



Report on the implementation of AEWA for the period 2018-2020

The format for reports on the implementation of the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA) for the period 2018-2020 was approved by the 7th Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP7, 4-8 December 2018, Durban, South Africa) through Resolution 7.1 and modified by the Standing Committee at its 15th meeting (11-13 December 2019, Bristol, UK) as mandated by the MOP. This format has been compiled following the AEWA Annex 3 (Action Plan), the AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027 and resolutions of the MOP.

In accordance with article V(c) of the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds, each Party shall prepare to each ordinary session of the MOP a National Report on its implementation of the Agreement and submit that report to the Agreement Secretariat. By Resolution 7.1 of the MOP the deadline for submission of National Reports to the 8th Session of the MOP was set at 180 days before the opening date of MOP8, which was scheduled to take place on 5-9 October 2021 in Hungary; therefore the deadline for submission of National Reports was Thursday 8 April 2021.

As per Resolution 7.1 of the MOP, Chapter 3 of the National Report Format for MOP8 reports was developed as a stand-alone online reporting module, which was administered through a separate reporting process on the population status of AEWA-listed (native) and non-native species of waterbirds for the period 2013-2018. This reporting process was concluded on 30 June 2020 as agreed by MOP7. Therefore, this report does not contain Chapter 3.

The AEWA National Reports 2018-2020 were compiled and submitted through the AEWA Online National Reporting System, which is part of the broader CMS Family Online Reporting System. The CMS Family Online Reporting System was developed by the UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) in close collaboration with and under the guidance of the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat.

1. General Information

Name of reporting Contracting Party

>>> Republic of Estonia

Date of entry into force of AEWA in the Contracting Party

>>> 01.11.2008

List any reservations that the Contracting Party has made (if any) in respect of any population(s) listed in Table 1 of Annex 3 or any specific provision of the AEWA Action Plan - either upon deposition of its instruments of accession (per AEWA, Article XV) or subsequent to any amendment of Table 1 or the AEWA Action Plan, as adopted by a session of the Agreement's Meeting of the Parties (per AEWA, Article X.6).

EU member states should list also all reservations entered by the European Commission on behalf of the European Union.

>>> Estonian Parliament ratified the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA) on 18.06.2008. Estonia made a reservation concerning the phasing out of lead shots for hunting in wetlands (paragraph 4.1.4 of the annex 3). According to the above mentioned reservation phasing out of lead shots for waterfowl hunting will not be applied in Estonia until 1.1.2013.

01.06.2013 the new Hunting Act entered into force and according to the § 26 (7) the use of lead pellets when hunting waterfowl is prohibited in Estonia.

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Hunting_Act_EN.pdf](#) - Hunting_Act_English_translation

2. Institutional Information

Please update information on the National AEWA Administrative Authority, the National Focal Points, the Designated National Respondent and the other contributors to this report.

Designated National AEWA Administrative Authority

Full name of the institution

>>> Department of the Nature Conservation, Ministry of the Environment

Name and title of the head of institution

>>> Mr. Taimo Aasma; Head of Department

Mailing address - Street and number

>>> Narva mnt 7a

Postal code

>>> 15172

City

>>> Tallinn

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>>> Estonia

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>>> taimo.aasma@envir.ee

Website

>>> www.envir.ee

Designated National Focal Point (NFP) for AEWA matters

Name and title of the NFP

>>> Mr. Hanno Zingel, Adviser

Affiliation (institution, department)

>>> Department of the Nature Conservation, Ministry of the Environment

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>>> hanno.zingel@envir.ee

Website

>>> www.envir.ee

Designated National Focal Point for AEWA Technical Committee (TC NFP) matters

Name and title of the TC NFP

>>> Not designated

Designated National Focal Point for Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA NFP) matters

Name and title of the CEPA NFP

>>> Not designated

Designated National Respondent (DNR) in charge of the compilation and submission of the AEWA National Report 2018-2020

Please select from the list below as appropriate.

The National Focal Point (NFP) has been designated as the National Respondent

Other contributors to the AEWA National Report 2018-2020

Please list the names and affiliations (institution, organisation) of the other contributors to this report. For Contracting Parties in which nature conservation is not an exclusive competence of national/federal government, Designated National Respondents are encouraged to seek input from other relevant levels of government.

>>> Estonian Environmental Board

Roheline 64, Pärnu 80010

E-mail: info@keskkonnaamet.ee

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Adviser

E-mail: agu.leivits@keskkonnaamet.ee

Pressures and Responses

4. Species Conservation

4.1 Legal Measures

1. Following MOP7, was a review undertaken in your country of the relevant domestic legislation against the provisions of the latest version of the Agreement text and its annexes, including Table 1 in Annex III, taking into account all amendments adopted by MOP7? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Actions 1.1 (a), 1.1 (b), 2.2(a) and 2.2(b))

Yes

Please indicate the outcome of this review

Relevant national legislation was fully in line with the Agreement text and its annexes

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

See Appendix 1 / Appendix 2 / Appendix 3

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

Yes

Did this require adjusting your national legislation?

No

Please describe how your current national legislation is compatible with the advice provided in the Guidance

>>> Different populations of the same species are subject to the same restrictions.

3. Please confirm the protection status under your country's national legislation of the AEWA Table 1, Column A populations that are regularly occurring in your country (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.1; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 1.1).

Guidance on responding to this question:

1- Please click here and download the Excel file starting with your country's name. (**Notice:** before clicking on this hyperlink, please keep pressing the Ctrl button on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.)

2- Fill in the Excel template comprehensively;

3- Upload the completed Excel file as an attachment here. For uploading please click on the little blue icon below containing a paper clip.

I confirm that I have downloaded the Excel file with my country's name, filled it in as necessary and uploaded the completed file as an attachment to this question.

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Estonia_Q3_AEWA_NR_2018-2020_PopColA.xlsx](#)

4. Please confirm whether there is an open hunting season for the AEWA Table 1, Column A, category 2 or 3 with an asterisk or category 4 populations that are regularly occurring in your country (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.1; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 1.1).

Guidance on responding to this question:

1- Please click here and download the Excel file starting with your country's name. (**Notice:** before clicking on this hyperlink, please keep pressing the Ctrl button on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.)

2- Fill in the Excel template comprehensively;

3- Upload the completed Excel file as an attachment here. For uploading please click on the little blue icon below containing a paper clip.

I confirm that I have downloaded the Excel file with my country's name, filled it in as necessary and uploaded the completed file as an attachment to this question.

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Estonia_Q4_AEWA_NR_2018-2020_PopColA-Cat2_3_4_\(1\).xlsx](#)

5. Please confirm whether taking is regulated for the AEWA Table 1, Column B populations that are regularly occurring in your country (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.2; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 1.1).

Guidance on responding to this question:

1- Please click here and download the Excel file starting with your country's name. (**Notice:** before clicking on this hyperlink, please keep pressing the Ctrl button on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.)

2- Fill in the Excel template comprehensively;

3- Upload the completed Excel file as an attachment here. For uploading please click on the little blue icon below containing a paper clip.

I confirm that I have downloaded the Excel file with my country's name, filled it in as necessary and uploaded the completed file as an attachment to this question.

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Estonia_Q5_AEWA_NR_2018-2020_PopColB.xlsx](#)

6. Please indicate if any of the following modes of taking are prohibited in your country: snares, limes, hooks, live birds which are blind or mutilated used as decoys, tape recorders and other electronic devices, electrocuting devices, artificial light sources, mirrors and other dazzling devices, devices for illuminating targets, sighting devices for night shooting comprising an electronic image magnifier or image converter, explosives, nets, traps, poison, poisoned or anesthetic baits, semi-automatic or automatic weapons with a magazine capable of holding more than two rounds of ammunition, hunting from aircraft, motor vehicles, or boats driven at a speed exceeding 5 km p/h (18 km p/h on the open sea), other non-selective modes of taking. (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.2(b); AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 1.1)

Yes, one or more modes of taking have been prohibited

Please provide details to each mode of taking in the list below:

Snares

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Hunting Act

Limes

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Hunting Act

Hooks

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Hunting Act

Live birds which are blind or mutilated used as decoys

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Hunting Act

Tape recorders and other electronic devices

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Hunting Act

Electrocuting devices

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Hunting Act

Artificial light sources

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Hunting Act

Mirrors and other dazzling devices

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Hunting Act

Devices for illuminating targets

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Hunting Act

Sighting devices for night shooting comprising an electronic image magnifier or image converter

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Hunting Act

Explosives

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Hunting Act

Nets

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Hunting Act

Traps

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Hunting Act

Poison

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Hunting Act

Poisoned or anaesthetic baits

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Hunting Act

Semi-automatic or automatic weapons with a magazine capable of holding more than two rounds of ammunition

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Hunting Act

Hunting from aircraft, motor vehicles, or boats driven at a speed exceeding 5 km p/h (18 km p/h on the

open sea)

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Hunting Act

Other non-selective modes of taking

Yes, fully

Please specify which other non-selective modes of taking have been prohibited

>>> It is also prohibited to hunt:

* using self-shooting devices, gas and smoke;

* by means of falconry;

* using firearms that are not hunting firearms;

* using bows that are not hunting bows within the meaning of subsection 27 (1) of the Hunting Act.

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Hunting Act

If one or more non-selective modes of taking have not been prohibited, please explain the reasons

>>> Hunting Act

7. Has your country granted exemptions from any of the above prohibitions in order to accommodate livelihoods uses? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.2(b); AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 1.1)

No

8. Were any exemptions granted to the prohibitions required by paragraphs 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 of the AEWA Action Plan? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.3; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 1.1)

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

No

9. Has a review of enforcement of and compliance with the domestic legislation relevant for AEWA implementation, [in particular the legislation which caters for the obligations under paragraphs 2.1 and 4.1 of the AEWA Action Plan], been undertaken in your country after MOP7? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Actions 1.1(c) and 2.2(c))

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> There was no need to change the legislation.

Was a review undertaken before MOP7?

Yes

What is the assessed level of enforcement and compliance?

Very high (full compliance – 100%)

Please provide details and reasons for the high level of compliance

>>> There was no need to change the legislation

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

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

Yes

Please provide details.

>>> There was no need to change the legislation.

4.2. Species Action and Management Plans

11. Please report on the progress of turning the International Single Species Action

and Management Plans (ISSAP and ISSMP), as well as International Multi-species Action Plans (IMSAP), listed below, into National Action or Management Plans. (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.2; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 1.2 (d))

Please report on all listed ISSAP, ISSMP and IMSAP

Barnacle Goose / *Branta leucopsis*
National Plan for Barnacle Goose / *Branta leucopsis*

NP in place and being implemented

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

<http://>
[Action plan for the protection and management of geese \(in Estonian\)](#)

When was the plan approved and published? Please provide a web link or attach a file, if available. Please provide contact details for any person or organisation coordinating its implementation. Please list any activities and/or achievements over the past triennium.

>>> Adopted a 22.03.2021. All planned activities are in the time schedule of the plan.

Please rate the degree of current implementation of the plan taking into account the time schedule of the ISSAP

Full implementation - all actions are underway as per the time schedule of the plan

Please provide details and reasons for the full implementation.

>>> National Plan adopted 22.03.2021.

Lesser White-fronted Goose / *Anser erythropus*
National Plan for Lesser White-fronted Goose / *Anser erythropus*

NP in development

Please provide starting date and expected finalisation date

>>> In preparation, deadline 2021.

Bean Goose / *Anser fabalis*
National Plan for Bean Goose / *Anser fabalis*

NP in place and being implemented

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

[Action plan for the protection and management of geese \(in Estonian\)](#)

When was the plan approved and published? Please provide a web link or attach a file, if available. Please provide contact details for any person or organisation coordinating its implementation. Please list any activities and/or achievements over the past triennium.

>>> Adopted a 22.03.2021. All planned activities are in the time schedule of the plan.

Please rate the degree of current implementation of the plan taking into account the time schedule of the ISSAP

Full implementation - all actions are underway as per the time schedule of the plan

Please provide details and reasons for the full implementation.

>>> Adopted a 22.03.2021. All planned activities are in the time schedule of the plan.

Long-tailed Duck / *Clangula hyemalis*
National Plan for Long-tailed Duck / *Clangula hyemalis*

No NP, but actions implemented

Please explain the reasons for having no NP in place

>>> Limited budget.

Please provide a description of the actions implemented

>>> Inventories and monitoring.

Please rate the degree of current implementation of the plan taking into account the time schedule of the ISSAP

Moderate implementation - some of the actions are underway as per the time schedule of the ISSAP

Please provide details and reasons for the lower degree of implementation.

>>> Limited budget.

Velvet Scoter / Melanitta fusca

National Plan for Velvet Scoter / Melanitta fusca

No NP, but actions implemented

Please explain the reasons for having no NP in place

>>> Limited budget.

Please provide a description of the actions implemented

>>> Inventories and monitoring.

Please rate the degree of current implementation of the plan taking into account the time schedule of the ISSAP

Moderate implementation - some of the actions are underway as per the time schedule of the ISSAP

Please provide details and reasons for the lower degree of implementation.

>>> Monitoring breeding and wintering populations.

Corncrake / Crex crex

National Plan for Corncrake / Crex crex

No NP, but actions implemented

Please explain the reasons for having no NP in place

>>> Limited budget.

Please provide a description of the actions implemented

>>> Inventories and monitoring.

Please rate the degree of current implementation of the plan taking into account the time schedule of the ISSAP

Moderate implementation - some of the actions are underway as per the time schedule of the ISSAP

Please provide details and reasons for the lower degree of implementation.

>>> Limited budget.

Tundra Swan / Cygnus columbianus

National Plan for Tundra Swan / Cygnus columbianus

NP in place, but not being implemented properly or at all

Please explain the reasons for the lack of implementation. When was the plan approved and published?

Please provide a web link or attach a file, if available.

>>> Adopted 2018.

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

Action plan for the conservation of the Lesser Spotted Swan (Cygnus columbianus bewickii Yarr.). In Estonian.

Great Snipe / Gallinago media

National Plan for Great Snipe / Gallinago media

NP in development

Please provide starting date and expected finalisation date
>>> New plan in development (deadline 2021). Former plan adopted 2002.

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

No NP, but actions implemented

Please explain the reasons for having no NP in place
>>> Limited budget.

Please provide a description of the actions implemented
>>> Inventories, monitoring and research, habitat restoration and management.

Please rate the degree of current implementation of the plan taking into account the time schedule of the ISSAP

Moderate implementation – some of the actions are underway as per the time schedule of the ISSAP

Please provide details and reasons for the lower degree of implementation.
>>> Limited budget.

Eurasian Curlew / *Numenius arquata* **National Plan for Eurasian Curlew / *Numenius arquata***

No NP, but actions implemented

Please explain the reasons for having no NP in place
>>> Limited budget.

Please provide a description of the actions implemented
>>> Inventories, monitoring and research, habitat restoration and management.

Please rate the degree of current implementation of the plan taking into account the time schedule of the ISSAP

Moderate implementation – some of the actions are underway as per the time schedule of the ISSAP

Please provide details and reasons for the lower degree of implementation.
>>> Limited budget.

12. Has your country provided assistance for the coordination and implementation of International Species Action or Management Plans through funding of AEWA International Species Working and Expert Groups? (Resolution 7.5)

No

Please explain the reasons
>>> Limited budget.

13. Has your country provided financial or in-kind assistance for the development of new International Species Action or Management Plans? (Resolution 7.5)

No

Please explain the reasons
>>> Limited budget.

14. Has a review and prioritization been undertaken in your country of the resources needed to develop national action plans in response to ISSAPs, implement those plans and coordinate their implementation? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 1.2(g))

No

Please explain the reasons.
>>> Limited budget.

15. Does your country have in place or is your country developing a National Single Species

Action Plan for any species/population for which an AEWA ISSAP has not been developed? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.2.2)

Yes

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

Estonia

Black Stork / Ciconia nigra

National Single Species Action Plan for Black Stork / Ciconia nigra

NSSAP in place and being implemented

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

[Action plan for the conservation of the Black Stork \(Ciconia nigra\). In Estonian.](#)

Dunlin / Calidris alpina

National Single Species Action Plan for Dunlin / Calidris alpina

NSSAP in place and being implemented

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

<http://>

[Action Plan for the Conservation of Calidris alpina schinzii \(In Estonian\)](#)

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

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

No

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

>>> National guidelines for Species Action Plans.

4.3 Emergency Measures

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

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

No emergency situation has occurred

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

No

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

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

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Oil spill response plan.

4.4 Re-establishments

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

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> No re-establishment projects have occurred nor have planned to occur wholly or partly within Estonia.

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

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Framework of principles is defined in the Nature Conservation Act, mainly in § 58. Applicable subsections are as follows:

§ 58. Introduction to and removal from wild of native species

(1) It is prohibited to release live specimens of native species brought in from other countries in the wild, except in the event of scientifically justified reintroduction with the permission of the Environmental Board.

(2) Animals of native species may be relocated with the permission of the Environmental Board.

(2.1) Animals of native species may be removed from the wild:

1) for treating an injury or illness and for raising an abandoned young animal;

2) for establishing or supplementing collections of animals for research, training or commercial purposes;

3) for supplementing the local population;

4) for establishment or supplementing of animal farms for commercial purposes.

(2.2.) In the events specified in clause 1) of subsection (2.1) of this section, an animal may be removed from the wild without permission by a person acting in official capacity. If the manner of removal of an animal from the wild differs from the manners permitted in the Hunting Act, authorisation will be requested from the Environmental Board.

(2.3) The taking of wild game to an artificial environment will be coordinated with the Veterinary and Food Board.

(2.4) For the purposes specified in clauses 3) and 4) of subsection (2.1) of this section, a wild game may be removed from the wild if the place of keeping the wild game in the artificial environment has been registered with the Environmental Board.

(2.5) The procedure for submission, review and registration of application for keeping wild game in an artificial environment will be established by a regulation of the minister responsible for the field.

(2.6) The registration of a place for keeping wild game in an artificial environment will be refused if it does not prevent the release of the wild game into the wild or the spread of an illness or does not comply with the requirements of the Animal Protection Act.

(3) Release to the wild of specimens of native species of animals kept in an artificial environment will be carried out only on the basis of the action plan specified in § 49 of this Act, except in the event of release to the

wild of specimens kept in an artificial environment for the purpose of treatment of injuries or restoration of the vitality thereof.

(4) Removal (incl. keeping and breeding) of specimens of protected species, including of the fauna specified in point a of Annex IX and of the flora specified in point b of Annex IV of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora, from the wild is prohibited, except for treatment of injuries, and in the events specified in subsection (5) of this section. Page 26/ 37 Nature Conservation Act

(5) Specimens of protected species may be removed from the wild for educational, medicinal or research purposes, or for reintroduction thereof with the permission of the Environmental Board, or for relocation thereof

only if this does not compromise the favourable conservation status of the species.

(6) Relocation of protected species will be carried out in accordance with the procedure established by the Government of the Republic.

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

No

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

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

Not applicable

Please explain

>>> No past translocations of waterbirds.

4.5 Introductions

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

Yes, and being enforced

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

>>> Nature Conservation Act

year of adoption 2004, amendments to § 57. Non-native species - 2007,2008, 2009, 2013, 2014;

institution that adopted it: The Parliament of Estonia;

institution that enforces it: Estonian Government; Ministry of the Environment.

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> § 57. Non-native species

(1) It is prohibited to introduce live specimens of non-native species in the wild, and to plant or sow non-native plants in the wild, except for the planting and sowing of alien tree species the cultivation of which as forest trees is permitted in accordance with the Forest Act.

(2) A list of non-native species likely to disrupt natural balance, live specimens of which will not be brought into Estonia and transactions with live specimens of which will not be conducted, will be established by a regulation of the minister responsible for the field.

(3) Controlling the abundance of a non-native species accidentally released into the wild will be organised by the Environmental Board.

(4) Specimens of non-native species kept in artificial conditions may be relocated for keeping in artificial conditions in another location only with the permission of the Environmental Board. The restrictions do not apply to household pets within the meaning of subsection 2 (3) of the Animal Protection Act.

(5) It is prohibited to rear specimens of non-native species which are likely to disrupt natural balance in artificial conditions or conduct transactions with the live specimens of such species, except in events which can be justified from a scientific point of view with the permission of the Environmental Board.

(6) The undertaking must hold an activity licence for keeping minks and raccoon dogs in artificial conditions (hereinafter farm activity licence).

(7) Specimens of minks and raccoon dogs may be imported into Estonia only on the basis of a permit of the Environmental Board for the purposes of gene pool renewal and to the extent of not more than 20 per cent of the breeding stock per farm within two years.

(8) The procedure for the exchange of information related to the introduction of specimens of the non-native bird species in the wild and for consultations with the European Commission will be established by a regulation of the minister responsible for the field.

(9) The competent authority specified in Article 5 of Council Regulation (EC) No 708/2007 concerning use of alien and locally absent species in aquaculture (OJ L 168, 28.06.2007, pp. 1-17) is the Environmental Board.

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

Yes, and being enforced

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

>>> General requirements that avoid escape of birds and other animals, incl IASs apply. Special provisions are applied for American Mink and Raccoon Dog farms.

Documents:

* Nature Conservation Act

Adopted 2004, + 28 amendments from 2005 to 2014 by the Estonian Parliament (Riigikogu)

Enforces Ministry of the Environment.

* Requirements to the zoo layout and buildings and keeping of animals in zoos.

Adopted 2007 by the the Government of the Republic.

Enforces Ministry of Environment.

* Requirements for keeping animals for fur, and a dedicated room or building.

Adopted 2012 by the Minister of Agriculture.

Enforces Ministry of Agriculture.

selleks ettenähtud ruumi või ehitise kohta¹

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

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Estonia do not held breeding populations of any non-native waterbird species yet although the first breeding attempts of *Branta canadensis* are worrying. Development of eradication programme would be positive although taking into account the strong breeding populations in neighbouring countries Finland and Sweden one must agree that the chance to keep all Estonian 1500+ islets free from Canadian Goose is not realistic.

27. Has your country considered, developed or implemented programmes to control or eradicate other non-native species (in particular aquatic weeds and terrestrial predators) so as to prevent negative impacts on migratory waterbirds? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraphs 2.5.3 and 4.3.10 and Resolution 5.15)

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Estonia has an eradication programme for IA *Heracleum* species (*H. sosnowskyi* and *H. mantegazzianum*), and it is implemented with quite good results, but the latter has only an indirect link to the conservation of waterfowl.

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

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

No

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

>>> National legislation governs the control of alien species.

4.6 Seabirds

The country has maritime territories and the AEWA seabird conservation priorities are relevant for the country:

Yes

29. Does your country have comprehensive data on seabird by-catch? (Resolution 7.6)

No

Please explain the reasons.

>>> Difficulties in collecting reliable data from fishermen. Some pilot studies carried on.

When and how do you plan to fill these data gaps?

>>> Institutions responsible for sea monitoring is looking for opportunities for cooperation with fishermen.

30. Have you assessed the impact of by-catch by artisanal fisheries to AEWA-listed seabirds? (Resolution 7.6)

No

Please explain the reasons.

>>> Difficulties in collecting reliable data from fishermen.

31. Have you assessed the impact of artisanal/recreational fisheries on seabirds' prey? (Resolution 7.6)

No

Please explain the reasons.

>>> Difficulties in collecting reliable data from fishermen.

When and how do you plan to do that?

>>> Institutions responsible for sea monitoring is looking for opportunities for improving monitoring.

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

Yes

Please provide short description of all actions

>>> Increasing the capacity of the Environmental Inspectorate at sea

33. Does your country have comprehensive data on hunting and egg harvesting (both legal and illegal) of AEWA-listed seabirds? (Resolution 7.6)

Yes

Please provide details, including references or attach a file, if available.

>>> Hunting Act

34. Have you assessed the impact of hunting and egg harvesting (both legal and illegal) on AEWA-listed seabirds? (Resolution 7.6)

Yes

Please provide details, including reference or attach a file, if available.

>>> Regular monitoring of the number of waterbirds hunted. An analysis of waterfowl hunting has been ordered

35. Have you identified those seabird colonies at risk from invasive non-native species? (Resolution 7.6)

No

Please explain the reasons.

>>> Risk is small at present time.

When and how do you plan to do that?

>>> When the problem occurs.

36. Have you identified the key coastal and at-sea areas where responses to oil spills would be most urgently required in relation to the presence of AEWA-listed seabirds? (Resolution 7.6)

Yes

Please provide details, including reference or attach a file, if available.

>>> Coastal and shore waterbird inventories and the existence of an oil spill response plan.

Are AEWA seabirds and seabird sites adequately represented within existing oil spill response plans?

Yes

Please provide details, including references or attach a file, if available.

>>> Coastal and shore waterbird inventories.

37. **(Applicable only to countries bordering the North or Baltic Sea)** Has your country undertaken a program of data-collection to validate models of population level impacts of offshore windfarms in the North and Baltic Seas on AEWA seabirds? (Resolution 7.6)

No

Please explain the reasons.

>>> There are no offshore wind farms yet.

38. Have you identified priority sites by filling gaps in the Critical Site Network for seabirds (breeding, non-breeding, pelagic and coastal areas)? (Resolution 7.6)

Partially

Please provide details, including references or attach a file, if available.

>>> The project to identify gaps is ongoing (deadline 2022).

Pressures and Responses

5. Habitat Conservation

5.1 Habitat Inventories

39. Has your country identified the network of all sites of international and national importance for the migratory waterbird species/populations listed on Table 1? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 3.1.2; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 3.1(a))

Partially

Please describe the progress

>>> Network of offshore marine protected areas is still incomplete and studies are ongoing. At least 3-4 additional sites are designated after completion of ongoing inventories and analyses.

Network of onshore and nearshore protected sites of international importance completed. The network of sites of national importance is nearly complete.

Have you reviewed, confirmed and communicated to the AEWA Secretariat after MOP7 the inventory of known nationally and internationally important sites in your country?

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Lack of capacity.

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

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

Yes

Please provide details

>>> A stepwise approach is used to identify new offshore sites.

5.2. Conservation of Areas and Habitats

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

For one or more single sites

Yes

Please give details as to where relevant information about these assessments have been published (either as publications or web-link).

>>> The future implications of climate change for protected areas (including sites important for waterbirds) made in 2015 in the frame of project "Climate change adaptation strategy and measures for thematic fields of natural environment and bioeconomy: BioClim". National research projects for adaptation and mitigation of climate change impact to biodiversity are prepared for funding.

For the national protected area network

Yes

Please give details as to where relevant information about these assessments have been published (either as publications or web-link).

>>> The future implications of climate change for protected areas (including sites important for waterbirds) made in 2015 in the frame of project "Climate change adaptation strategy and measures for thematic fields of natural environment and bioeconomy: BioClim". National research projects for adaptation and mitigation of climate change impact to biodiversity are prepared for funding.

42. Which sites that were identified as important, either internationally or nationally, for Table 1 migratory waterbird species/populations have been designated as protected areas under the national legislation and have management plans that are being implemented, including with the aim to increase resilience to the effects of climate change? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 3.2.1; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 3.3)

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

Reporting on designation and management of internationally important sites

Reporting on designation and management of nationally important sites. (Sites of national importance excludes the sites already reported above as internationally important)

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

All sites of international importance

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

Total number

>>> 66

Total area (ha)

>>> 1268225

Number of internationally important sites under national protection designation

>>> 66

Area of international importance under national protection designation (ha)

>>> 1268225

Please rate the effectiveness of the national protection designation

Moderate

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

Number of sites

>>> 53

Area (in ha)

>>> 1067287

Please rate the effectiveness of the management measures

Moderate

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

Number of sites

>>> 53

Area (in ha)

>>> 1067287

Please rate the effectiveness of the climate resilience measures

Moderate

All sites of national importance

Total number

>>> 19

Total area (ha)

>>> 173542

Number of nationally important sites under national protection designation

>>> 19

Area of national importance under national protection area designation

>>> 173542

Please rate the effectiveness of the national protection designation

Moderate

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

Number of sites

>>> 19

Area (in ha)

>>> 173542

Please rate the effectiveness of the management measures

Moderate

Area (in ha)

>>> 173542

Please rate the effectiveness of the climate resilience measures

Moderate

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

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Important sites are established already keeping in mind the need for buffering the core area of the site. Thus the vast majority of sites already include buffers needed to maintain or increase resilience.

Examples of best practice (optional)

If any site, in your opinion, represents an outstanding process of management planning or implementation, please highlight it as an example of best practice (alternatively provide a web link or attach a file)

>>> Matsalu National Park

First comprehensive management plan in Estonia, successful implementation, catchment area approach implemented, several successful international projects, European Diploma for Protected Areas of the Council of Europe.

(<https://kaitsealad.ee/en/protected-areas/matsalu-national-park>)

DESIGNATION GAP FILLING

Yes

MANAGEMENT GAP FILING

No

44. Is the network of nationally and internationally important sites for migratory waterbirds integrated into your country's water- and land-use policies and planning and decision-making processes? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 3.4)

Yes, partially

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

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

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Guidelines are used as useful supplementary source of information when compiling management plans.

46. Has the Critical Site Network (CSN) Tool for the AEWA area been accessed and used in your country? (Resolution 7.9)

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

Yes

Please give examples of how you have used the CSN Tool

>>> When planning enlargements of existing nationally designated sites and evaluating coherence of the network of nationally and internationally protected sites.

Pressures and Responses

6. Management of Human Activities

6.1. Hunting

48. Does the legislation of your country implement the principle of sustainable use of waterbirds, as envisaged in the AEWA Action Plan, taking into account the full geographical range of the waterbird populations concerned and their life history characteristics? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.1; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 2.2)

Yes

Please provide details on how this is achieved and reference to the relevant legislation

>>> 01.06.2013 the new Hunting Act entered into force and according to the § 26 (7) the use of lead pellets when hunting waterfowl on wetlands is prohibited in Estonia.

49. Does your country have an established system for the collection of harvest data, which covers the species/populations listed in Table 1? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.3; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 2.1(b))

Yes

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

All AEWA species occurring in your country

>>> All kind of harvesting activities are regulated and licenced. One provision of any licence is a responsibility of licenced person/organisation to report all harvesting data back to the Environmental Agency.

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

The whole territory of your country

>>> Reporting obligation about harvest of game species is applied for entire country.

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

All forms of waterbird harvesting

>>> All kind of harvesting activities are regulated and licenced. One provision of any licence is a responsibility of licenced person/organisation to report all harvesting data back to the Environmental Board.

50. Has your country phased out the use of lead shot for hunting in wetlands? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.4; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 2.2(d))

Fully

When was lead shot use in wetlands banned?

>>> Hunting Act

year of adoption of the new version 2013 (Entry into force 01.06.2013)

§ 26 (7) Use of lead pellets when hunting waterfowl is prohibited.

Institution that adopted it: The Parliament of Estonia;

institution that enforces it: Estonian Government; Ministry of the Environment.

Inspections: Environmental Inspectorate.

What legislation is in place?

>>> According to Hunting Act (since 2013) § 26 (7) Use of lead shot for hunting waterfowl in wetlands is prohibited.

Lead based ammunition (bullets) for hunting the large game animals not prohibited and it reason for mortality some raptors feeding from hunting remains (e.g. White-tailed Eagle, Golden Eagle).

Who enforces this legislation?

>>> Institution that adopted it: The Parliament of Estonia.

Institution that enforces it: Estonian Government; Ministry of the Environment.

Inspections: Environmental Inspectorate.

Has assessment of compliance with the legislation been undertaken?

Yes

Please explain how this was assessed.

>>> Study for assessment of effectiveness of prohibition of the lead shot for hunting waterfowl was started in 2017 (ongoing).

Please explain what the compliance with legislation was found to be:

Moderate (more compliance than non-compliance)

Please indicate any known reasons for good compliance or any barriers to compliance. Please attach any published or unpublished references.

>>> Study is not yet finished.

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

Yes

Please explain how this was done. Please attach any published or unpublished references.

>>> Study of potential illegal use of lead shot for waterfowl hunting initiated in 2017 (ongoing).

51. Are there measures in your country to reduce/eliminate illegal taking? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.6; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 2.2(e))

Yes

How would you rate the effectiveness of the measures?

Moderate

Please provide details

>>> Measures

1. Awareness-rising.

* hunting related information sources are available online <http://www.ejs.ee>, including bird species information leaflets for game (and similar non-game) species.

http://ejs.ee/images/stories/ulukid/Veelindude_maaramine.pdf

* articles in magazine Estonian Hunter;

* booklet for field identification of waterfowl.

2. Strengthening the Environmental Inspectorate. The Environmental Inspectorate is an administrative unit under the Ministry of Environment which exercises supervision in all areas of environmental protection. It coordinates and executes supervision regarding the use of natural resources and the protection of the environment by applying the state's coercive measures on the basis and to the extent specified by law.

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> * there are some cases of shooting geese illegally to prevent damage on fields or due to misidentification of birds;

* some cases of use of prohibited means of hunting, for example using electric playback devices to attract birds has been revealed;

* the main problem is illegal destruction/killing of eggs/nestlings of *Phalacrocorax carbo* or destroying their nests; scarce occasions close to some fishing areas still occur.

54. Are best practice codes and standards for hunting in place in your country in support of enforcement of hunting laws and regulations? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.7; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 2.3)

Yes

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

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

Yes

Please provide details

>>> When planning and establishing refuges for migratory waterbirds.

Protection regime and extent of many protected sites is updated, as well as some new sites established, and the question about effectiveness and need for waterfowl refuges is an important issue.

6.3. Other human activities

58. Have restrictions on use of lead fishing weights been introduced in your country? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.3.12). When answering this question please also consider question 78 in chapter 7 - Research and monitoring.

No

If appropriate, please provide further details.

>>> Ministry of the Environment and veterinary experts are working on awareness rising of fishermen (and hunters and wider public) about negative impacts of lead ammunition and lead fishing weights. One article about impact of lead on fish and waterfowl species is published (Tuvikene, A. 2014. Plii ohtlikkusest kaladele ja veelindudele. Kalale!, 7, 70 - 73; not available online), another article about foreseen restrictions on use of lead fishing weights is submitted. Thematic roundtable discussion in April 2015 with representatives of fishermen organisations was successful.

59. Does your country have legislation in place, which provides for Strategic Environmental Assessment/Environmental Impact Assessment (SEA/EIA) of activities potentially negatively affecting natural habitats or wildlife? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.3.1; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 3.5)

Yes and being implemented

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

Entire country

Please provide details

>>> Strategic Environmental Assessment/Environmental Impact Assessment legislation applied to the entire country.

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

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Waterbirds and their habitats are not specially pointed out in legislation.

Topic is regulated by Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Management System Act and subsequent regulations.

EIA

Environmental impact shall be assessed:

1) upon application for or application for amendment of a development consent if the proposed activity which is the basis for application for or amendment of the development consent potentially results in significant environmental impact;

2) if activities are proposed which alone or in conjunction with other activities may potentially significantly affect a Natura 2000 site.

There is an open list of activities with significant environmental impact.

Responsibility for screening is listed as follows:

The decision-maker shall make a preliminary estimate specified in subsection (2) of this section on the basis of all the following criteria:

/---/ the environmental conditions of the site of the activity and its vicinity, e.g. the existing land use, the natural resources present in the site, the characteristics and regeneration capability of such resources and the absorption capacity of the natural environment. Assessment of the absorption capacity of the natural environment shall, above all, be based on the absorption capacity of wetlands, shores, banks of water-bodies, relieves, forests, protected natural objects, including Natura 2000 sites, sites where the requirements established by legislation are already exceeded, densely populated areas within the meaning of the Land Reform Act and sites possessing historical, cultural or archaeological value;

/---/ the presumed impact of the proposed activities on a Natura 2000 site or any other protected natural object.

Environmental impact assessment report

An expert or, under the supervision of the expert, an expert group shall prepare, on the basis of the approved environmental impact assessment programme, the environmental impact assessment report in which the expert or expert group:

3) sets out a description of the environment potentially affected by the proposed activities and reasonable alternatives therefor and assesses the state of the environment of the region;

/---/

6) analyses the potential environmental impact of the proposed activity and its actual alternatives, including the indirect impact and combined impact with other types of activity to the state of the environment, including impact to the health, well-being and property of persons, to plants, animals, soil, landscape, mineral resources, quality of air and water, climate, to protected natural objects, including Natura 2000 sites, their purposes of protection and integrity, and to cultural heritage, and the interaction of the factors specified in this subsection;

SEA

A strategic environmental assessment shall be carried out during the preparation of a strategic planning document before its adoption by a legal act, if the document:

/---/ is the basis for activities which are likely to significantly affect a Natura 2000 site.

In the case specified in clause /---/, the environmental impact resulting from

implementation of a strategic planning document and the area likely to be affected shall be taken into account on the basis of the following criteria:

/---/ the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to special natural characteristics, cultural heritage and intensive land-use;

/---/ the impacts on areas or landscapes which have a protection status.

Do the SEA/EIA processes include public participation?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Management System Act

EIA

§ 16. Publication of environmental impact assessment programme

(1) The decision-maker shall organise the public display of an environmental impact assessment programme with the duration of not less than fourteen days. After that developer shall organise a public consultation in order to inform the public of the programme.

/---/

(5) Everyone has the right to access an environmental impact assessment programme and other relevant documents at the time of the public display of and the public consultation regarding the programme, submit proposals, objections and questions regarding the programme and obtain responses thereto.

(6) The decision-maker shall publish an environmental impact assessment programme, inter alia, on its webpage and shall ensure to the public the possibility to examine the programme at least until the end of the term for submission of proposals, objections and questions.

§ 17. Taking account of results of public display of and public consultation regarding environmental impact assessment programme

(1) An agency to whom, during the public display of an environmental impact assessment programme, proposals, objections and questions were submitted regarding the programme shall forward the specified proposals, objections and questions to the developer.

(2) An expert or, under the supervision of the expert, an expert group shall, together with the developer, make, on the basis of the proposals and objections submitted regarding the programme, the necessary amendments to the programme made during the public display of the environmental impact assessment programme, explain why proposals and objections are taken account of and justify why they are not taken account of and respond to the questions.

(3) The developer shall send to a person who submitted proposals, objections and questions regarding an environmental impact assessment programme an explanation why the submitted proposals and objections are taken account of and justify why they are not taken account of and respond to the questions by sending an unregistered letter or a registered letter.

/---/

§ 21. Publication of environmental impact assessment report and taking account of results of publication of report

An environmental impact assessment report shall be published and the results of publication shall be taken into account pursuant to the procedure provided for in §§ 16 and 17 of this Act.

SEA

Procedures are quite similar to EIA. Public participation is usually more extensive, because (spatial and general) planning process lasts longer and usually more public hearings are foreseen.

61. In the last three years, has your country used SEA/EIA for all relevant projects, including energy sector projects such as renewable energy developments and power lines installation, to assess the impact of proposed projects on migratory waterbird species listed on Table 1 and/or habitats/sites on which they depend? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.3.1, Resolution 5.11 and Resolution 5.16; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 3.5(b))

Yes, all proposed projects

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

Yes

Please describe the measures put in place

>>> 1. Avoidance of important sites (usual practice);

2. Mitigation of impacts.

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

[Volke, V., Kuus, A., Luiguijõe, L. 2020. Integrated study on the impact of the Väike Väin double-circuit 110 kV transmission line on birds. Study delivered by Elering AS \(public procurement contract No. 1.1-4/2019/505\). Final report.](#)

62. Do you maintain a record of the cases of adverse impacts of development activities and other pressures on sites of national and international importance for migratory waterbirds in your country? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 3.5(a))

Yes

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

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

Yes

Please provide details

>>> When assessing the quality of SEAs/EIAs.

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

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

Partially

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

Partially

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

Not applicable

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

Yes

Please provide details

>>> As a general rule the construction of any major infrastructure in habitats of high conservation importance is avoided.

Planning decisions (of different levels as national and county-level) include location and direction of new power lines. Exact routing is a matter of closer inspection and special decisions.

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

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

Yes

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

Yes

Please provide details

>>> It is not obligatory, but bird deterrents are used in critical sections of the grid (for example river crossings).

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

Partially

Please provide details.

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

Volke, V., Kuus, A., Luigujõe, L. 2020. Integrated study on the impact of the Väike Vain double-circuit 110 kV transmission line on birds. Study delivered by Elering AS (public procurement contract No. 1.1-4/2019/505). Final report.

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

Partially

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

Volke, V., Kuus, A., Luigujõe, L. 2020. Integrated study on the impact of the Väike Vain double-circuit 110 kV transmission line on birds. Study delivered by Elering AS (public procurement contract No. 1.1-4/2019/505). Final report.

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

Partial

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

Volke, V., Kuus, A., Luigujõe, L. 2020. Integrated study on the impact of the Väike Vain double-circuit 110 kV transmission line on birds. Study delivered by Elering AS (public procurement contract No. 1.1-4/2019/505). Final report.

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

Partial

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

Volke, V., Kuus, A., Luigujõe, L. 2020. Integrated study on the impact of the Väike Vain double-circuit 110 kV transmission line on birds. Study delivered by Elering AS (public procurement contract No. 1.1-4/2019/505). Final report.

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

No

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

>>> Strategic documents of nature conservation policy were approved before MOP5.

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

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

Yes

Please provide details

>>> In SEAs and EIAs of new power lines.

Experts have used when compiling reasoned expert opinions.

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

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

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Onshore wind energy - partial.

Thematic Plans (additional parts to Comprehensive Plans) based on sensitivity mapping has been developed for four coastal counties of Western Estonia where wind resources are best for developing wind parks. New zoning covering the whole country is planning stadium.

Comprehensive Plans of marine areas (also sensitivity mapping included) has been developed for territorial waters. Existing information about waterbirds collected together and data gaps identified.

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

Estonian Ornithological Society 2020. Analysis of bird staging areas (in Estonian)

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

Yes

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

>>> Ramsar criterias.

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

Yes

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

>>> Gajko, K., Ksepko, J., Siuchno R., Zegarek M. 2020. Post-monitoring of Tooma I, Tooma II, Esivere wind parks in Tooma-Esivere area. Final report. Version 1.1 . 3BIRD K.Gajko J.Ksepko Sp.j. / 3Bird Radar System, Białystok 179 pp.

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

No

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

Not applicable

Please explain

>>> Development is not consented where damage can not be avoided or mitigated.

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

Yes

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

Yes

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

Yes

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

No

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

>>> The likelihood of drastic conversion of Estonian agriculture in favour of oil crops is minor.

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

No

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

>>> National Nature Conservation Development Plan was approved before MOP5.

68. Is by-catch of waterbirds in fishing gear taking place in your country? (Resolution 3.8) (Please respond to this question only with respect to species, which are NOT considered seabirds. Seabird by-catch is dealt with in section 4.6 Seabirds)

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Zydellis, R., Small, C., French, G. 2013. The incidental catch of seabirds in gillnet fisheries: A global review. Biological Conservation 162:76-88.

Zydellis, R., Bellebaum, J., Österblom, H., Vetemaa, M., Schirmeister, B., Stipiece, A., Dagys, M., van Eerden,

M. & Garthe, S. 2008. Bycatch in gillnet fisheries – An overlooked threat to waterbird populations. *Biological Conservation* 142: 1269–1281.

Dagys, M., Ložys, L., Žydelis, R., Stīpniece, A., Minde, A. & Vetemaa, M. 2009. Action C1 – Assessing and reducing impact of fishery by-catch on species of community interest. Final Report. LIFE Nature project “Marine Protected Areas in the Eastern Baltic Sea” Reference number: LIFE 05 NAT/LV/000100. 48 p.

Available at:

http://www.balticseaportal.net/media/upload/File/Deliverables/Action%20reports/C1_final_report.pdf

Pressures and Responses

7. Research and Monitoring

71. Does your country have in place waterbird monitoring schemes for the AEWA species? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Actions 1.4(a) and 1.4(b))

Yes

Covering the breeding period

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

Partially

Please provide details. (incl. list the species covered OR not covered (whichever list is shorter))
>>> Statistically robust estimations of breeding population size and trends for all waterbird species made at least once in every 6 year (Bird Directive art 12 reporting). Population size and trends of some selected waterbird species is available every year from state monitoring reports.

Is information on drivers of population trends also being collected?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> In the frame of IUCN regional assessment after every 10 year.

Covering the passage period

Partially

Please provide details. (incl. list the species covered OR not covered (whichever list is shorter))
>>> Waterfowl are monitored in important areas in 10-year increments.

Covering the non-breeding/wintering period

Partially

Please provide details. (incl. list the species covered OR not covered (whichever list is shorter))
>>> Waterfowl are monitored in important areas in 10-year increments. For some areas also annually.

Is information on drivers of population trends also being collected?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> In the frame of IUCN regional assessment after every 10 year.

72. Is data collected through the International Waterbird Census or other relevant monitoring schemes being actively used in your country to inform national-level implementation of AEWA? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 1.5(a))

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Data used in conservation planning and EIA-s.

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

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Limited budget.

74. Has your country used the AEWA Conservation Guidelines on waterbird monitoring?

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

Yes

Please provide details

>>> When reviewing national monitoring methods. State monitoring programm (including biodiversity) will be renewed during 2018. Marine monitoring programme (including seabirds) approved 2014.

75. Has your government provided over the past triennium funds and/or logistical support for the International Waterbird Census and/or other waterbird monitoring scheme at international or national level? (Resolution 6.3)

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Limited budget.

76. Has your country donated funds to the African-Eurasian Waterbird Fund in the past triennium (Resolution 6.3, Resolution 7.7)?

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

No

Please explain the reason

>>> Limited budget.

77. (Applicable to African Contracting Parties only) Were the periods of breeding and of pre-nuptial migration for all AEWA-listed species and their respective populations occurring on the territory of your country identified at national level? (Resolution 7.8)

No

Please explain the reason

>>> N/A

78. Has the impact of lead fishing weights on waterbirds been investigated in your country? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.3.12). When answering this question please also consider question 58 in chapter 6 - Management of human activities.

No

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

No

Please provide reason(s)

>>> No concrete plan, but some premature ideas has been discussed.

Pressures and Responses

8. Education and Information

8.1. Communication, Education and Public Awareness

79. Has your country developed and implemented programmes for raising awareness and understanding on waterbird conservation and about AEWA specifically? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 4, Target 4.3 and AEWA Action Plan, paragraphs 6.1-6.4, Resolution 3.10, Resolution 5.5; Resolution 6.10)

Guidance: Such programmes should consist of a series of established, long-term communication activities, which are guided by clearly defined goals, target audiences and communication channels. A programme does not constitute a single, one-off communication activity, product or event. In other words, an established national programme to raise awareness and understanding on waterbird conservation and about AEWA would ideally be a number of targeted communication activities which are guided by a communication plan and are backed by sufficient human and financial resources.

Other

Please explain

>>> No special program for waterbirds has been developed.

1. Almost every separate wetland project aimed to study or manage important waterbird species and/or sites includes several actions to raise public awareness and communicate waterbird conservation issues.

2. Nowadays management planning of the protected areas is the most important task in Estonia and the planning process is extensively used for raising awareness.

80. Has a National AEWA Focal Point for Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) been designated by your country? (Resolution 5.5; Resolution 6.10)

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Lack of funds and capacity.

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

Yes

Please indicate which measures have been taken:

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

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Coordinated training programmes has not been arranged. Separate important topics as waterfowl hunting and probable restrictions to the use of lead fishing weights were discussed with relevant stakeholders and wider public.

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

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Because of limited human capacity.

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

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Because of limited capacity.

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

Yes

How can the effectiveness of the measures be rated?

Other

>>> Effectiveness not measured.

Please provide details

>>> Implementation of every SSAP and MSAP for waterbird species includes the component of rising public awareness.

Best examples are interactive web cams (Black Stork and eagle species) and online migration maps (Black Stork, Common Crane, eagle species) with accompanied forum spaces.

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

Yes

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

>>> Estonian Ornithological Society (BirdLife Partner in Estonia) has a tradition to celebrate World Migratory Bird Day with public event, so called "bird-watch from towers" where experienced bird-watchers teach interested visitors how to identify birds and have thematic discussions about bird migration, bird habitats and nature conservation.

83. Has your country provided funding and/or other support, as appropriate (e.g. expertise, network, skills and resources) towards the implementation of the AEWA Communication Strategy and/or towards priority CEPA activities in the AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027? Please consider both national and international funding and different types of support provided. (Resolution 6.10)

Yes

Has this funding or support been on the national or international level?

Please provide details in the corresponding box below

National Level Funding and Support

>>> Every relevant campaign and other public event aimed to highlight waterbirds, their migration and wetland habitats can be assessed as implementation of the Communication Strategy. Wide variety of communication and awareness raising actions has been financed by the Environmental Investment Center (state financed instrument to support environmental projects).

International Funding and Support (through the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat)

>>> None

Pressures and Responses

9. Implementation

84. Have you undertaken a national assessment of the resources needed for the delivery of the AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 5.6.(b))

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Limited resources and capabilities.

85. Has your country approached non-contracting party range states to encourage them to accede to the Agreement? (Resolution 3.10; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 5.2)

Report only on activities over the past triennium

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Informal individual discussions on meetings and conferences has been conducted.

86. Does your country have in place a national coordination mechanism for implementation of AEWA, possibly linking to national coordination mechanisms for other biodiversity Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs)? (Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 5.3(b))

Guidance: Such mechanism can be a dedicated cross-institutional working group, involving representatives of the civil society and other relevant stakeholders, aimed at planning, coordinating and reporting the implementation of the Agreement in the country. Alternatively, the implementation of AEWA at national level can be coordinated as an extension of larger national coordination mechanisms for other MEAs, such as National Ramsar Committees or CBD NBSAPs coordination.

Yes, it is operational on a regular basis

Please provide details

>>> Designated National AEWA Administrative Authority is the Ministry of the Environment.

National Focal Point (NFP) for AEWA matters is also designated.

Estonia have nominated three persons to Species Expert Groups.

Above mentioned persons work in cooperation with Institutions (like Environmental Board and Universities) and NGOs (Estonian Ornithological Society, local bird clubs); type of the co-operation is case-dependent.

Are priority capacity gaps addressed by the coordination mechanism?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> National Focal Point (NFP) for AEWA matters is the main coordination unit and responsible for filling caps.

Please rank the effectiveness of the national coordination mechanism for AEWA implementation:

Medium

Please provide details and the reasons for the lower effectiveness

>>> Some restriction from limited resources and capabilities

87. Have you undertaken a national assessment of the capacity needs for AEWA implementation? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 5.3.(e))

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Due to limited resources and capabilities.

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

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Estonia has had very good cross-border co-operation with Baltic Sea countries for example co-ordinated inventories of wintering waterfowl in Baltic Sea (2016 and 2021).

89. Are those officers in your country's government responsible for AEWA implementation co-ordinated and

engaged with national processes contributing towards the Aichi Targets and the assessment of achieving these targets? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 5.4(a))

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Nature Conservation Department of the MoE is relatively small and officers responsible for different international agreements work in close co-operation.

90. Are those officers in your country's government responsible for AEWA implementation co-ordinated and engaged with national processes contributing towards the relevant Sustainable Development Goals and the assessment of achieving these goals? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 5.4(a))

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Nature Conservation Department of the MoE is relatively small and officers responsible for different international agreements work in close co-operation.

91. Are those officers in your country's government responsible for AEWA implementation co-ordinated and engaged with national processes to implementation and assess the delivery of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 5.4(a))

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Nature Conservation Department of the MoE is relatively small and officers responsible for different international agreements work in close co-operation.

92. Are the AEWA priorities incorporated into your country's National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan (NBSAP) and/or other similar strategic plans and policies (Resolution 6.3; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 5.5)?

92.1 NBSAP

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Nature Conservation Action plan up to 2020.

92.2 Other strategic plans and policies

Yes

Please name the other strategic planning processes

>>> Climate change adaptation plan.

Please provide details

>>> Biodiversity (incl. waterbirds) aspects are covered by climate change adaptation plan.

Sustainable Development Goals

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Infrastructure planning takes into account waterfowl habitats and migration routes.

Aichi Targets

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Peatland and semi-natural meadow restoration and management is also improving and creating waterbird habitats.

Strategic Plan for Migratory Species

Yes

Please provide details

>>> The need to protect waterfowl will be taken into account when updating the rules on protected areas.

94. How would your country suggest promoting further links between the biodiversity MEAs to

which your country is a Contracting Party, so as to make your work more efficient and effective?

>>> No brilliant ideas.

95. Has your country donated funds to the AEWA Small Grants Fund (SGF) over the past triennium? (Resolution 7.1)

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> The budget is restricted.

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

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Limited budget.

97. Has your country prioritised and allocated a Junior Professional Officer (JPO) to the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat for Technical Committee support or for any other area of work? (Resolution 7.11, Resolution 7.12)

No and has not been prioritised

Please explain the reasons

>>> Limited budget and human resources.

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

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

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Limited budget.

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

No

98.3 Has your country's government provided funding to support developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition, to meet their obligations under AEWA, and the implementation of the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027? Under this question please report for support provided outside of formal and established intergovernmental cooperation. For the latter, please refer to the next question 98.4.

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Limited budget.

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

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Limited budget.

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

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Budget restrictions.

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

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Budget restrictions.

Pressures and Responses

10. Climate Change

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

a. Research and studies of climate change impacts on waterbirds

Undertaken

Please provide references or weblinks to any such work so as to facilitate their use as potential case-studies to assist other Contracting Parties

>>> Participation in international cooperation in publishing scientific results (Estonian co-author Leho Luigujõe).

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

<http://>

[Laubek, B. et al. 2019. Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus* January population censuses for Northwest Mainland Europe, 1995-2015. *Wildfowl* 103–122.](#)

[Beekman, J. et al. 2019. Long-term population trends and shifts in distribution of Bewick's Swans *Cygnus columbianus bewickii* wintering in northwest Europe 5: 73–102.](#)

[Pavon-Jordan, D. 2019. Habitat- and species-mediated short- and long-term distributional changes in waterbird abundance linked to variation in European winter weather. *Diversity and Distributions*, 25 \(2\), 225–239. DOI: 10.1111/ddi.12855.](#)

[Gaget, E. et al. 2020. Benefits of protected areas for nonbreeding waterbirds adjusting their distributions under climate warming. *Conservation Biology* DOI: 10.1111/cobi.13648.](#)

[Marchowski, D. et al. 2020. Effectiveness of the European Natura 2000 network to sustain a specialist wintering waterbird population in the face of climate change. *Scientific Reports* 10: 2045-2322.](#)

[Pavón-Jordán D. et al. 2020. Positive impacts of important bird and biodiversity areas on wintering waterbirds under changing temperatures throughout Europe and North Africa. *Biological Conservation* 246:108549](#)

b. Assessment of the potential vulnerability to climate change of key habitats used by waterbird species (including those outside protected area networks) (Please note that the question asks about habitats, rather than sites. Question 41 in Section 5, sub-section 5.2 investigates vulnerability of sites to climate change)

No relevant activities

Please explain the reasons

>>> Principal framework to study climate change impacts on habitats and develop adaptation measures is in place, but no special emphasis to waterbird habitats.

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

Undertaken

Please provide references or weblinks to any such work so as to facilitate their use as potential case-studies to assist other Contracting Parties

>>> Nacional Red List Assesment 2019 (separaty for breeding, passag and wintering population)

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

No relevant activities

Please explain the reasons

>>> Develop and improve national protected area network, restoration of wetland habitats and physical planning.

e. National Action Plan for helping waterbirds adapt to climate change (as a separate implementation process or as part of a larger national framework for biodiversity adaptation to climate change. Please note that Question 42 in Section 5, sub-section 5.2 investigates national measures for increasing resilience of the ecological network for waterbirds to climate change).

Planned

Please provide details

>>> The climate change adaptation development plan is adopted in 2017.

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

Climate change adaptation development plan (in Estonian)

f. Other undertaken or planned relevant activities.

No

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

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

No

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

>>> No relevant actions taken so far.

Pressures and Responses

11. Avian Influenza

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

List challenges

- >>> 1. Explaining to the public, that (winter) feeding of waterfowl is detrimental to birds and can pose some health risk to people is still valid and actual. Environmental Board (state env. protection agency), municipality authorities and Estonian Ornithological Society are doing that on regular basis. As people continue to feed birds in many places, the regular repeated action to avoid it is still of high importance.
- 2. Estonian media have discussed the topic of Avian Influenza frequently in the last triennium as there have new major breaks also in Estonia.
- 3. Establishment of a system for collecting information on wild bird deaths potentially infected.

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

[Avian Influeca - Ministry of Rural Affairs](#)

[http://](#)

[Avian Influeca - Health Agency](#)

List required further guidance or information

>>> None

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> Avian Influenza risk assessment by Kuresoo et al. (2006) is valid and there is no need for updates (document was enclosed to the previous national report to MOP5).

12. Confirmation

Confirmation of information verification and approval for submission

Please confirm:

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

I declare that the information provided in the Report on the implementation of AEWA for the period 2018-2020 has been verified and the report has been approved for submission by the appropriate state institution in the country.

Date of submission

>>> 09. 04. 2021