary) or other countries along the flyway (PoAA Target 1.4.a)?

The majority of reporting Parties (80%) answered that they had not conducted joint waterbird monitoring activities with neighbouring countries. Details of the collaborations outlined by the four reporting Parties that confirmed carrying out joint monitoring activities are provided in Table 1.1.

A number of Parties that responded 'no' to this question outlined plans for future transboundary/flyway collaboration; these include (1) a proposal submitted by BirdLife South Africa to implement waterbird monitoring at selected sites in **South Africa, Namibia and Angola**; (2) the implementation of a transboundary monitoring effort between **Ethiopia, South Sudan and Djibouti**, and (3) efforts by **Zimbabwe** to work with the Kavango-Zambezi Bird Conservation sub-working group to undertake conservation work in the Okavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area. Some respondents noted that there were security challenges at transboundary sites where joint collaboration could potentially take place, but that there were plans to implement a monitoring program if the situation were to improve.

Table 1.1: Collaborative efforts outlined by the four reporting Parties that indicated that they had conducted joint waterbird monitoring activities with neighbouring countries or other countries along the flyway.

Party	Collaborations
Algeria	Activities undertaken within the framework of the Mediterranean Waterbird Network (France, Spain, Italy, Greece, North Macedonia, Turkey, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya and Egypt), a project to support and coordinate bird counts at the Mediterranean scale. These have included workshops to discuss bird monitoring in the region and a project to develop a communications bulletin on international waterbird counts in the region between 2009-2018.
Kenya	Joint waterbird monitoring was reported to occur nationwide, but no details on transboundary collaborations were specified.
Mali	Joint management of the Sourou Valley Transboundary Ramsar Site with Burkina Faso .
Morocco	Satellite monitoring of Northern Bald Ibises in collaboration with SEO/BirdLife (Spain).

Q 1.13: Has your country established any mechanisms to collect relevant information/data on drivers of waterbird population trends in collaboration with existing schemes such as the International Waterbird Census (IWC) or Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs) (PoAA Target 1.4.b)?

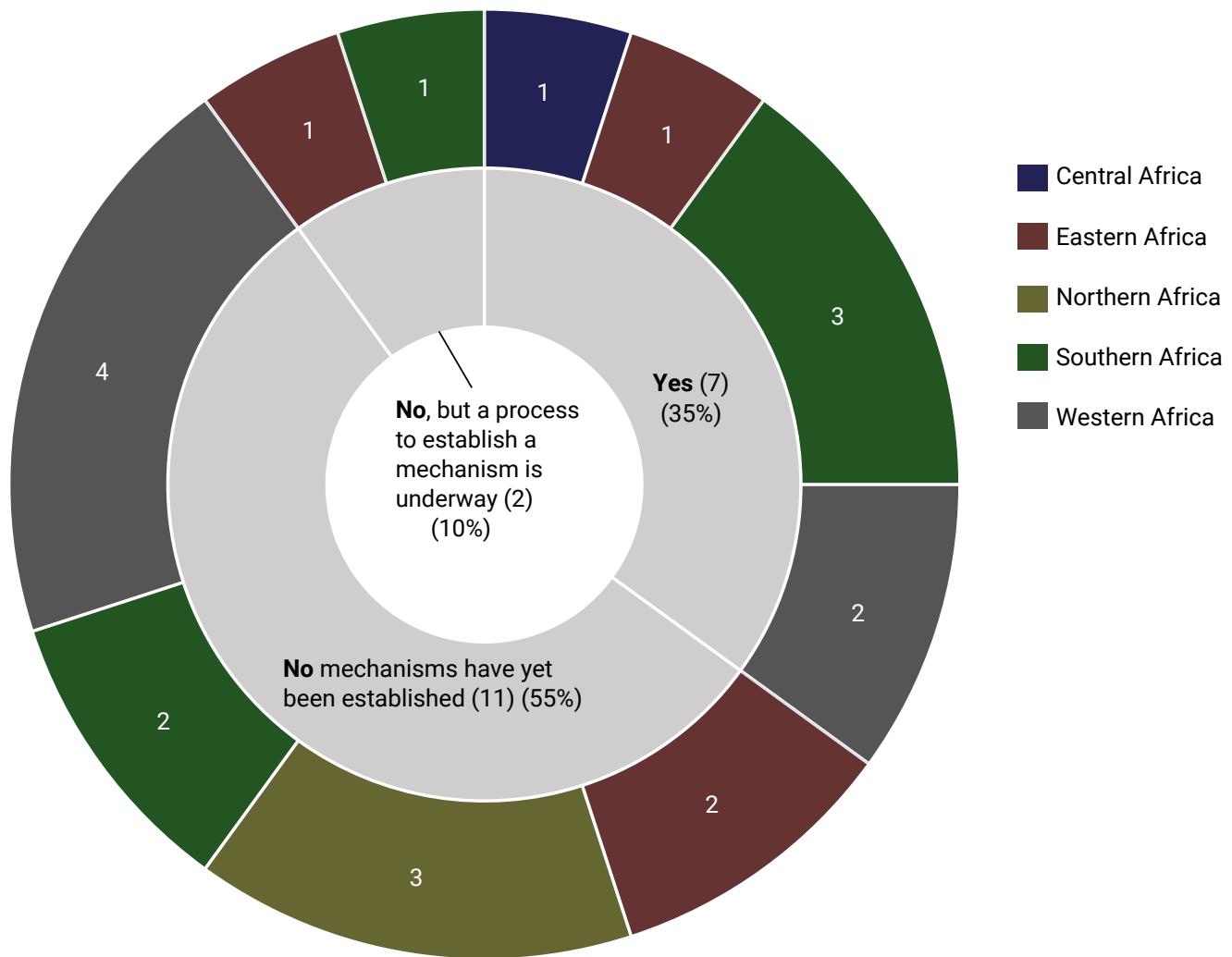


Figure 1.11: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether their country has established any mechanisms to collect relevant information/data on drivers of waterbird population trends in collaboration with existing schemes such as the International Waterbird Census (IWC) or Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs) (Q 1.13).

Seven reporting Parties (35%) indicated that they had established mechanisms to collect information on drivers of waterbird population trends in collaboration with existing schemes. An example of a mechanism implemented was provided by Zimbabwe, where citizen science capacity building has been prioritized and efforts focussed on training local communities at IBA sites on species identification, data collection and the IBA monitoring framework.

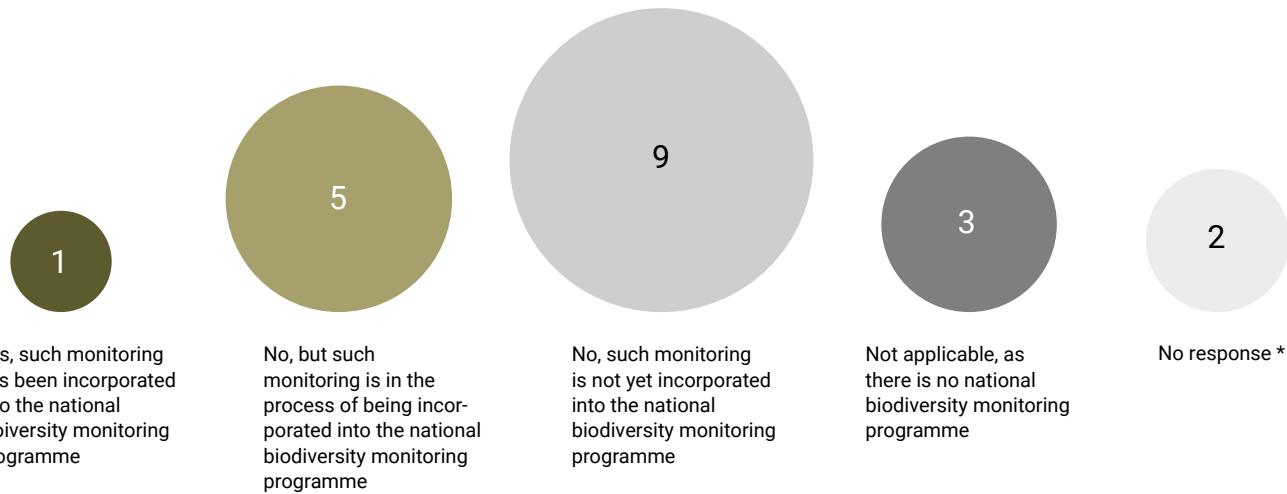
A further two reporting Parties (10%) indicated that the establishment of such mechanisms was underway, while the remaining 12 (60%) reported that, so far, no such mechanisms have been established. Two of these respondents (Ethiopia and Togo) reported that a key reason as to why no mechanism had yet been established was a lack of national expertise in this field.



Q 1.14: Has monitoring of drivers of waterbird population trends been incorporated into the national biodiversity monitoring programme for your country (PoAA Target 1.4.b)?

Of the 17 reporting Parties that identified this question as being applicable to them, only one reporting Party (6%; South Africa) confirmed that monitoring of the drivers of waterbird population trends had been incorporated into their national biodiversity monitoring

plan; however, a further five respondents (30%) indicated that such monitoring was in the process of being incorporated. Two of these Parties (Egypt and Zimbabwe) reported that this process was expected to be completed by the end of 2022.



* Kenya provided a link to the national waterbird census for Kenya, but references to the degree to which monitoring of the drivers of waterbird population trends had been incorporated into their national biodiversity monitoring plan could not be located within this document.

Figure 1.12: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether monitoring of drivers of waterbird population trends has been incorporated into national biodiversity monitoring programmes (Q 1.14).

Q 1.15: Following MOP7, did the AEWA NFP/Technical Focal Point (TFP) retrieve from national IWC Coordinators waterbird data analysis based on the 7th edition of the Conservation Status Report (CSR7), IWC and other national monitoring data/schemes (PoAA Target 1.5.b)?

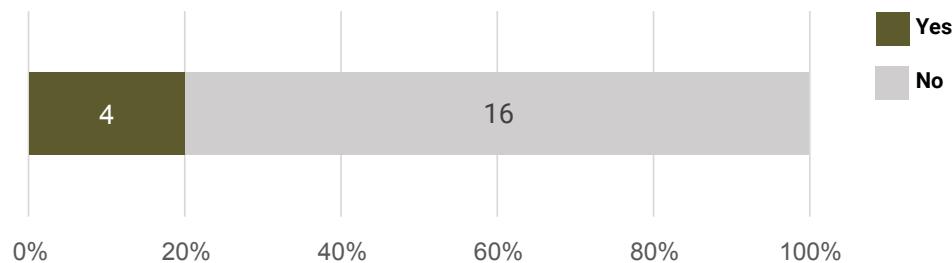


Figure 1.13: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether, following MOP7, the AEWA NFP/TFP retrieved waterbird data analysis based on the 7th edition of the Conservation Status Report (CSR7), IWC and other national monitoring data/schemes from national IWC Coordinators (Q 1.14).

Four reporting Parties (20%; Algeria, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Kenya) indicated that the AEWA NFP/TFP had retrieved waterbird data analysis from national IWC coordinators. Two of these Parties reported that this had occurred within six months of MOP7 (as required by the PoAA) and one reported that this had occurred beyond this six-month point (the remaining Party did not specify). Based on the responses to a follow-up question posed to the four reporting Parties

who responded 'yes', no recommendations to improve the national implementation of AEWA based on these data were noted to have yet been developed. Ghana indicated that a report on the waterbird data analysis retrieved has been produced, but that this did not include specific recommendations for waterbird conservation.

TARGET 1.5

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

Q 1.16: In the years 2019 and 2020, did the AEWA TFP coordinate the **analysis of national waterbird monitoring data** (PoAA Target 1.5.b)?

Two reporting Parties (10%; Botswana and Ghana) indicated that the AEWA TFP coordinated an analysis of national waterbird monitoring data; in both cases the AEWA TFP coordinated the analysis in both 2019 and 2020. As with their response to question 1.15, Ghana indicated that a report based on analyses of

these data had been prepared, but that this did not include specific recommendations for actions on waterbird conservation. Botswana indicated that a such report was in preparation, with the results for 2019 expected to be published in 2021.

TARGET 1.6

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

Q 1.17: Following MOP7, has your country influenced **multilateral processes for advancing AEWA priorities related to preventing four causes of unnecessary additional mortality¹⁰** and other key threats to migratory waterbirds and their habitats (i.e. energy infrastructure, especially powerlines and wind turbines; illegal taking and killing; fisheries bycatch; and invasive alien species), at the national, international or regional levels? (PoAA Targets 1.6.b, 1.6.c and 1.6.d)?

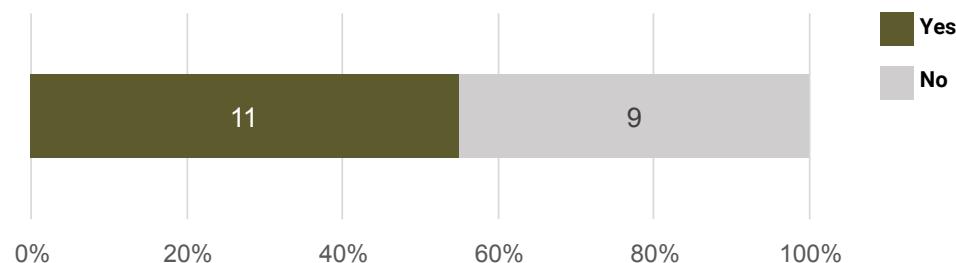


Figure 1.14: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether, following MOP7, their country has influenced multilateral processes for advancing AEWA priorities related to preventing four causes of unnecessary additional mortality¹⁰, and other key threats to migratory waterbirds and their habitats (Q 1.17).

Eleven reporting Parties (55%) indicated that their country had influenced multilateral processes for advancing AEWA priorities related to energy infrastructure, illegal taking & killing, fisheries bycatch or invasive alien species. The most frequent method used to achieve this, as reported by seven of the eleven Parties, was through communication and advocacy actions at national, regional or international levels that contribute to preventing these threats; this was followed by collaboration with NFPs/ implementing agencies responsible for other Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) to

implement national activities that contribute to preventing or minimising these threats. Most examples of activities provided focused on threats posed by infrastructure, and included (1) conducting strategic environmental assessments for wind power farms (Egypt and Kenya), and (2) holding meetings with key stakeholders to discuss the issue of powerline electrocution of migratory birds (Botswana). Several examples provided also related to communication, education and public awareness programs (Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Zimbabwe).



Figure 1.15: Methods indicated by reporting Parties that have been used to influence multilateral processes for advancing AEWA priorities related to preventing four causes of unnecessary additional mortality. The total number of reporting Parties indicating each method is shown in the bottom right of each category.





2. SUSTAINABLE USE

OBJECTIVE 2

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

African AEWA Parties were asked eleven questions to assess their progress on ensuring that the use and management of migratory waterbird populations is sustainable. These questions concentrated on the monitoring of harvest levels for waterbird species, as well as the development of best practice codes for waterbird hunting and the application of these codes to support domestic legislation relating to waterbird use and management. Three questions in this section (2.1, 2.3 and 2.4) related to actions that the PoAA designates as being of highest priority; these actions contribute to the delivery of PoAA targets 2.1.b, 2.2a, and 2.2.b.

Most progress has been made (1) in **raising awareness of best practices** relating to waterbird use and management (see Q 2.9), with 65% of reporting Parties undertaking this action, and (2) in ensuring that Parties **coordinate the application of compliance mechanisms** relating to waterbird use, harvest and management among relevant institutions and stakeholders (see Q 2.7), with 60% of reporting Parties indicating that they undertake this task.

Less progress has been made towards conducting a **review of the enforcement of relevant domestic legislation** relating to waterbird use, harvest and management following MOP7, with no Parties reporting that this review has been completed (see Q 2.5). Similarly, no Parties indicated that they had submitted formal requests to relevant national institutions to amend existing legislation or adopt new legislative measures in response to a **domestic legislative review relating to the use and management of waterbirds** based on the **amendments to the AEWA Annex 3** adopted at MOP7 (see Q 2.4), although this is not surprising given the low number of Parties that reported undertaking this review (see Q2.3 below).

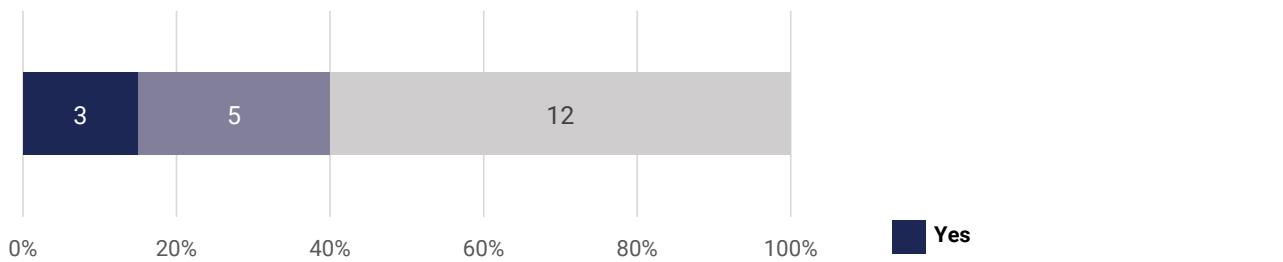
Regarding the questions relating to remaining highest priority actions under this objective (Q2.4 is already covered above), 15% of percent of reporting Parties stated that they have established a national mechanism to estimate waterbird harvest (Q 2.1), although it should be noted that 50% of respondents who answered 'no' to this question indicated that a national mechanism was not necessary because there was no waterbird hunting. Only one Party reported that their AEWA NFP has coordinated a review of relevant domestic legislation relating to the use and management of waterbirds, based on the **amendments to the AEWA Annex 3** (AEWA Action Plan), as adopted by MOP7 (Q 2.3).

TARGET 2.1

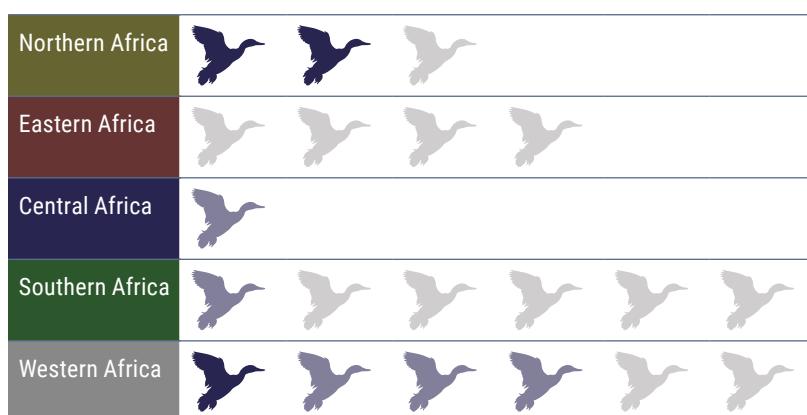
Harvest levels are monitored and readily available at flyway level to support sustainable harvest of all prioritised quarry species

Q 2.1: Following MOP7, has your country established any national mechanism(s) to estimate waterbird harvest (PoAA Target 2.1.b)?

(A)



(B)



■ Yes

■ No (but a process for establishing a mechanism is underway)

■ No (no national mechanism has yet been established)



1 Contracting Party

Figure 2.1: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether, following MOP7, their country has established any national mechanism(s) to estimate waterbird harvest (Q2.1). (A) shows responses from all reporting Parties, (B) shows Party responses by sub-region.

Overall, three reporting Parties (15%; Egypt, Ghana and Morocco) indicated that their country had established a national mechanism to estimate waterbird harvest, while a further five reporting Parties (25%) noted that a process to establish such a mechanism was underway. Half of the respondents that stated that a mechanism had not been established highlighted that this was because their respective Wildlife Acts prohibit the harvest, sale and possession of waterbirds, or noted that waterbird harvest was not a common practice in their countries. Other Parties, such as Tanzania, explained that the government had a national mechanism to estimate the harvest of all wildlife species, so there was no need to establish a specific mechanism for waterbirds.

All three reporting Parties that have established a national waterbird harvesting mechanism noted that they had done so by 2020 as indicated in the PoAA. Table 2.1 shows the responses of these three Parties to two follow-up questions, which asked whether the established mechanisms took into consideration the different modes of, and motivations for, taking waterbirds, and whether practical procedures have been developed for the actual estimate of waterbird harvest in the country.



Table 2.1: Follow up questions answered by the three reporting Parties that have established national mechanisms to estimate waterbird harvest.

Party	The established mechanism takes into consideration the different modes of and motivations for taking waterbirds (subsistence, livelihood, commercial, cultural, recreational, management)	Practical procedures have been developed for the actual estimate of waterbird harvest in the country
Egypt	✓ (All of the above)	✓ Socioeconomic and market studies were conducted 2016-2018, with more comprehensive surveys underway and expected to be finalized by 2022.
Ghana	✓ (Subsistence, commercial and recreational)	X Structures are in place to monitor and report cases of waterbird harvesting through strict monitoring, law enforcement and use of a network of informants. These mechanisms are in place to provide information as and when needed.
Morocco	X	X Estimates based on data collected during hunters' harvest control operations are relatively reliable

Q 2.2: Following MOP7, has your country conducted any **inventory of waterbird harvest** at markets, production and supply chains, recreational hunting agencies, etc. (PoAA Target 2.1.b)?

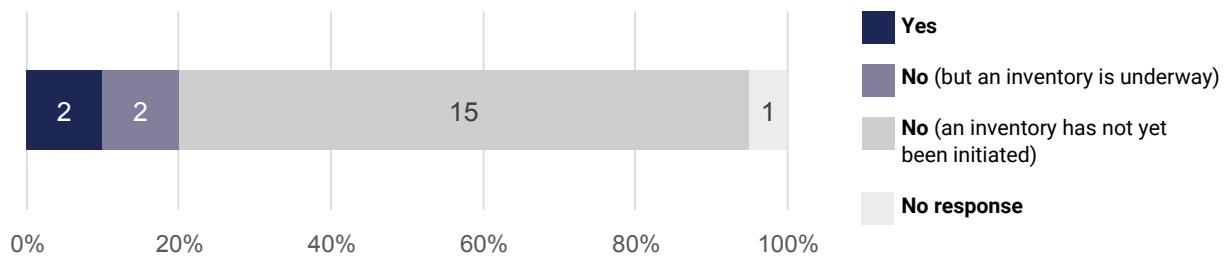


Figure 2.2: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether an inventory of waterbird harvest at markets, production and supply chains, recreational hunting agencies, etc. has been conducted (Q2.2).

Only two reporting Parties (Ghana and Malawi) reported that their country has conducted an inventory of waterbird harvests at markets, production and supply chains, recreational hunting agencies, etc., with another two respondents (Egypt and Mali) indicating that these inventories were underway.

TARGET 2.2

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

Q 2.3: Following MOP7, did the AEWA NFP coordinate the **review of relevant domestic legislation relating to the use and management of waterbirds**, based on the amendments to the AEWA Annex 3 (AEWA Action Plan), as adopted by MOP7 (PoAA Target 2.2.a)?

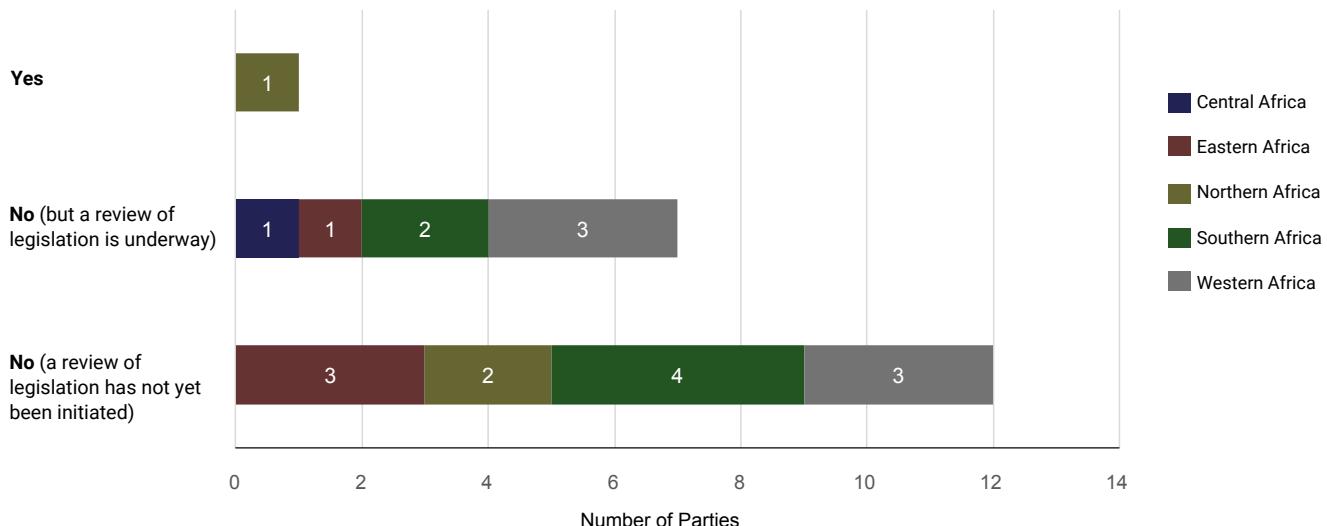


Figure 2.3: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether a review of relevant domestic legislation relating to the use and management of waterbirds has been coordinated by the AEWA NFP (Q2.3).

Only one reporting Party, in Northern Africa (Egypt), stated that its AEWA NFP had coordinated a review of relevant domestic legislation relating to the use and management of waterbirds, while a further seven reporting Parties (35%) responded that such a domestic legislative review is underway. Egypt's review was completed prior to the wintering season 2019-2020, with amendments to the country's annual ministerial decree for regulating bird hunting made based upon the review's results. An amended ministerial decree was noted to have been sent to relevant stakeholders (e.g., police, border guards, and local administration authorities) for implementation.

In total, twelve reporting Parties (60%) indicated that no domestic legislative review had yet been initiated. The primary reason given was that existing national legislation was deemed already sufficient in relation to different aspects of use and management of waterbirds, with five Parties (Algeria, Morocco, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zimbabwe) providing an explanation along these lines. South Africa reported that such a legislative review will need to be considered during the development and implementation of its national AEWA-implementation plan, but that waterbird hunting is currently regulated at the provincial level.



Q 2.4: With reference to the outcomes of the domestic legislative review relating to the use and management of waterbirds based on MOP7 amendments to the AEWA Action Plan (Annex 3), has a formal request been submitted to the relevant national institutions to **amend existing legislation or adopt new legislative measures** (PoAA Target 2.2.b)?

None of the reporting Parties stated that a formal request had been submitted to the relevant national institutions to amend existing legislation or adopt new legislative measures with reference to the outcomes of a domestic legislative review; this is not unexpected in light of the answers provided by respondents to Q2.3, where only Egypt indicated that the required domestic legislative review has been completed.

However, there appears to have been variation in how reporting Parties interpreted this question, with the number of Parties indicating that there was no need for developing or amending domestic legislation *based on the outcome of the national review* (6),

higher than the number of Parties that answered in Q2.3 that a review had been undertaken (1). Three of the Parties who answered that there was no need to develop or amend domestic legislation additionally explained that this was because their legislation was already known to be compliant. In future reporting cycles these two questions (Q2.3 and Q2.4) may therefore benefit from the provision of additional clarification or from the provision of additional options, such as an option in Q2.3 for Parties to indicate that a review is not considered to be necessary, and an option in Q2.4 for Parties that have not yet conducted a legislative review.

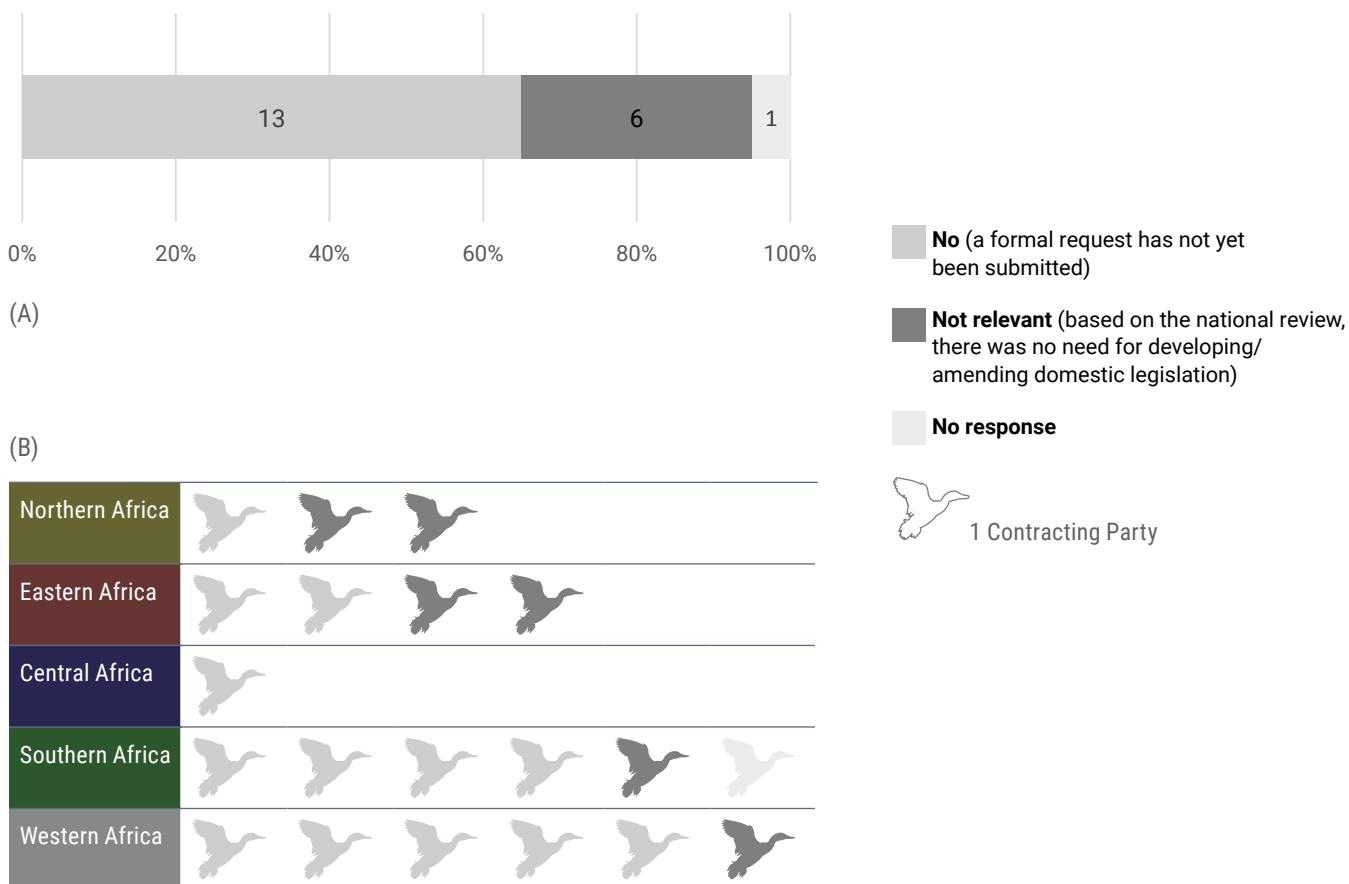


Figure 2.4: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether, with reference to the outcomes of the domestic legislative review relating to the use and management of waterbirds based on MOP7 amendments to the AEWA Action Plan (Annex 3), a formal request has been submitted to the relevant national institutions to amend existing legislation or adopt new legislative measures (Q2.4). (A) shows responses from all reporting Parties, (B) shows Party responses by sub-region.

Q 2.5: Following MOP7, has your country conducted a review of the enforcement of relevant domestic legislation relating to waterbird use, harvest and management (PoAA Target 2.2.c)?

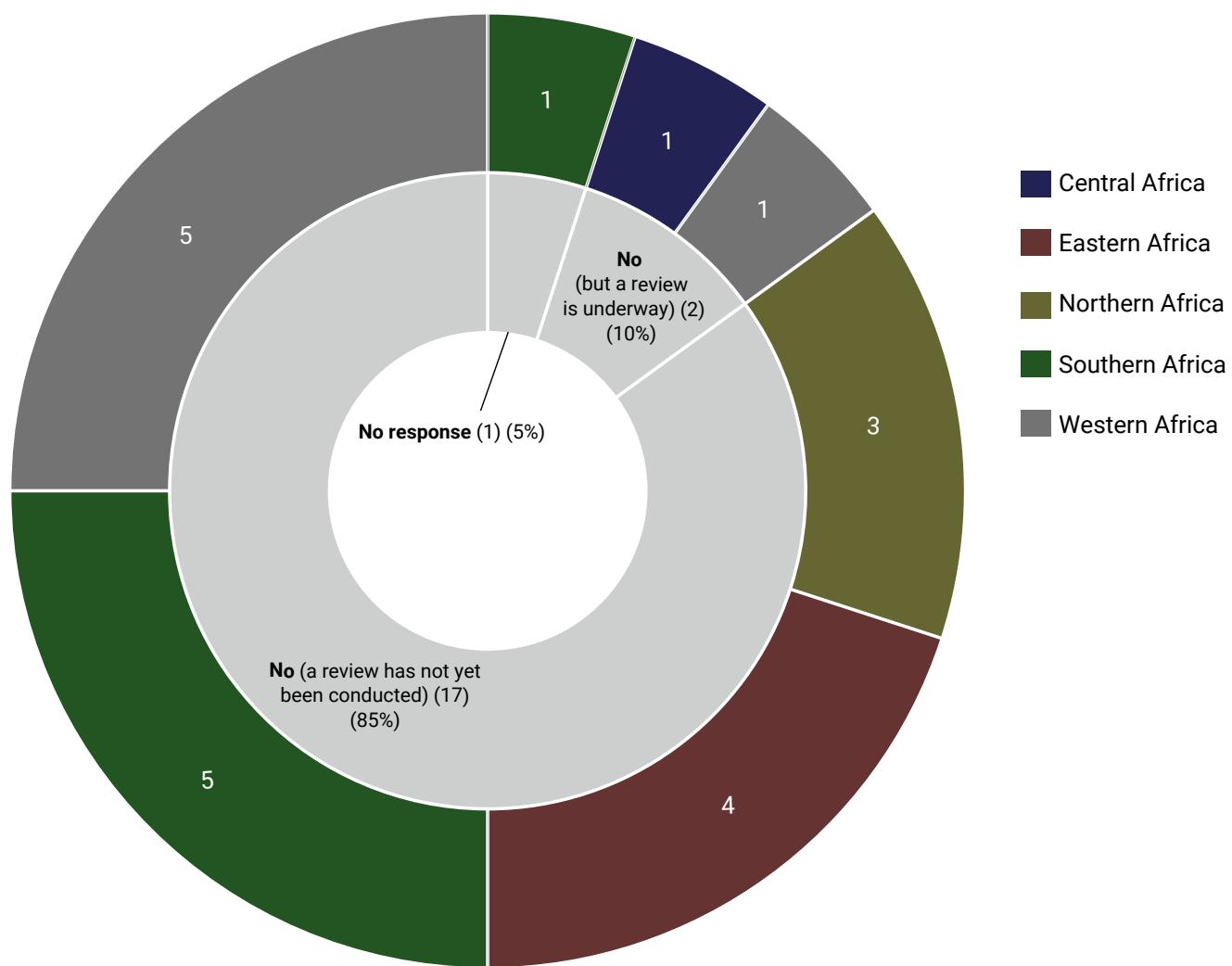


Figure 2.5: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether, following MOP7, their country has conducted a review of the enforcement of relevant domestic legislation relating to waterbird use, harvest and management (Q2.5).

No reporting Parties reported that they had conducted a review of the enforcement of domestic legislation relating to waterbird use, harvest and management, although two Parties (Central African Republic and Niger) indicated that such a review was currently underway. Nigeria noted that they are

awaiting the outcome of the review of relevant domestic legislation relating to the use and management of waterbirds before conducting a review into the enforcement of this legislation, but this is intended to be carried out by 2023.



Q 2.6: Following MOP7, has your country conducted a review of compliance of relevant domestic legislation with AEWA obligations relating to waterbird use, harvest and management (PoAA Target 2.2.c)?

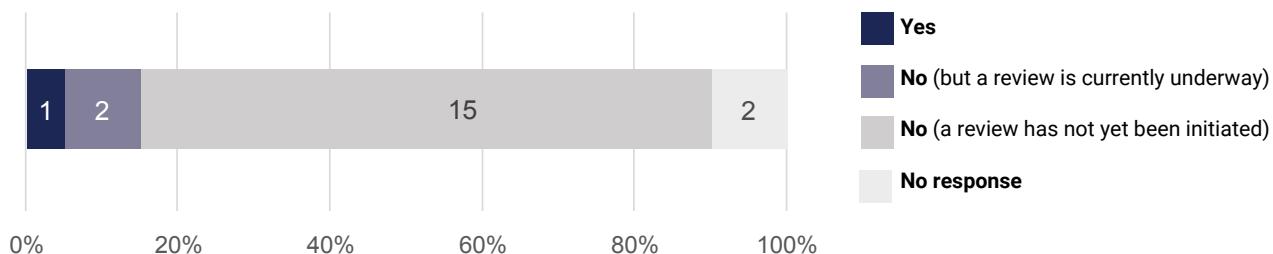


Figure 2.6: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether, following MOP7, their country has conducted a review of the compliance of relevant domestic legislation relating to waterbird use, harvest and management (Q2.6).

Of the eighteen reporting Parties that provided a response to this question, only one Party (6%; Niger, in Western Africa) reported that they have conducted a review of compliance of relevant domestic legislation with AEWA obligations relating to waterbird use, harvest and management, with this review carried out within 6 months of MOP7, as required by the PoAA. A further two reporting Parties (11%), one in Northern Africa (Egypt) and the other in

Western Africa (Mali), noted that such a review is currently in the process of being conducted. Based upon the outcomes of its national review, Niger reported that it was in the process of establishing a new law and associated application texts, and had developed training materials to strengthen compliance with domestic legislation relating to waterbird use, harvest and management.

Q 2.7: Does your country coordinate among relevant institutions/stakeholders the application of compliance mechanisms relating to waterbird use, harvest and management (PoAA Target 2.2.c)?

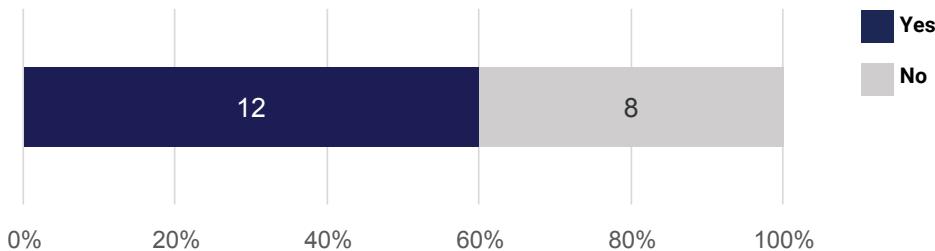
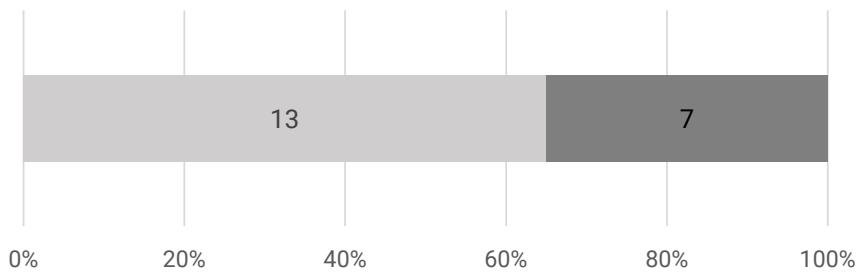


Figure 2.7: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether the application of compliance mechanisms relating to waterbird use, harvest and management has been coordinated among relevant institutions and stakeholders (Q2.7).

Twelve reporting Parties (60%) indicated that the application of compliance mechanisms relating to waterbird use, harvest and management is actively coordinated among the appropriate institutions and stakeholders in their country.

Q 2.8: Has your country developed a time-bound work plan to phase out the use of lead shot in wetlands (PoAA Target 2.2.d)?

(A)



■ **No** (the development of such a work plan has not yet been initiated)

■ **Not relevant**



1 Contracting Party

(B)

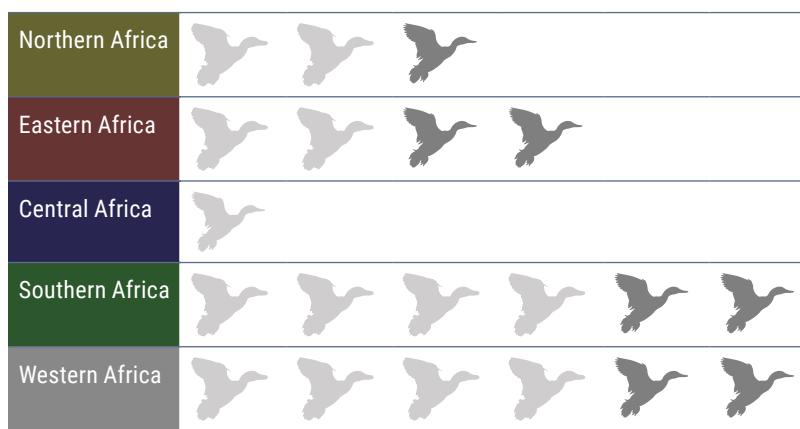


Figure 2.8: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether a time-bound work plan to phase out the use of lead shot in wetlands has been developed (Q2.8). (A) shows responses from all reporting Parties, (B) shows Party responses by sub-region.

Seven reporting Parties (35%) communicated that question 2.8 was not relevant to them, either because there is no known use of lead shot to harvest birds in their country (four Parties), or more generally, because waterbird hunting does not happen at a large scale (three Parties).

None of the remaining thirteen reporting Parties stated that a national time-bound workplan to phase out the use of lead shot in wetlands had been established or even that the process of developing such a workplan was currently underway; however, it should be noted that there appear to have been differences in interpretation in whether Parties that had not developed plans because these were considered to be unnecessary should answer 'No' or 'Not relevant'. For example, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Tanzania answered that the development of a plan had not yet been initiated, but Ghana and Tanzania noted that the use of lead shot in wetlands was insignificant, and Côte d'Ivoire noted that hunting was prohibited. Furthermore, although Mali and the

Central African Republic answered that the development of such a workplan had not yet been initiated, both Parties have reported that a general ban on lead shot is already in place. Future PoAA national report templates might therefore benefit from clarifying under what circumstances a 'Not relevant' answer should be given.

Three reporting Parties that answered that a work plan had not yet been initiated noted that plans to phase out the use of lead shot in wetlands will be developed in the future. One of these Parties, South Africa, reported that although no steps have been taken towards the legislative prohibition of lead shot for hunting in wetlands, several hunting organizations in the country have recommended that their members not shoot over wetlands with lead shot. A national Lead Task team has also been established, with an Action Plan that envisages the preparation of guidance on the implementation of CMS resolution 11.5 as well as other interventions to address the threats posed to wildlife by lead.



Q 2.9: Following MOP7, has your country organized any events or disseminated any information, news or other communication on any national/regional/international forums regarding best practices relating to waterbird use and management (PoAA Target 2.2.f)?

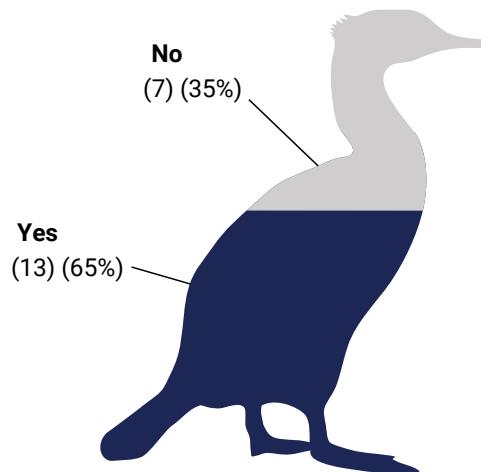


Figure 2.9: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether information regarding best practices relating to waterbird use and management has been communicated on any national/regional/international forums

In total, thirteen reporting Parties (65%) communicated that they had organized events with the purpose of publicising information regarding best practices for waterbird use and management. Examples of such events included the performance

of poems, songs, and dances, during World Migratory Bird Day. In Uganda, the government partnered with Nature Uganda to communicate the value of waterbirds and their habitats during Annual World Wildlife Day celebrations.

TARGET 2.3

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

Q 2.10: Has your country developed/updated best practice hunting codes (PoAA Target 2.3.a)?

Best practice hunting codes have either been developed or updated by four reporting Parties (20%), and are in the process of being established by a further two reporting Parties (10%). Answers to the follow-up questions posed to the four Parties that have developed best practice hunting codes (Algeria, Botswana, Central African Republic, and Morocco) are displayed in Table 2.2. The primary reasons

provided as to why best practice hunting codes had not been developed/updated in the remaining 70% of respondents were: (1) that legal waterbird hunting does not occur in their country (specified by four Parties) and (2) that existing domestic legislation already delineates techniques, guidelines, and regulations that most hunters adhere to (outlined in the responses of three Parties).

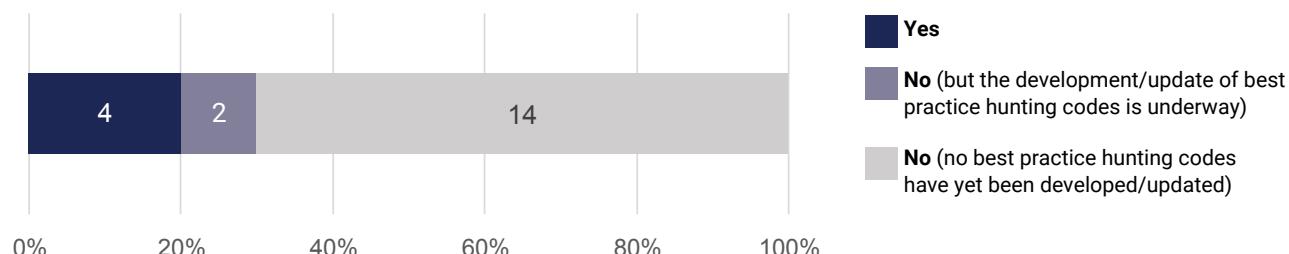


Figure 2.10: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether best practice hunting codes have been developed or updated (Q2.10).

Table 2.2: Responses to the follow-up questions posed to the four Parties that reported having developed or updated best practice hunting codes.

Party	Has your country established any mechanisms to promote the application of the best practice hunting codes?	Have any actions/activities been conducted in your country to apply these established mechanisms?	Have the established best practice hunting codes been incorporated into any national regulations?
Algeria	✓ Training courses have been organized for hunters, with a training manual concerning knowledge of game, protected and endangered species, hunting ethics and legislation developed as part of this.	X (no response)	✓ (fully incorporated) The national hunting law of 14th August 2004 outlines the conditions of hunting, the ethics of hunting as well as good practices for this activity.
Botswana	X (no response)	X (no response)	X (no response)
Central African Republic	✓ The mechanisms were mostly established in 2018 with the support of partners such as WWF	X (no response)	X
Morocco	X This is not necessary as membership of a hunting association is required by law	X (no response)	✓ (partially incorporated) Membership of a hunting club/association is required by law





Q 2.11: Following MOP7, did your country identify training needs aimed at enhancing competence and responsibility within hunting communities (PoAA Target 2.3.a)?

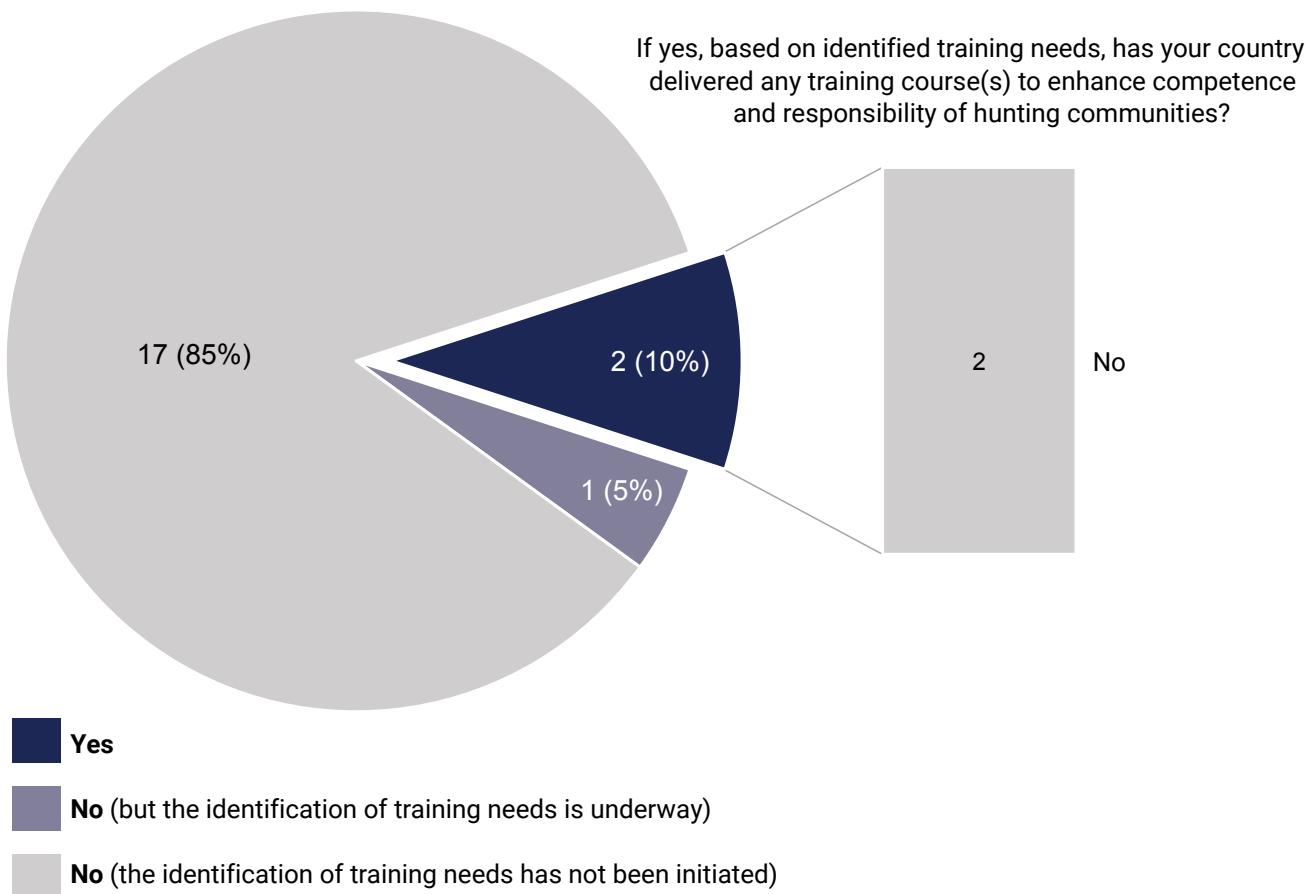


Figure 2.11: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether training needs aimed at enhancing competence and responsibility within hunting communities have been identified following MOP7 (Q2.11).

Only two reporting Parties (10%; Mali and Morocco) reported that training requirements, aimed at enhancing competence and responsibility within hunting communities, had been identified following MOP7. However, both Parties revealed that, although identified, no training courses for hunting communities had yet been formally implemented. Morocco explained that the reason no training

sessions had been delivered during the reporting period was partly due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Despite this, Morocco noted that the Royal Moroccan Hunting Federation and its associations are continuing to provide guidance to hunters on sustainable hunting. One additional Party (Niger) stated that the identification of such training needs is underway.





3. FLYWAY NETWORK OF SITES

OBJECTIVE 3

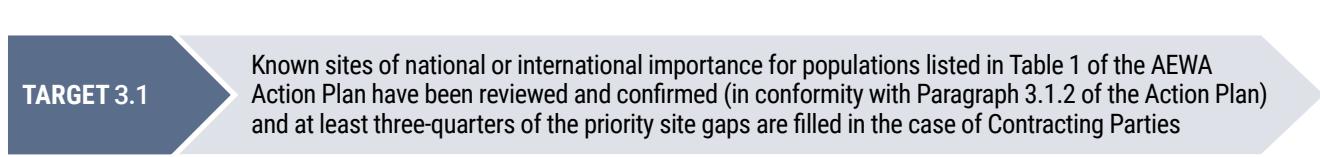
To establish and sustain a coherent and comprehensive flyway network of protected areas and other sites, managed to maintain – and where necessary restore – their national and international importance for migratory waterbird populations

Parties were asked 10 questions relating to the establishment and maintenance of a network of protected sites designed to safeguard waterbird populations along their migration routes. The majority of questions focused on reviewing and assessing known sites of national and international importance for AEWA populations, while other questions asked about the implementation of actions, processes and strategies to conserve and manage these key sites, as well as whether Parties were monitoring any adverse impacts affecting them. Three questions in this section (3.1, 3.6 and 3.8) related to actions that the PoAA designates as being of highest priority; these actions contribute to the delivery of PoAA targets 3.1.a, 3.3.a, 3.5.a and 3.5.b.

The results indicate that most progress has been made (1) in the **development and update of management plans for confirmed key sites** of national/international importance for AEWA populations (with 60% of reporting Parties indicating that this activity has been undertaken) (see Q 3.7), and (2) in **assessing the list of key sites to identify those which qualify as Wetlands of International Importance** (with 50% of reporting Parties indicating that this activity has been completed) (see Q3.2). A large proportion of reporting Parties (80%) also indicated that, where there were existing World Heritage Sites (WHSs) or Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Reserves among their list of important sites, activities have been conducted for the management of these sites in **collaboration with the responsible national authorities for the WHSs/MAB Reserves** (Q 3.4.1).

Lower progress has been made in relation to (1) the **identification of important sites that qualify for future designation as WHSs/MAB Reserves**, with only 10% of reporting Parties indicating that a process to do this has been completed (see Q 3.5), and (2) the **development of national Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) Action Plans**, with only 15% of reporting Parties indicating that this action has been completed (see Q3.10).

Progress towards the highest priority actions under this objective was mixed. Question 3.6 asked whether Parties had developed or updated national strategies/plans for the protection and management of the confirmed sites of national and international importance for AEWA populations hosted by their country, and a relatively high proportion of reporting Parties (45%) indicated that they have undertaken this action. The same proportion of reporting Parties indicated that they had established mechanisms to monitor and record adverse impacts at sites of national/international importance for AEWA populations (Q3.8). In contrast, Question 3.1 asked Parties whether a review of known sites of national and international importance for AEWA populations had been conducted in their country based on the process developed by the AEWA Technical Committee and launched by the AEWA Secretariat in August 2020; only 15% of reporting Parties indicated that they had completed this action. All reviews of known important sites for AEWA populations were carried out by Parties in the Southern and Western Africa sub-regions.



Q 3.1: Following MOP7, has a review of known sites of national and international importance for AEWA populations been conducted in your country, based on the process developed by the AEWA Technical Committee and launched by the AEWA Secretariat in August 2020 (PoAA Target 3.1.a)?

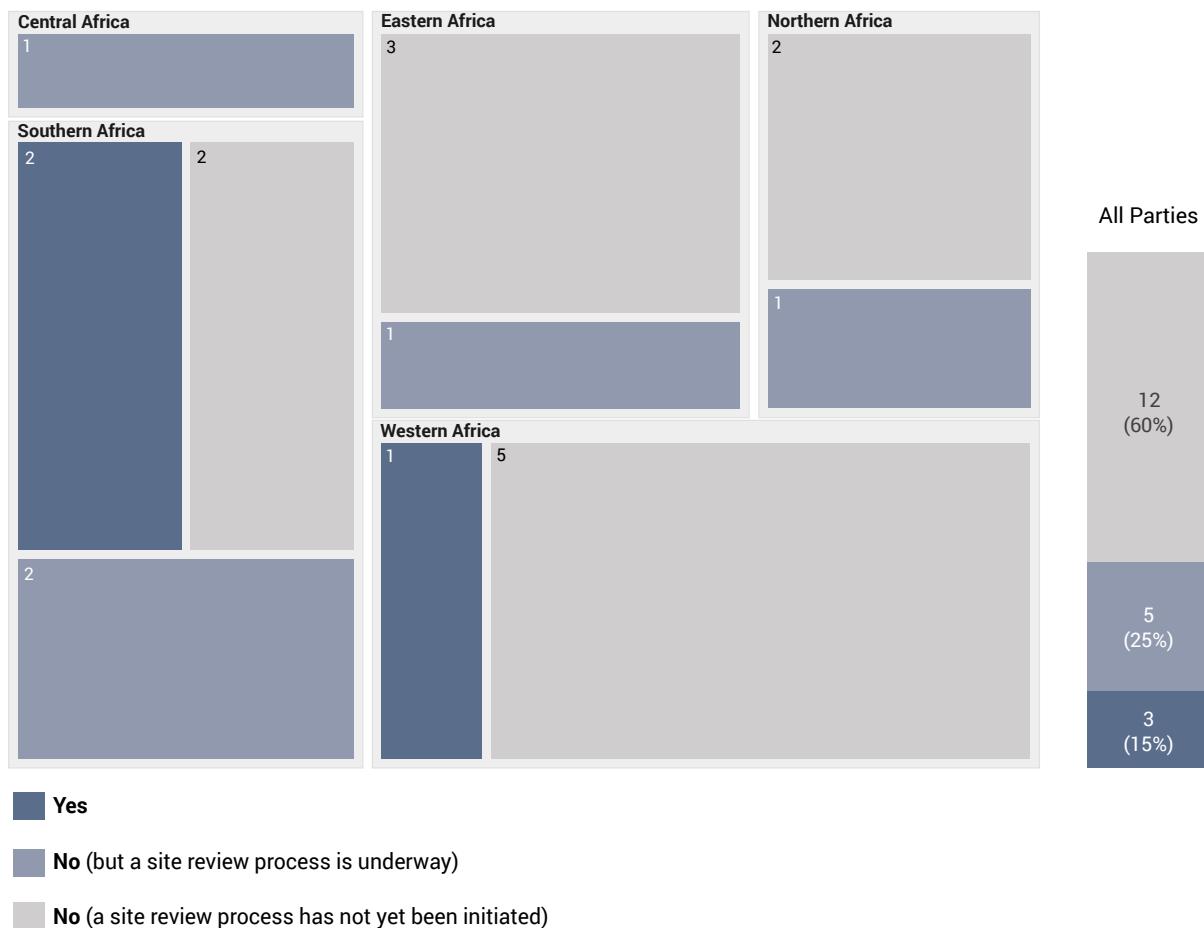


Figure 3.1: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether, following MOP7, a review of known sites of national and international importance for AEWA populations has been conducted in their country, based on the process developed by the AEWA Technical Committee and launched by the AEWA Secretariat in August 2020 (Q3.1).

Since MOP7, only three reporting Parties, situated in Western Africa (Ghana) and Southern Africa (Malawi and Zimbabwe), indicated that a review of known sites of national and international importance for AEWA populations has been undertaken in accordance with the process developed by the AEWA Technical Committee, with the outcomes of the review processes submitted to the AEWA Secretariat. No reviews of known sites of importance for AEWA populations were reported to have been carried out by Parties in the Northern Africa, Eastern Africa, and Central Africa sub-regions. A further five reporting Parties (25%) reported that these reviews are in the process of being conducted, with Tanzania anticipating that a review should be completed

before MOP8. The foremost reasons provided by reporting Parties as to why site reviews have not yet have been initiated were insufficient funding and budget constraints (e.g. Côte d'Ivoire and Uganda), alongside shifts in resource prioritisation following the COVID-19 pandemic (e.g. Egypt and Kenya).

Of the three Parties that have completed site reviews, two did so by the 2020 deadline outlined by the PoAA, with the third (Malawi) not providing details on which period their site review was conducted. As part of the site review process, two of these Parties identified gaps in available site information, with Ghana highlighting the need for improved representation of site boundaries within databases.

**TARGET 3.3**

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

Q 3.2: Has the list of confirmed sites of international importance for AEWA populations been assessed (in collaboration with the Ramsar National Administrative Authority/National Focal Point) to identify sites which qualify as Wetlands of International Importance (i.e. Ramsar Sites) (PoAA Target 3.3.b)?

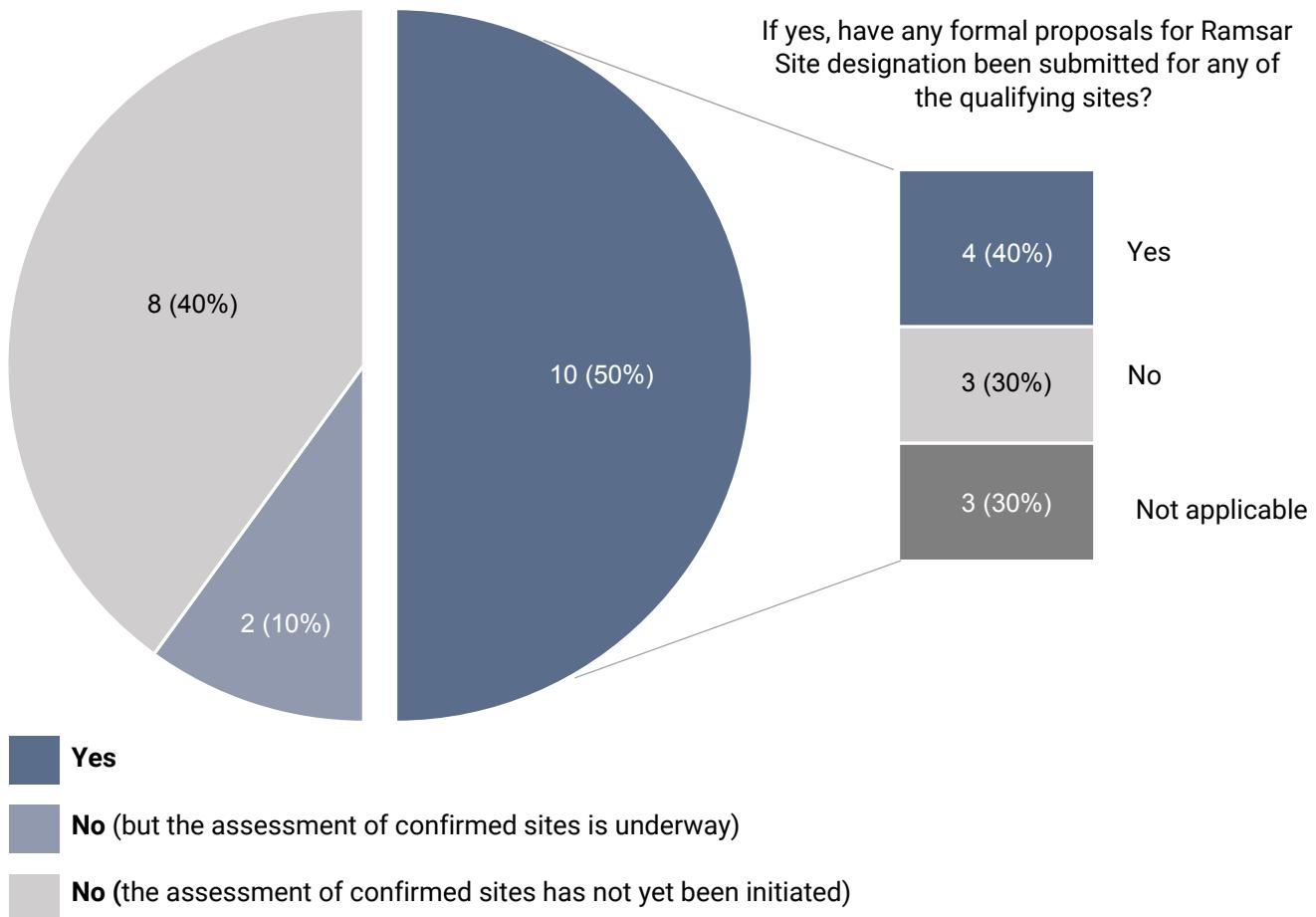


Figure 3.2: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether a list of confirmed sites of international importance for AEWA populations has been assessed (in collaboration with the Ramsar National Administrative Authority/National Focal Point) to identify sites which qualify as Wetlands of International Importance (i.e. Ramsar Sites) (Q3.2).

In total, ten reporting Parties (50%) specified that known sites of international importance for AEWA populations have been assessed to identify sites which qualify as Wetlands of International Importance. Of these, four Parties confirmed that formal proposals have been submitted for the consideration of such qualifying sites to be designated as Wetlands of International Importance

(Ramsar Sites), while three Parties have not yet submitted any such proposals. A further three Parties responded 'Not applicable' on account of no new sites having qualified as Ramsar Sites. Five Parties provided examples of sites which have been formally proposed for Ramsar Site designation; these are outlined in the table below:

Table 3.1: Sites specified by reporting Parties as qualifying as Wetlands of International Importance. All site locations displayed are approximate coordinates.

Party	Wetland sites proposed for Ramsar designation
Central African Republic	 <p>10 sites in the north-east of CAR have been identified as part of a long-term study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bahr Aouk Aoukalé River and the Nzili and Tizi ponds Bahr Oulou and Lake Mamoun River Ouandja and the Maka and Gata pools Bahr Kameur Koumbala River Manovo-Gounda Saint Floris Park Lake Djoudjoe Upper Chari River and its tributaries Ouham River
Kenya	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yala Swamp Lake Olbolossat
Niger	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lake Madarounfa Lake Guidimouni
Nigeria	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finima Nature Park
South Africa	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ingula Nature Reserve

Q 3.3: Has the **national wetlands inventory** for your country been established/updated in collaboration with the Ramsar NFP, taking into consideration the confirmed sites of national and international importance for AEWA populations (PoAA Target 3.3.b)?

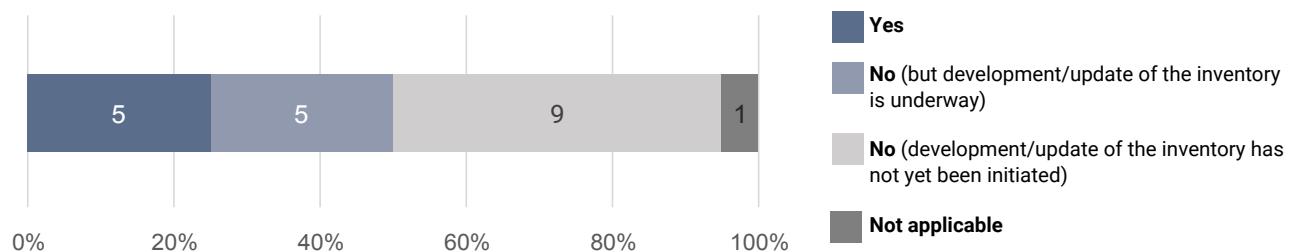


Figure 3.3: Responses from reporting parties indicating whether the national wetlands inventory for their country has been established or updated in collaboration with the Ramsar NFP, taking into consideration the confirmed sites of national and international importance for AEWA populations (Q3.3).

A national wetlands inventory for confirmed sites of national and international importance for AEWA populations has been established/updated by five reporting Parties (25%) and is in the process of being established/updated in a further five Parties. Both

Uganda and Zimbabwe (who indicated that the development or update to their inventory was underway) stated that this activity was expected to be completed by the end of 2021.



Q 3.4: Are there any existing World Heritage Sites (WHSs) or Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Reserves among the list of confirmed sites of national/international importance for AEWA populations (PoAA Target 3.3.c)?

In total, 15 reporting Parties (75%) confirmed that their list of confirmed sites identified as being of national/international importance for AEWA populations included existing WHSs or MAB Reserves. Of these, 12 Parties confirmed that activities had been conducted for the management of these sites in collaboration with the national

authorities responsible for these WHSs or MAB Reserves. However, only six Parties reported liaising with any other range States or partners at flyway level to promote synergies for the management of existing WHSs or MAB Reserves that are of national or international importance for AEWA populations.

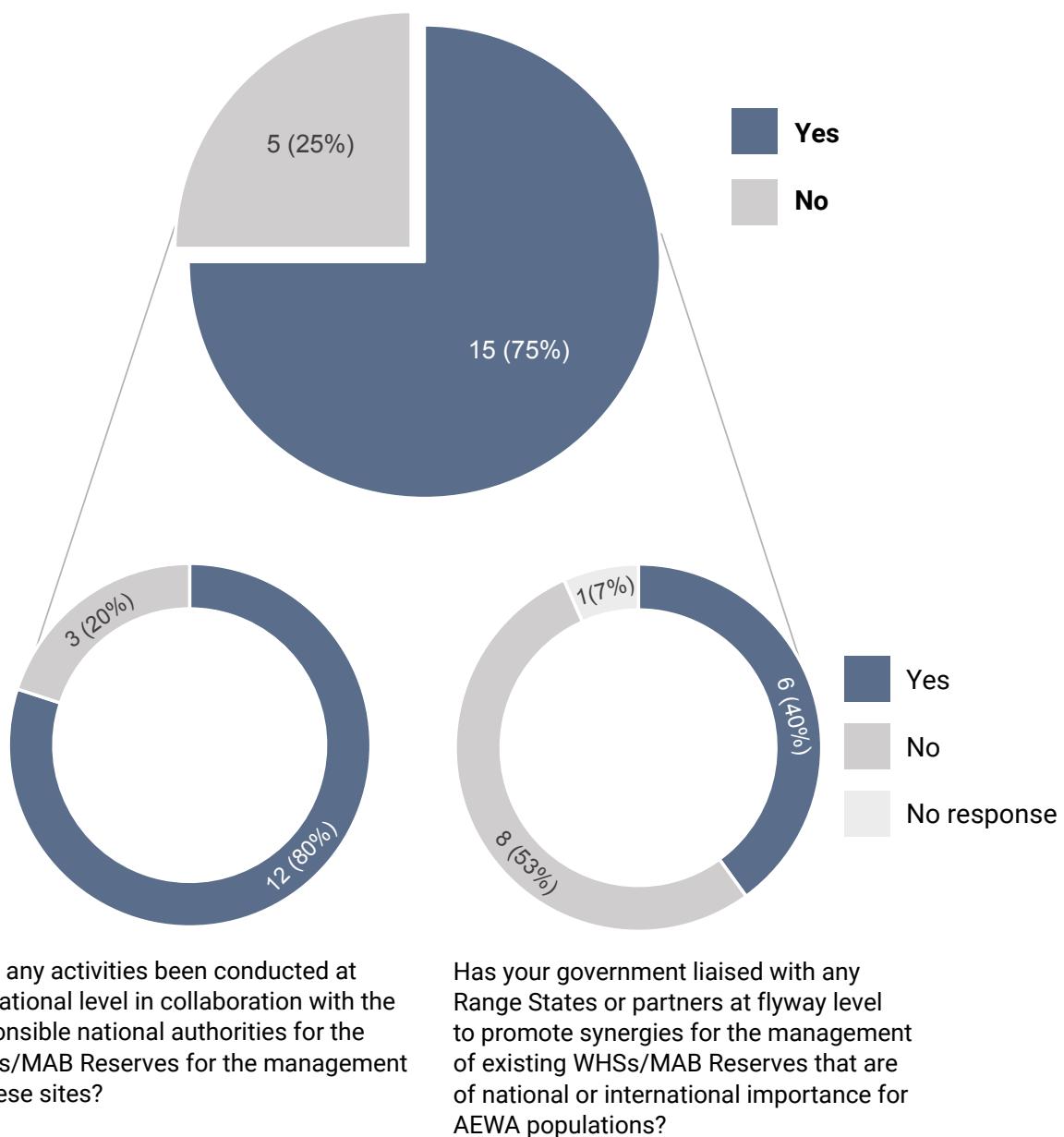


Figure 3.4: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether there are any existing World Heritage Sites (WHSs) or Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Reserves among the list of confirmed sites of national/international importance for AEWA populations (Q3.4).

Q 3.5: Has the list of confirmed sites of national and international importance for AEWA populations been assessed (in collaboration with the relevant national authorities) to identify sites which qualify for future designation as WHSs/MAB Reserves (PoAA Target 3.3.c)?

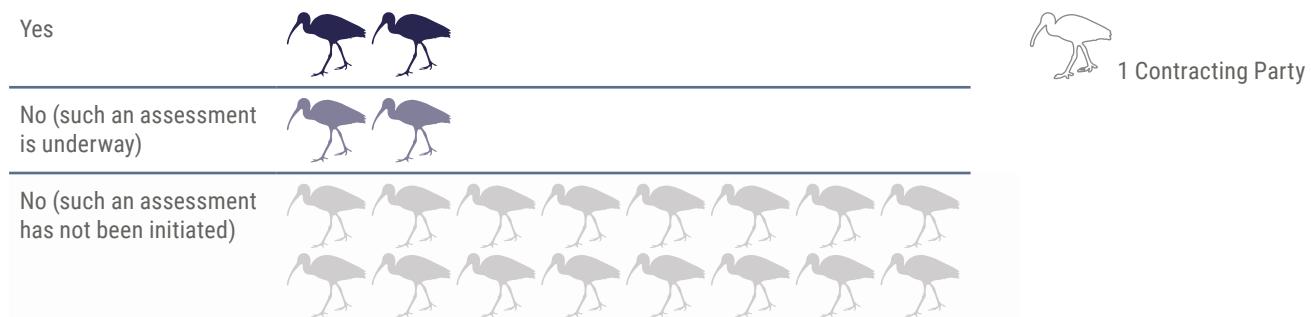


Figure 3.5: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether the list of confirmed sites of national and international importance for AEWA populations been assessed (in collaboration with the relevant national authorities) to identify sites which qualify for future designation as WHSs/MAB Reserves (Q3.5).

Only Ghana and Kenya reported that a national list of confirmed sites of importance for AEWA populations had been assessed to identify sites which qualify for future designation as WHSs/MAB Reserves, with a two further reporting Parties (Botswana and South Africa) indicating that an assessment is currently being undertaken. However, in follow-up questions,

Ghana noted that “sites have been assessed but not for the purpose of designation as a WHS or MAB reserve”, suggesting that there may have been variation in the way that Parties interpreted this principal question. Kenya outlined that the Masai Mara National Reserve was assessed for consideration as a World Heritage Site in 2020.





Q 3.6: Has your country developed/updated any **national strategy/plan for the protection and management of the confirmed sites** of national and international importance for AEWA populations it hosts (PoAA Target 3.3.a)?

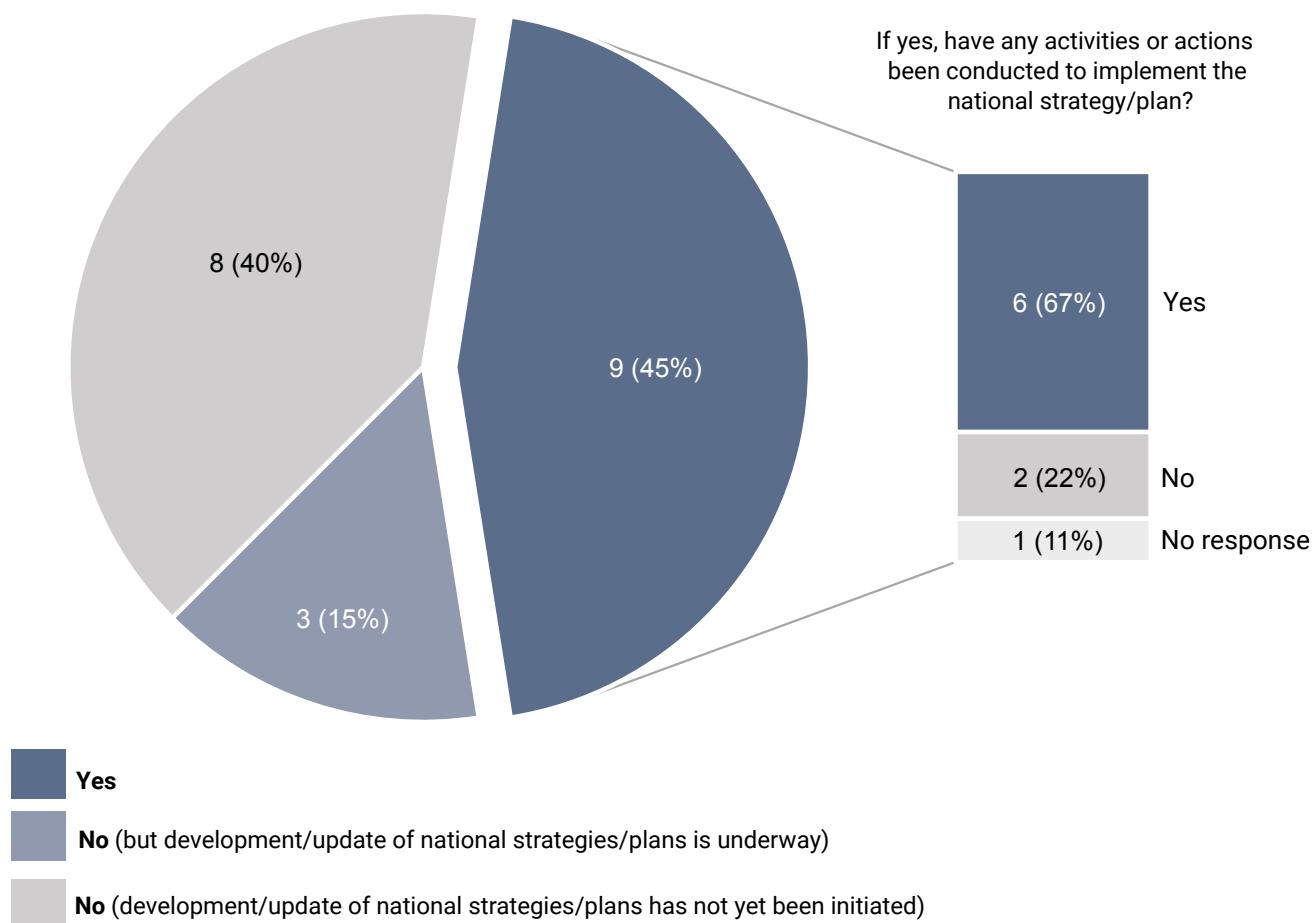


Figure 3.6: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether their country has developed or updated any national strategy or plan for the protection and management of the confirmed sites of national and international importance for AEWA populations it hosts (Q3.6).

National strategies for the protection and management of sites confirmed as being of national and international importance for AEWA populations have been developed or updated by nine reporting Parties (45%) and are in the process of being established in a further three reporting Parties (15%). Of the nine Parties that have currently developed or updated such national strategies, six reported undertaking concrete actions to implement them.

The only reason specified in Parties' responses as to why such national strategies have not yet been developed was the challenge posed by limited financial resources (Uganda). Encouragingly, three of the Parties that have not yet developed national strategies (Côte d'Ivoire, Mauritius, and Tanzania) noted that localised management plans for specific sites identified as important for AEWA populations are in place.

Q 3.7: Have any management plans been developed/updated for the confirmed key sites of national/international importance for AEWA populations (PoAA Target 3.3.a)?

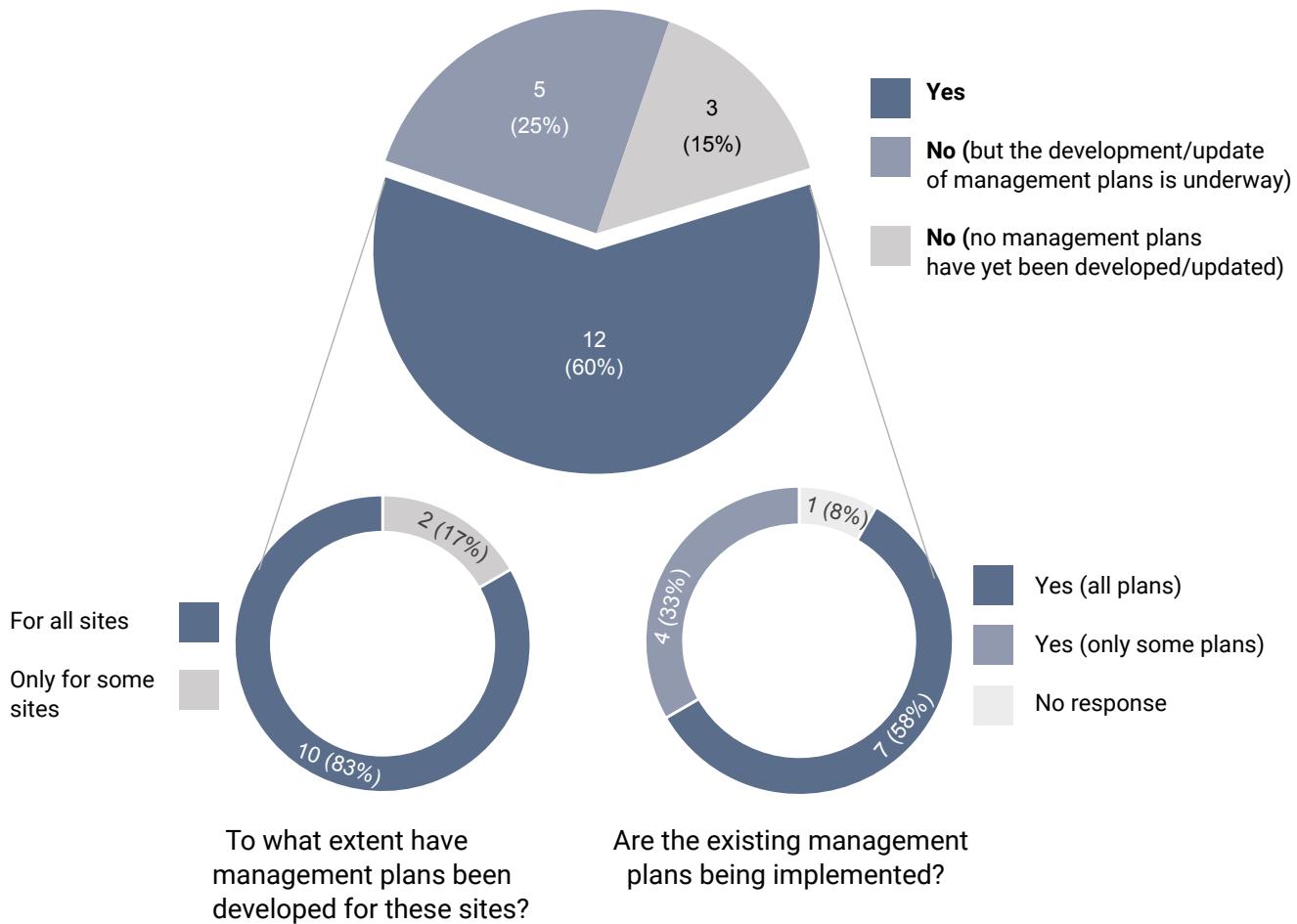


Figure 3.7: Responses from reporting parties indicating whether any management plans have been developed or updated for the confirmed key sites of national/international importance for AEWA populations (Q3.7).

Twelve reporting Parties (60%) reported that management plans have been developed or updated for confirmed key sites of national/international importance for AEWA populations. Of these, ten Parties reported that management plans had been developed for all key sites identified, while seven revealed that all existing plans are currently being implemented. The Central African Republic, Ethiopia and Uganda were the three Parties that reported that management plans had not yet been established, nor were they in development, for key sites. However, it is unclear whether Parties interpreted this question as asking whether management plans are in place for key sites or whether they have been developed since MOP7. The question was also interpreted to refer to

management planning for the confirmed sites resulting from site review process under question 3.1, whereas some known sites of importance for AEWA populations have already been identified/established through other national review processes. For example, Uganda answered 'No' to question 3.7 since no review into known sites of importance for AEWA populations has been conducted (see Q 3.1) but provided additional comments stating that its ten national parks, recognised as hosting key AEWA populations, have general management plans in place. For key sites which did not yet have management plans in operation, Uganda cited a lack of financial resources as the limiting factor.

**TARGET 3.4**

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

Q 3.10: Has a national CEPA Action Plan been developed for your country (PoAA Target 3.4.c)?

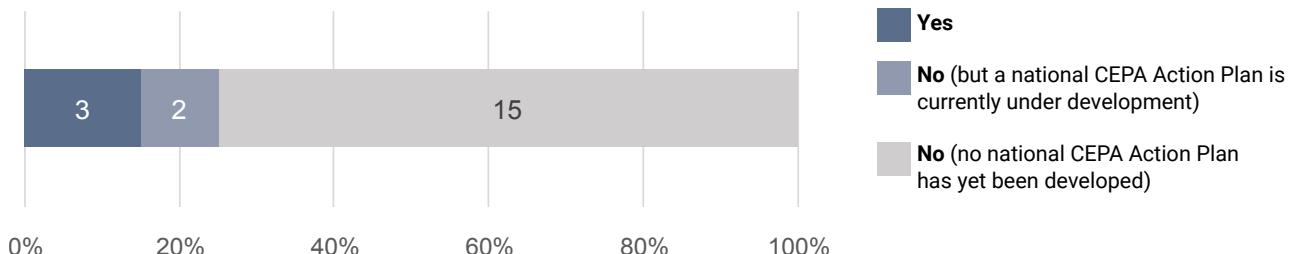


Figure 3.8: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether a national CEPA Action Plan has been developed for their country (Q3.10).

In total, three reporting Parties (15%; Algeria, Botswana and Ghana) reported that a CEPA action plan had been established for their country. In response to two follow-up questions, both Algeria and Ghana indicated that their CEPA action plans include activities that contribute to promoting knowledge and information on the key sites of importance for AEWA populations, and that these

plans were being implemented nationally (Botswana did not provide a response to these questions). A further two reporting Parties (10%; Central African Republic and Kenya) stated that the development of a national CEPA action plan was currently underway; Kenya noted that discussion among stakeholders was in progress, with a target of producing an action plan by June 2021.

TARGET 3.5

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

Q 3.8: Has your country established any framework or mechanism to monitor and record adverse impacts at the confirmed sites of national/international importance for AEWA populations (PoAA Targets 3.5.a and 3.5.b)?

Specific frameworks/mechanisms to monitor harmful activities impacting sites identified to be of importance for AEWA populations have been established by nine reporting Parties (45%) and are in the process of being developed by a further six reporting Parties (30%); a summary of the mechanisms established by the nine Parties who responded 'Yes' to this question is shown in Table

3.2. A number of key mechanisms have been implemented by multiple Parties across all sub-regions, for example the creation of ecological research and monitoring units at individual protected areas or Ramsar sites, plus the incorporation of adverse impact monitoring whilst undertaking annual bird counts.

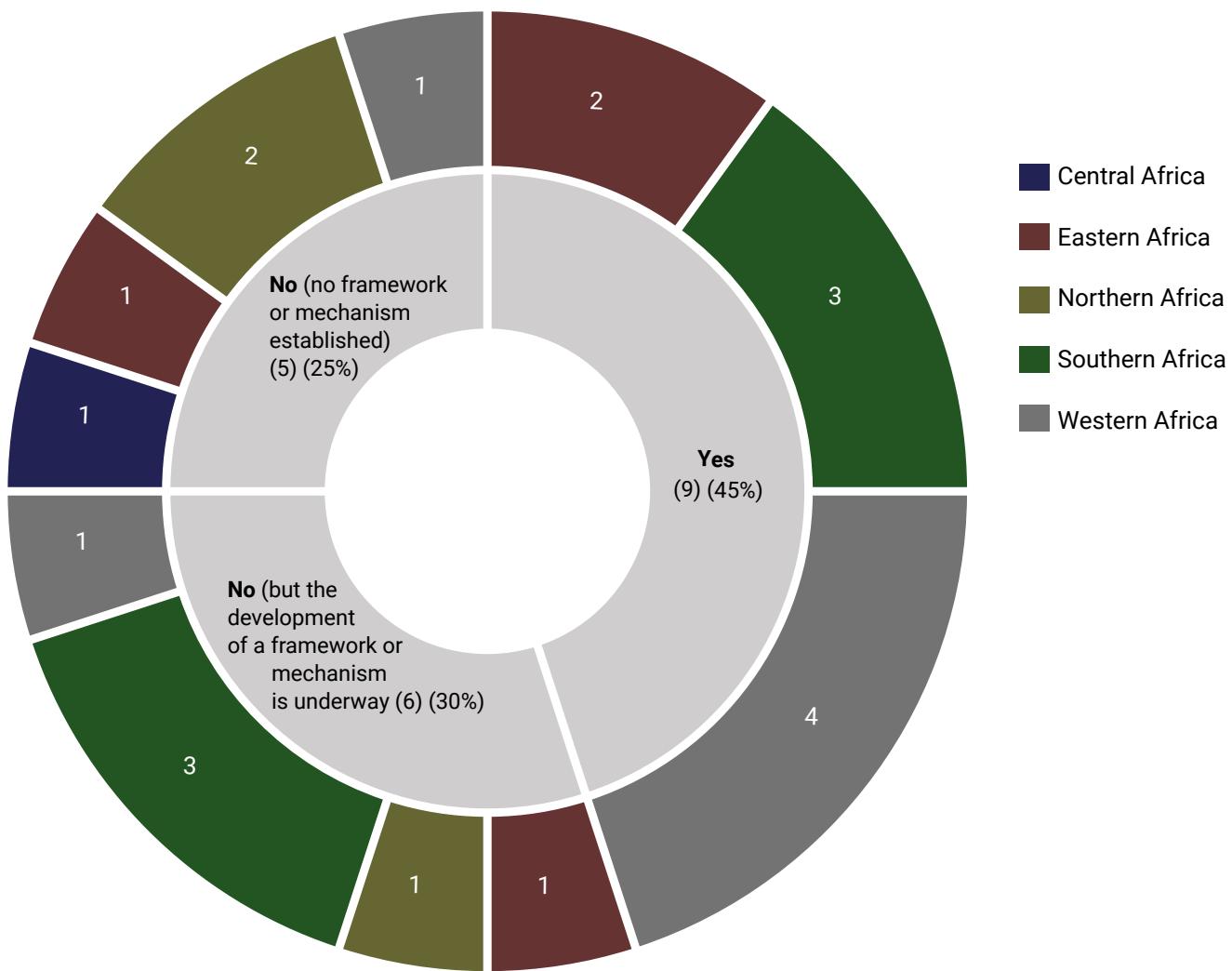


Figure 3.9: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether their country has established any framework or mechanism to monitor and record adverse impacts at the confirmed sites of national/international importance for AEWA populations (Q3.8).

The nine reporting Parties that confirmed that frameworks or mechanisms to monitor harmful activities impacting important sites for AEWA populations have been established in their country were asked a series of follow up questions relating to question 3.8: A) have development activities been actively monitored by the national AEWA implementing agency in/around these important sites?; B) were any monitored developmental activities subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)/a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)/ any mitigation measures?; and C) have any AEWA guidelines on addressing developmental cases with adverse impacts on waterbirds been applied in the cases where

developmental activities these key sites? The responses to these follow up questions are shown in Figure 3.10. Development activities have been actively monitored by the national AEWA implementing agency in/around key sites for AEWA populations in six of these Parties, but fewer Parties (four) stated that monitored developmental activities had been subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) or a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). Two Parties (Kenya and South Africa) reported applying AEWA guidelines or other appropriate guidelines to address cases where developmental activities were adversely impacting key sites of national/international importance for AEWA populations.



Table 3.2: Mechanisms implemented by reporting Parties to monitor and record adverse impacts at the confirmed sites of national/international importance for AEWA populations.

Region	Mechanisms implemented
Eastern Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kenya - A Multi-Agency Task Force has been established to monitor impacts of the Olkaria – Lessos - Kisumu power line infrastructure on migratory waterbirds. Adverse impacts are additionally monitored through annual waterfowl counts conducted in winter and summer. Tanzania - Protected areas have ecological monitoring units responsible for recording impacts on reserves. General Management Plans for reserves are monitored annually and reviewed every 5 or 10 years.
Southern Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Botswana - No descriptions of mechanisms were provided. Malawi - Protected area management effectiveness assessments and annual bird counts carried out by research and monitoring units. South Africa – A National Ramsar Committee has been established to address the management of the sites of national and international importance. BirdLife South Africa also performs regular assessments of sites that are also Important Bird Areas (IBAs).
Western Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Côte d'Ivoire - Environmental monitoring data is collected during the annual international waterbird count. Ghana - A network of managers is in place in all Ramsar sites who monitor, record and report all such adverse impacts. Niger - Establishment of wetland management units. Nigeria - Monitoring of impacts takes places during annual waterbird counts and through members of species specialist groups established by the Nigerian Conservation Foundation.

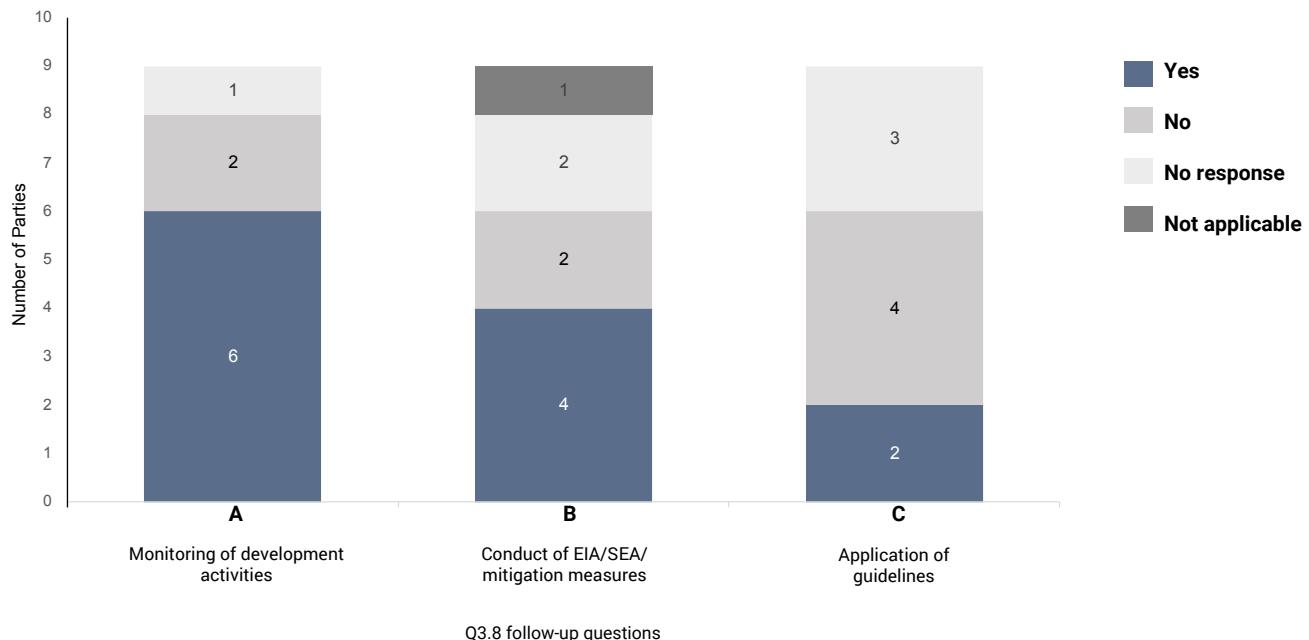


Figure 3.10: Follow-up questions to Q3.8.

Q 3.9: Following MOP7, were there any cases of developmental activities with ongoing or potential adverse impacts on sites of national/international importance for AEWA populations, but which have not been communicated to the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat (PoAA Target 3.5.a)?

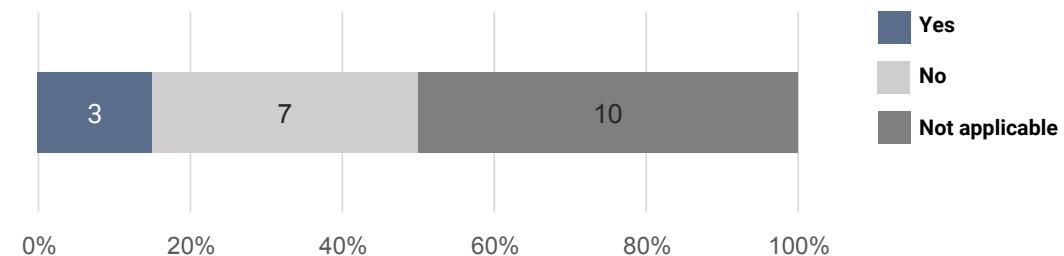


Figure 3.11: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether, following MOP7, there were any cases of developmental activities with ongoing or potential adverse impacts on sites of national/international importance for AEWA populations, but which have not been communicated to the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat (Q3.9).

Ten reporting Parties (50%) responded 'Not applicable' to this question, indicating that no known cases of developmental activities that could have adverse impacts on sites of importance for AEWA populations have been recorded, while a further seven reporting Parties (35%) reported that there were no such cases of developmental activities

which have not yet been communicated to the AEWA Secretariat. Three Parties (Egypt, Ethiopia and Ghana) noted that there were cases of developmental activities with ongoing or potential impacts that had not yet been communicated to the AEWA Secretariat; these are described in Table 3.3.

Table 3.3: Cases of developmental activities within key AEWA sites with ongoing or potential impacts that have not yet been communicated to the AEWA Secretariat.

Key AEWA sites impacted by development	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Egypt - Wind power projects established in the area of Gebel El Zeit. The potential adverse impacts are managed through an intergovernmental committee by implementing an active turbine management program. This program has been assessed as a successful model for mitigating the impacts of wind farms on migratory birds.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ghana - Wetlands are under pressure from rapid urbanisation as many are located within densely populated urban areas. Among the worst affected reserves are the Sakumo and Densu Delta Ramsar Sites. There have been several attempts (with some ongoing) to take legal action against encroachment, but Ghana noted that progress has been slow.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ethiopia - Lake Tana Biosphere Reserve and Lake Zeway, identified as critical habitats acting as feeding/staging grounds for many migratory waterbirds, have been invaded with Water Hyacinth (<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>), an alien plant species. This invasion was noted to be heavily affecting waterbird habitats.



4. HABITAT IN THE WIDER ENVIRONMENT

OBJECTIVE 4

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

Parties were asked four questions to assess their progress on maintaining and restoring the quality and quantity of important habitat needed to safeguard populations of migratory waterbirds in the wider environment. These questions focused on the formation of international partnerships to coordinate habitat conservation projects across wider areas and the implementation of activities related to this. All four questions in this section related to actions that the PoAA designates as being of medium priority.

The results indicate that most progress has been made in fostering **international collaboration within shared lake/river basins to promote and coordinate**

efforts for the conservation, management and monitoring of habitats of importance for AEWA populations, with 63% of reporting Parties for whom this question was applicable indicating that such collaborative efforts had been undertaken (see Q 4.1).

Relatively less progress has been made in **generating project portfolios to secure resources for activities** to support the conservation of key habitats for AEWA species/populations, with 40% of reporting Parties stating that this action has been achieved (see Q4.2). However, the development of such a project portfolio for habitat management activities is underway in a further two Parties (10%).

TARGET 4.4

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

Q 4.1: Has your country undertaken any **collaborative efforts with other countries within shared lake/river basins to promote and coordinate efforts for the conservation, management and monitoring of habitats of importance for AEWA populations** (PoAA Target 4.4.a)?

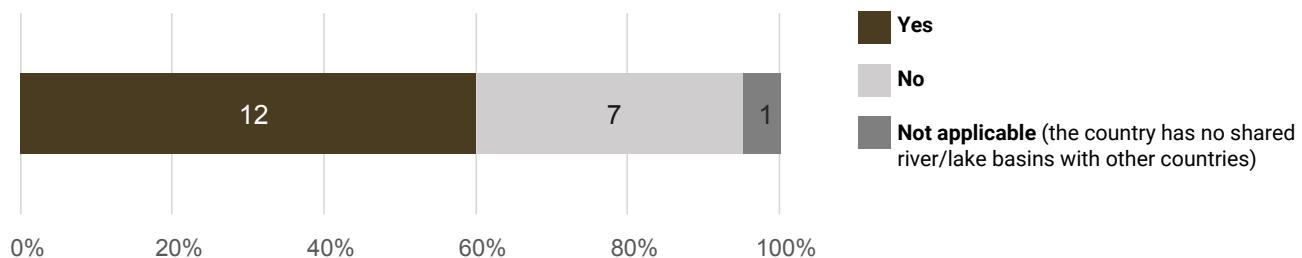


Figure 4.1: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether their country has undertaken any collaborative efforts with other countries within shared lake/river basins to promote and coordinate efforts for the conservation, management and monitoring of habitats of importance for AEWA populations (Q4.1)

Twelve reporting Parties (60%) indicated that they had collaborated with other countries within shared lake/river basins to promote and coordinate efforts for the conservation, management and monitoring of habitats of importance for AEWA populations. Seven reporting Parties (35%) stated that no such collaborative efforts had been undertaken, while

Mauritius indicated that this question was not applicable to them given that they are an island nation with no shared river or lake basins with other countries. Instances for which collaborative actions between named countries was explicitly described in responses to question 4.1 are shown in the figure below.

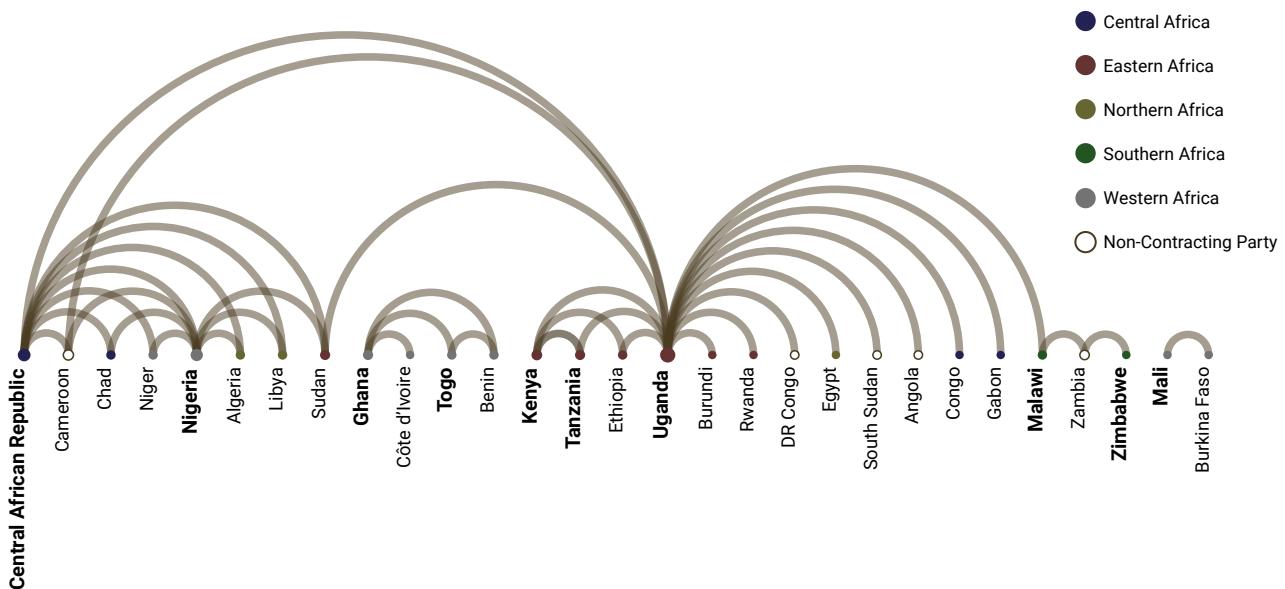


Figure 4.2: Specified collaborative actions undertaken between countries in relation to question 4.1. Countries shown in bold are the reporting Parties that provided the information on collaborative efforts, the fill colour of each dot corresponds to the African sub-region in which a Party is located. A white fill represents a country which is not a Contracting Party to AEWA.

Q 4.2: Following MOP7, has your country compiled a project portfolio to secure resources for activities to support the conservation of key habitats for AEWA species/populations in the country (PoAA Target 4.4.b)?

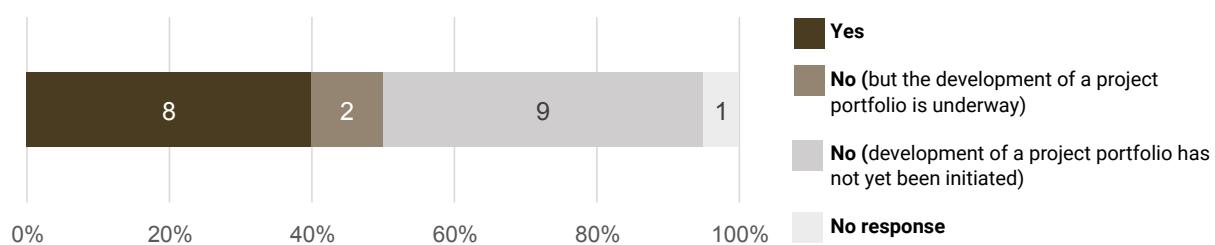


Figure 4.3: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether, following MOP7, their country has compiled a project portfolio to support the conservation of key habitats for AEWA species/populations in their country (Q4.2).

Project portfolios to secure resources for the conservation of key habitats for AEWA species/populations were reported to have been compiled by eight reporting Parties (40%), and were in the process of being assembled by a further two reporting

Parties (10%). Several Parties that stated that a project portfolio has not yet been assembled also indicated that this would be initiated in the near future (e.g., Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Uganda).



Q 4.3: Following MOP7, has your country compiled/highlighted any examples of best practices for habitat conservation projects/activities/actions (PoAA Target 4.4.d)?

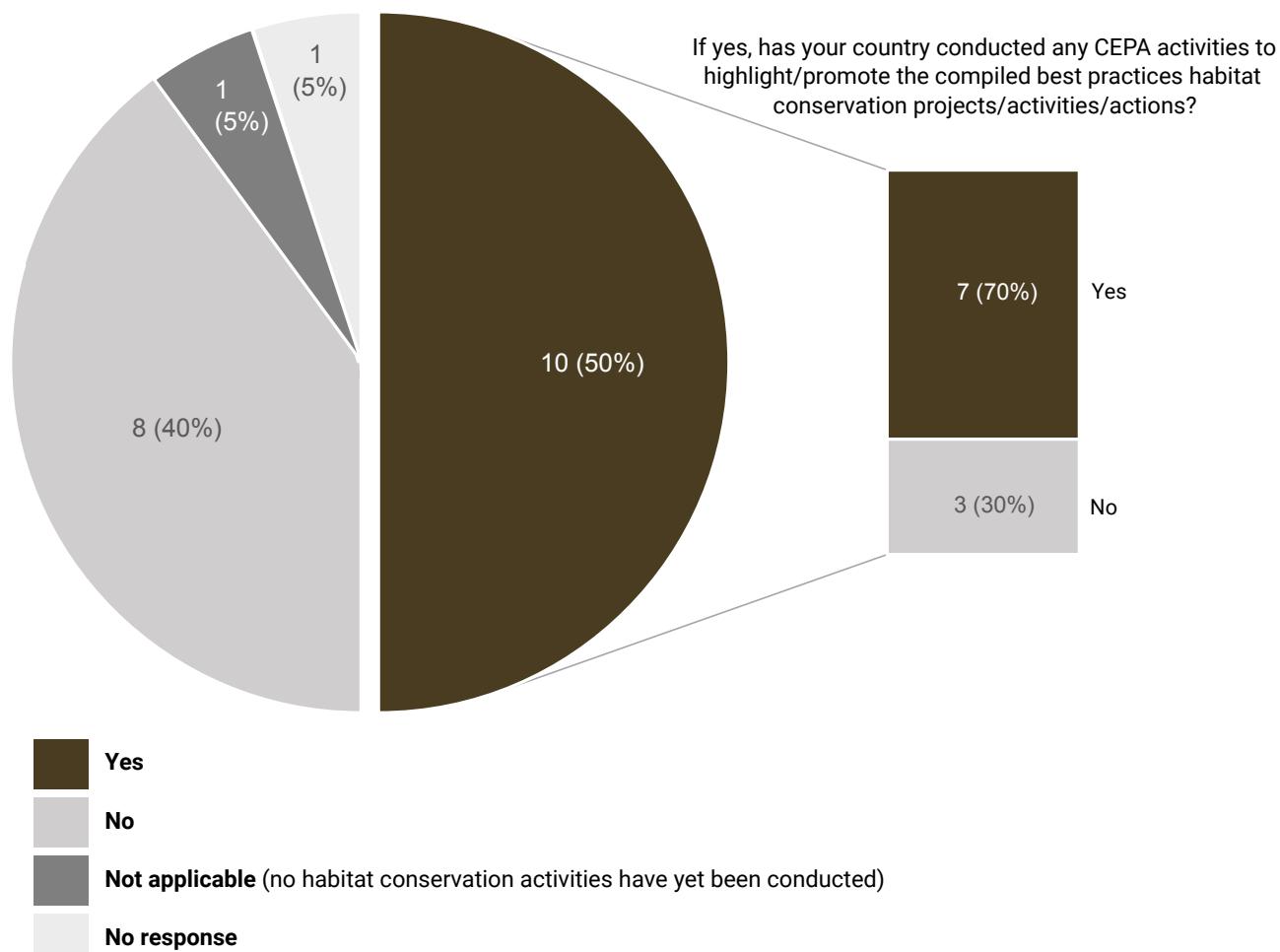


Figure 4.4: Responses from Parties indicating whether, following MOP7, their country has compiled or highlighted any examples of best practices for habitat conservation projects/activities/actions (Q 4.3).

In total, ten reporting Parties (50%) indicated that examples of best practices for habitat conservation projects, activities or actions have been compiled or highlighted. In South Africa, for example, BirdLife South Africa have developed the best practice guidelines for habitat management for the Critically Endangered White-winged Flufftail (*Sarothrura ayresi*), while in Algeria, the establishment of a governance system at the Oranais Dahra complex of wetlands is intended to act as a model on the ecosystem management of wetlands and their biodiversity. In Morocco, good conservation practice examples were highlighted and discussed by speakers and audience members at the annual World Wetlands Day and World Migratory Bird Day. Additionally, the websites for the departments of Water and Forests in Morocco were updated to include information on best practice for habitat conservation projects.

Of the ten reporting Parties that have highlighted examples of best practice for habitat conservation, only three Parties (33%; Niger, Nigeria, and South Africa) reported that they have not yet conducted any CEPA activities to highlight/promote these best practices. The primary reason stated as to why CEPA activities have not been undertaken was a lack of funding. Examples of CEPA activities highlighted by the remaining seven Parties included the creation of 'endemic plant species corners' in most schools and colleges to raise awareness of the importance of endemic/native plants in their forest ecosystem (Mauritius), and the creation of posters and publications to raise awareness of a project to restore the Lixus salt pans in Larache and the Martchika Lagoon in Nador, Morocco. BirdLife Zimbabwe and the Zimbabwe Environment Management Agency also raised awareness on the importance, management and restoration of wetland habitats for local stakeholders at the Driefontein Grasslands.



Q 4.4: Did your country **share any experience** gained from the implementation of habitat conservation projects (PoAA Target 4.4d)?

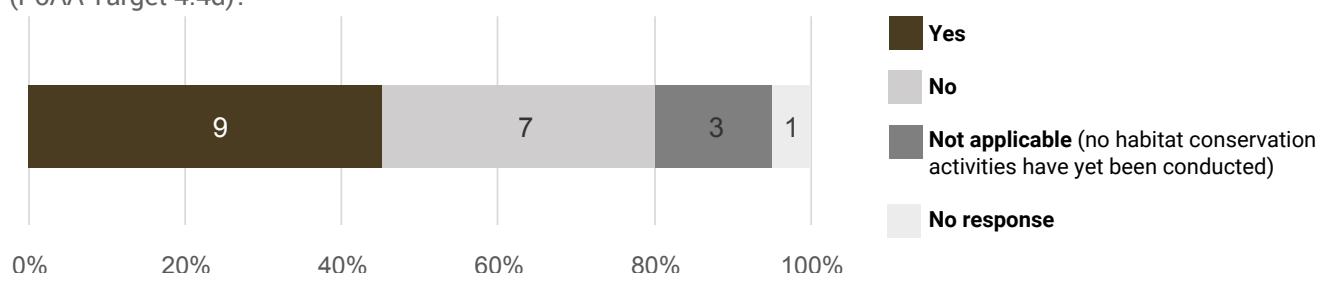


Figure 4.5: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether their country has shared experience gained from the implementation of habitat conservation projects (Q 4.4).

Nine reporting Parties (45%) stated that they had shared experience gained from the implementation of habitat conservation projects with other stakeholders. Mauritius reported that it hosts students from all over the world and facilitates training for research in nature and biodiversity conservation, while Malawi highlighted that it has used media platforms to share information on conservation projects.



5. SECURE RESOURCES

OBJECTIVE 5

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

The final objective of the AEWA Strategic Plan focuses on securing and enhancing the resources and capacity necessary to achieve the conservation priorities outlined in the previous four objectives. The questions posed to Parties centred on the identification of priority issues to be addressed to ensure the implementation of the AEWA PoAA at the national level, and its integration with other international processes. Two questions in this section (5.7 and 5.8) related to actions that the PoAA designates as being of highest priority; these actions contribute to the delivery of PoAA target 5.6.b.

A high proportion of reporting Parties (75%) indicated that they had been involved in **national planning activities/actions related to other relevant international frameworks and processes**, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Aichi Targets/the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) and the Ramsar Strategic Plan (see Q5.6). A high percentage of reporting Parties (65%) also

confirmed that they have **officially designated an AEWA National Focal Point (NFP), Technical Focal Point (TFP) and Focal Point (FP) for Communication Education and Public Awareness (CEPA)** (see Q5.4). In contrast, minimal progress has been made towards actively engaging with non-Party African range States to promote their accession to the Agreement, with only one reporting Party confirming that they had undertaken this activity (see Q5.2).

For the two questions relating to highest priority actions under this objective, no reporting Parties indicated that they had been able to develop a national AEWA PoAA implementation plan (Q5.7), and only three Parties indicated that the process to do this was underway. More progress however was indicated towards engaging in activities and measures to secure resources in contribution to the implementation of the AEWA Strategic Plan/PoAA/national AEWA PoAA implementation plan, with 50% of reporting Parties indicating that they had completed this action (Q5.8).

TARGET 5.2

The number of Contracting Parties has increased to at least 90

Q 5.2: Following MOP7, has your country actively engaged with any non-Party African range State to promote their accession to the Agreement (PoAA Target 5.2.a)?

Only South Africa reported engaging with non-Party African range States to promote their accession to AEWA; the two countries engaged with were Namibia and Angola. Egypt, though not having engaged with

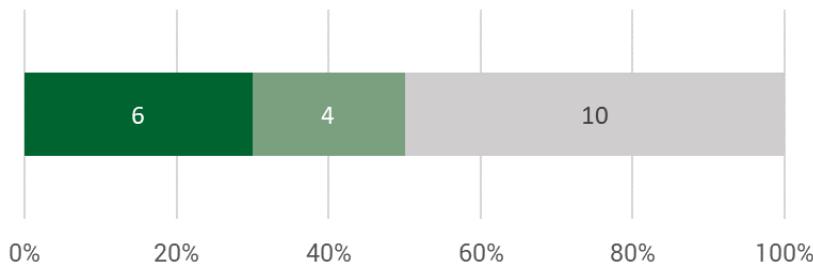
any African non-Party range state to promote accession, did engage with Saudi Arabia in their Northern Africa/Middle East AEWA region for this purpose.

TARGET 5.3

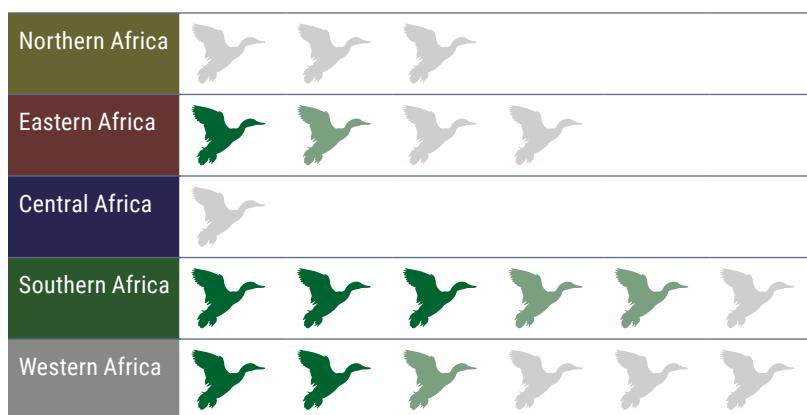
Initiatives are in place to address at least two-thirds of the priority capacity gaps restricting implementation of AEWA

Q 5.3: Has your country established a national mechanism (e.g. national committee) responsible for coordinating the implementation of AEWA at the national level (PoAA Targets 5.3.b and 5.4.b)?

(A)

**Yes****No (but the establishment of coordination mechanism is underway)****No (a national AEWA coordination mechanism has not yet been established)**

(B)



1 Contracting Party

Figure 5.1: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether their country has established a national mechanism (e.g. national committee) responsible for coordinating the implementation of AEWA at the national level (Q 5.3).

Six reporting Parties (30%) indicated that a national mechanism responsible for coordinating the implementation of AEWA at the national level has been established, with a further four indicating that this activity was underway. Four of the committees established (those in Botswana, Kenya, Nigeria and Zimbabwe) were dedicated to the coordination of AEWA matters, while the remaining two (those of Niger and South Africa) were established in the framework of an existing coordination mechanism established in the framework of another treaty. In all six cases, the nominated AEWA focal points for each country were also members of the coordination mechanism.

The primary reason provided by reporting Parties as to why national coordination mechanisms had not been established was limited resource availability, although Morocco also explained that, because their AEWA focal point is the focal point for several international conventions, is a member of the National Biodiversity Committee, and is the institution that manages protected areas, a coordination committee was not required. Côte d'Ivoire and Uganda both noted that a national coordination mechanism should be in place by the year 2023.

**TARGET 5.4**

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

Q 5.4: Does your country have an officially designated AEWA National Focal Point (NFP), Technical Focal Point (TFP) and Focal Point (FP) for Communication Education and Public Awareness (CEPA), each with updated contact details communicated to the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat (PoAA Targets 3.4.c, 5.4.b and 5.6.a)?

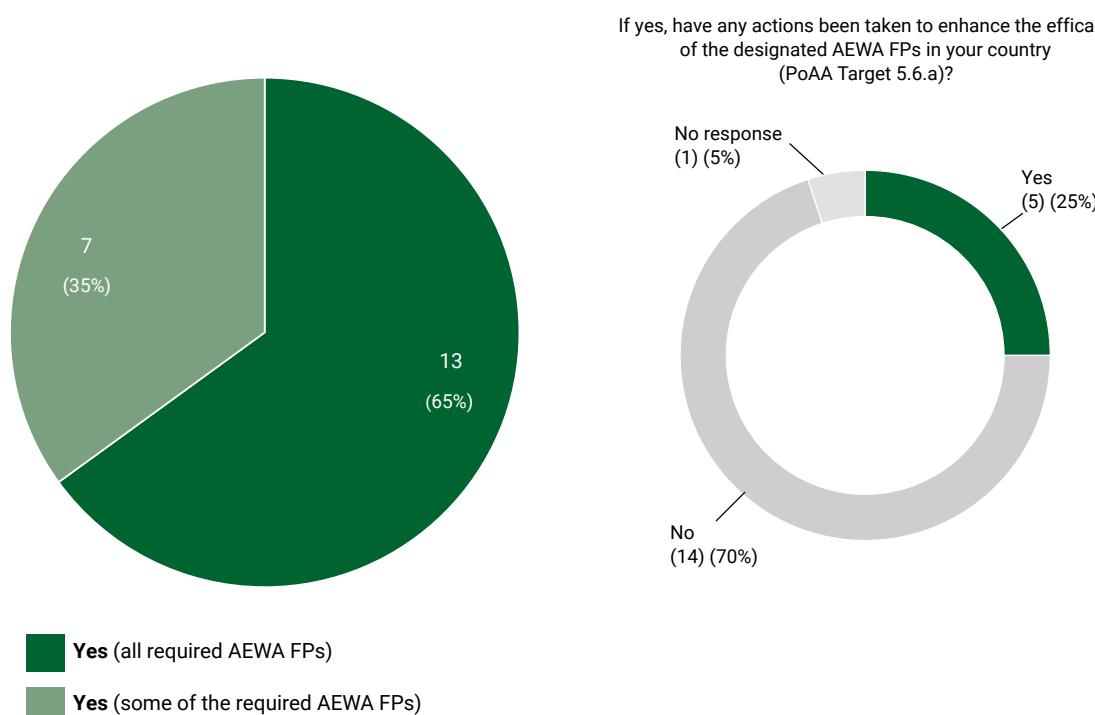


Figure 5.2: Responses from Reporting Parties indicating whether their country has an officially designated AEWA NFP, TFP and FP for CEPA, each with updated contact details communicated to the AEWA Secretariat (Q5.4).

All reporting Parties (100%) indicated that at least some of the required AEWA FPs have been designated, with 13 Parties (65%) having nominated all AEWA FPs (NFP, TFP, and CEPA FP). While Kenya indicated that all its AEWA FPs had been designated, it was noted that the appointment of a TFP and CEPA FP had not yet been communicated to the AEWA Secretariat.

Of the reporting Parties that have designated all or some of their AEWA FPs, five noted that they have undertaken actions to improve the effectiveness of the appointed FPs in their country. A summary of the types of actions taken to enhance efficacy of FPs by these Parties is outlined in Table 5.1.

Table 5.1: Actions taken by reporting Parties to enhance efficacy of FPs.

Party	AEWA FPs Designated	Actions undertaken
Kenya	Some	The designated FPs are members of the National Birds Task Force with lead and liaison roles
Morocco	All	Assigning additional staff to the team that supports the FPs
Nigeria	All	No specific action provided
Mauritius	All	All FPs in Mauritius are housed within the National Parks and Conservation Service for efficiency of implementation
Tanzania	Some	Past AEWA FPs have provided on-the-job training to the newly appointed FPs

Q 5.5: Following MOP7, has your country conducted any activities to enhance the skill base or capacity of the network of persons involved in the implementation of AEWA at the national level (i.e. AEWA FPs, technical experts, members of the national AEWA coordination mechanism, etc.) (PoAA Target 5.4.b)?

Eight reporting Parties (40%) confirmed that activities had been conducted to advance the skill base and capacity of people involved in the implementation of AEWA at the national level in their country. The most common actions taken were the provision of training for bird identification and survey methods. In Mali, the training of government officials, NGOs and communities on the International Waterbird Census (Dénombrement International des Oiseaux d'Eau, DIOE) was provided with the support of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO). Practical equipment, such as

binoculars, telescopes, and bird identification books, were also supplied to these individuals. In Mauritius, training on bird identification and monitoring methods has been given to officers in the National Parks and Conservation Service at the Rivulet Terre Rouge Estuary Bird Sanctuary, a designated Ramsar site. Training conducted in Ghana followed a slightly different approach, with all site managers taken through training on the Ramsar Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (R-METT). Ghana also indicated that further training and capacity building opportunities are being sought.

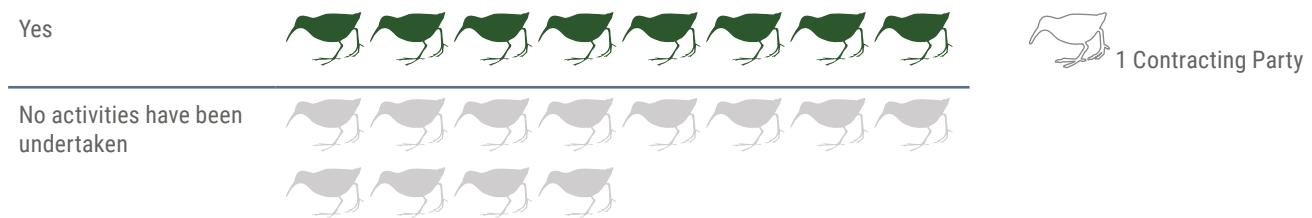


Figure 5.3: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether, following MOP7, their country has conducted any activities to enhance the skill base or capacity of the network of persons involved in the implementation of AEWA at the national level (Q5.5).

Q 5.6: Following MOP7, has the national AEWA implementing authority in your country been involved in national planning activities/actions related to other relevant international frameworks and processes, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Aichi Targets/the post-2020 biodiversity framework, Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) and Ramsar Strategic Plan (PoAA Target 5.4.a)?

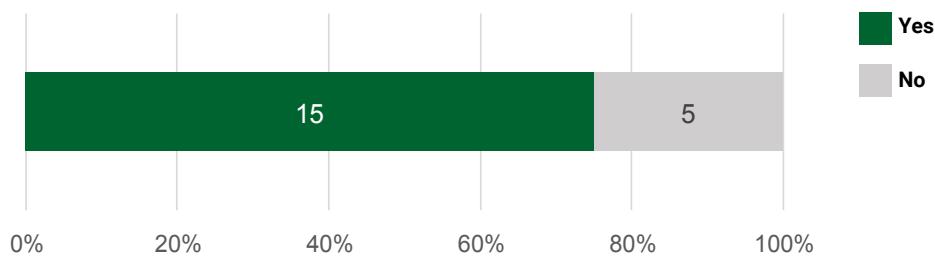


Figure 5.4: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether, following MOP7, the national AEWA implementing authority in their country has been involved in national planning activities/actions related to other relevant international frameworks and processes, including the SDGs, Aichi Targets/the post-2020 biodiversity framework, SPMS and Ramsar Strategic Plan (Q5.6).

In total, 15 reporting Parties (75%) indicated that their national AEWA implementing authority had been involved in national planning activities related to other relevant international frameworks and processes.

Of these 15 Parties, nine provided a brief description of the key actions undertaken. These descriptions are provided in Table 5.2.



Table 5.2: Actions undertaken by reporting Parties for all relevant international frameworks.

Party	International Framework	Key Actions
Central African Republic	SDGs (UN)	Development and validation of a forest-related action plan for SDG-15.
Egypt	Aichi Targets + Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (CBD)	Participation in the review of progress made towards achieving the Aichi Targets and the development process for the post-2020 biodiversity framework through the current presidency of Egypt to CBD COP14.
Kenya	SDGs (UN)	Development of an Access Benefit Sharing based Management Plan for Lake Bogoria National Reserve through a consultative process including all stakeholders and communities, as a tool to support implementation of AEWA/Ramsar/WHC and Nagoya Protocol of the CBD.
	Aichi Targets (CBD)	Formulation of legal frameworks and policies, for example, the Traditional Knowledge and Cultural Expression Act (2006), which promotes the use of local knowledge in policy and decision-making processes.
	Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (CBD)	Participating in meetings contributing to the formulation of conservation and management strategies for the country.
	Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2024	Monitoring of Ramsar sites and sensitisation of key stakeholders on wetland issues.
Mauritius	SDGs (UN)	National Parks and Conservation Service (NPCS) staff present in the steering committee that is piloting implementation.
	Aichi Targets (CBD)	The NPCS assisted with the development of the National Biodiversity strategy and Action plan incorporated in the Aichi Targets, and carried out national reporting for the 6th reporting cycle for the CBD.
Morocco	SDGs (UN)	National Sustainable Development Strategy 2030
	Aichi Targets (CBD)	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)
	Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (CBD)	National Biodiversity Assessment and new national strategy post 2020
	Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023 (CMS)	Morocco's Forest Strategy 2020-2030
	Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2024	National Wetland Strategy and Action Plan
South Africa	SDGs (UN)	Conserving waterbirds' habitat helps contribute to SDG goal 6 on clean water and sanitation and thus helps tackle water security in the country.
	Aichi Targets (CBD)	By implementing AEWA provisions, South Africa is responding to Aichi Targets 12 and 14.
	Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023 (CMS)	The alignment for the strategic plan for migratory species will be considered in the development of the national AEWA implementation plan.
	Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2024	Participation of the Ramsar and AEWA national FPs on national Ramsar and AEWA committees.
Tanzania	SDGs (UN)	Development of the Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority Strategic Plan for 2018/19 to 2022/23. This plan will contribute towards SDG targets 15 and 17.
Togo	SDGs (UN)	Involvement in a project to link the regional network of marine protected areas in West Africa.
	Aichi Targets (CBD)	Update of Togo's NBSAP and preparation of the 6th Biodiversity Report, plus Implementation of REDD+ and the Nagoya Protocol. Actions have involved local authorities, the private sector and civil society.
	Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2024	Implementation of sections of site management plans, restoring mangrove forests in the South-East of Togo, and rehabilitating habitats along migration corridors through reforestation.

Party	International Framework	Key Actions
Zimbabwe	SDGs (UN)	Participating in the Zimbabwe voluntary review. This included raising awareness on Agenda 2030 and prioritising the implementation of SDGs.
	Aichi Targets (CBD)	Development of a monitoring framework as part of the NBSAP which included stakeholder participation. Produced 18 national targets aligned to the Aichi Biodiversity targets.
	Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (CBD)	Attended youth Post 2020 Biodiversity framework consultation meetings to set targets for the protection of biodiversity and ecosystems in Zimbabwe and raise awareness on the key threats to biodiversity.
	Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023 (CMS)	Establishment of a Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCA) Programme.
	Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2024	Involvement in the development of wetland policy and management guidelines, focusing on wetland conservation, ecosystem services, and point source as well as non-point source pollution.
	National Action Plan for Climate Change	Involvement in Zimbabwe's nationally determined contributions, organic farming under the 'pfumvudza' initiative for small scale crop agriculture, the Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) programme, as well as Paris agreement opportunities and their implications for the conservation of biodiversity hotspots.

Q 5.7: Following MOP7, has your country developed a **national AEWA PoAA implementation plan (PoAA Targets 5.4.a, 5.4.b and 5.6.b)?**

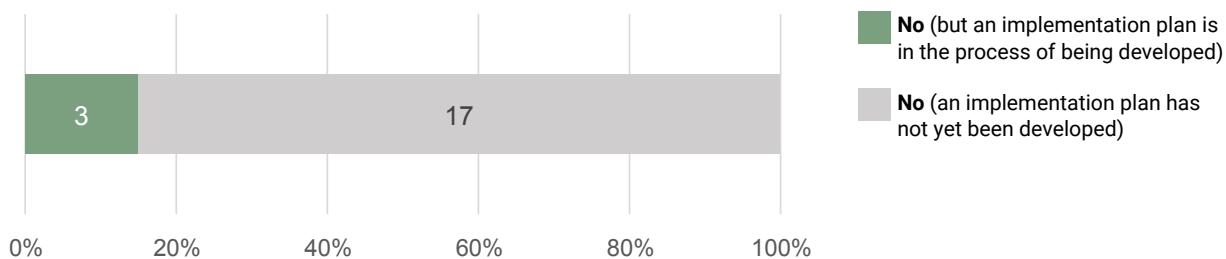


Figure 5.5: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether their country has developed a national AEWA PoAA implementation plan (Q5.7).

No reporting Parties indicated that a national AEWA PoAA implementation plan had been fully developed. However, one Party in Central Africa (Central African Republic) and two Parties in Southern Africa (Eswatini and South Africa) stated that the development of such a plan is underway. South Africa indicated that it hoped to begin this process in 2021 pending final approval by its government.





Q 5.9: Following MOP7, has the national AEWA implementing agency in your country identified any mechanisms to coordinate collaboration between the AEWA FPs (NFP, TFP or CEPA FP) and Focal Points of other MEAs in your country in order to communicate and promote the role and importance of AEWA (PoAA Target 5.4.b)?

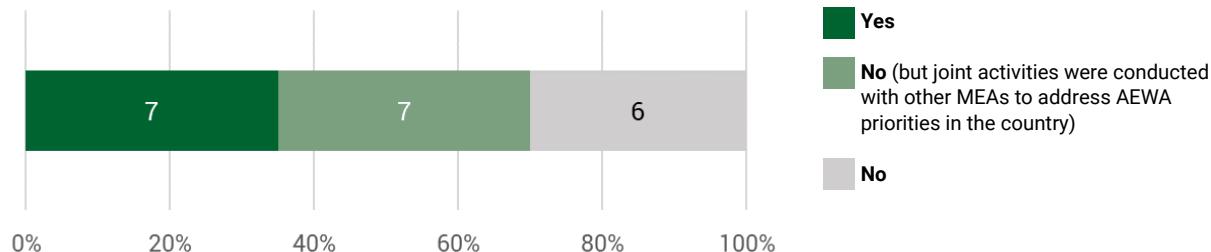


Figure 5.6: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether, following MOP7, the national AEWA implementing agency in their country has identified any mechanisms to coordinate collaboration between the AEWA FPs and Focal Points of other MEAs in their country, in order to communicate and promote the role and importance of AEWA (Q5.9).

Seven reporting Parties (35%) indicated that their AEWA implementing agency has identified mechanisms to coordinate collaboration between AEWA FPs and the focal points of other MEAs. An additional seven indicated that, while no mechanisms

have been identified, joint activities have been conducted with MEAs to address AEWA priorities in the country. Examples of the mechanisms identified were submitted by four Parties (Kenya, South Africa, Tanzania and Togo), and are presented in Table 5.3.

Table 5.3: Mechanisms identified to coordinate collaboration between AEWA FPs (NFP, TFP or CEPA FP) and Focal Points of other MEAs.

Multilateral Environmental Agreement	Reporting Party	Examples of collaborative activities
 Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)	Kenya, South Africa, Togo	Celebration of International Days
 Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)	Kenya, Tanzania, Togo	Celebration of World Wildlife Day Preparation of joint project proposals to increase enforcement capacity Awareness raising among stakeholders in international trade as well as communities hosting important waterbird areas Discussions with national CITES technical committee regarding potential species listing proposals
 Ramsar Convention	Kenya, Tanzania, Togo	Celebration of World Wetlands Day Development of workplans/activity plans and strategies to include more wetlands (including small sites) in the list of sites where annual waterfowl counts are done
 Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	Kenya, Togo	Development and validation of management plans Raising awareness on the AEWA list of species to inform decision making when granting permits for access to genetic resources for Research & Development
 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	Togo	Raising awareness on how to improve water resource management Set up of runoff collection systems to create ponds
 World Heritage Convention (WHC)	Kenya	Raising awareness on the threats to World Heritage Sites and the potential impacts on migratory birds covered by AEWA

TARGET 5.6

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

Q 5.8: Following MOP7, has the national AEWA implementing authority in your country **engaged in activities/measures to secure resources (financial, human or material)** in contribution to the implementation of the AEWA Strategic Plan/PoAA/national AEWA PoAA implementation plan? (PoAA Target 5.6.b)?

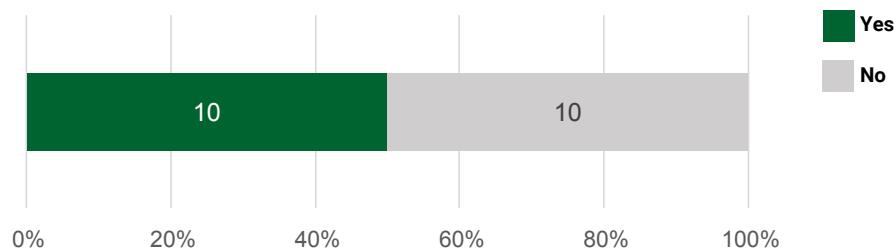


Figure 5.7: Responses from reporting Parties indicating whether, following MOP7, the national AEWA implementing authority in their country engaged in activities or measures to secure resources in contribution to the implementation of the AEWA Strategic Plan/PoAA/national AEWA PoAA implementation plan (Q5.8).

Measures and/or activities to secure resources for implementation of the AEWA PoAA and Strategic Plan have been conducted by authorities in half of all reporting Parties (10), with the other half reporting that they had not engaged in such measures. Additional details on the types of resource

mobilization efforts made, approaches used, donors or partners approached, and resulting outcomes, were provided by reporting six Parties (Central African Republic, Ghana, Mauritius, Morocco, South Africa and Uganda); these are outlined in Table 5.4.

Table 5.4: Types of resource mobilization efforts made, approaches used, and donors or partners approached to support implementation of AEWA, plus any resulting outcomes.

Party	Overview of resource mobilization efforts conducted to support implementation of AEWA and resulting outcomes
Central African Republic	Received resources from both WWF-RAC and the Forestry Development Fund to support activities during World Migratory Bird Day celebrations.
Ghana	Secured financial, human and material resources from the Forestry Commission - no further details were provided on how these resources were used.
Mauritius	Financial resources to support the implementation of AEWA were received as part of Mauritius' national budget - no further details were provided on the nature of the resources and their use.
Morocco	Resources were acquired from the governmental Department of Water and Forests. These resources were allocated for the implementation of the actions with a particular focus on the conservation of species and their habitats.
South Africa	Secured financial resources from the private sector to support data management requirements for the BIRDIE project, led by the South African National Biodiversity Institute's Freshwater Biodiversity Programme.
Uganda	Received financial and human resources from two national government organisations (Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities and the Uganda Wildlife Authority), plus the European Commission's Global public goods programme. These resources were used to support the implementation of the 1st Meeting of the AEWA Grey Crowned Crane International Working Group and subsequent development of the Grey Crowned Crane SAP.

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