



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

>>> Georgia

Date of entry into force of AEWA in the Contracting Party

>>> 01.08.2001

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.

>>> None

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

>>> Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia

Name and title of the head of institution

>>> Minister, Mr. Levan Davitashvili

Mailing address - Street and number

>>> 6 Marshal Gelovani str

Postal code

>>> PC: 0159

City

>>> Tbilisi

Country

>>> Georgia

Telephone

>>> + 995(32) 2 47 01 01

Fax

>>> (99532)2378009

E-mail

>>> Levan.davitashvili@mepa.gov.ge

Website

>>> www.mepa.gov.ge

Designated National Focal Point (NFP) for AEWA matters

Name and title of the NFP

>>> Ms Kristina Koroshinadze, Chief specialist, Department of Biodiversity and Forestry

Affiliation (institution, department)

>>> Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia

Mailing address - Street and number

>>> 6, Marshal Gelovani str.

Postal code

>>> 0159

City

>>> Tbilisi

Country

>>> Georgia

Telephone

>>> (995 99) 313125

E-mail

>>> Kristina.Koroshinadze@mepa.gov.ge,Kristikoroshinadze@gmail.com

Website

>>> www.mepa.gov.ge

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

Name and title of the TC NFP

>>> Mr. Zurab Javakhishvili

Affiliation (institution, department)

>>> Ilia State University of Georgia, Institute of Ecology

Mailing address - Street and number

>>> Kakutsa Cholokashvili Ave 3/5 Tbilisi 0162, GEORGIA

P.O.Box

>>> PO Box 42

Postal code

>>> 0102

City

>>> Tbilisi

Country

>>> Georgia

Telephone

>>> +995 99 12 51 19

E-mail

>>> zurab.javakhishvili.1@iliauni.edu.ge

Website

>>> iliauni.edu.ge

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

Name and title of the CEPA NFP

>>> Kristina Koroshinadze, Chief specialist, Department of Biodiversity and Forestry

Affiliation (institution, department)

>>> Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia

Mailing address - Street and number

>>> 6, Marshal Gelovani str.

Postal code

>>> 0159

City

>>> Tbilisi

Country

>>> Georgia

Telephone

>>> +995 599 31 31 25

E-mail

>>> Kristina.koroshinadze@mepa.gov.ge

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.

>>> Ilia State University of Georgia; Institute of Ecology
Department of Environmental Vision
NGO "Sabuko"

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))

No

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.

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> The law on hunting is in the process of being drafted, it is planned to use AEWA guidelines

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.

[3.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.

[4.xlsx](#) - open hunting season for the AEWA Table 1, Column A, category 2 or 3 with an asterisk or category 4 populations

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.

[5.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

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Order_N95.pdf](#)

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

>>> > Para 8 of the "Order N95 of the Minister of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia on rules, dates, permitted means for hunting on migratory bird species" provides with the list of prohibited means for hunting.

Limes

Yes, fully

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

>>> > Para 8 of the "Order N95 of the Minister of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia on rules, dates, permitted means for hunting on migratory bird species" provides with the list of prohibited means for hunting.

Hooks

Yes, fully

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

>>> > Para 8 of the "Order N95 of the Minister of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia on rules, dates, permitted means for hunting on migratory bird species" provides with the list of prohibited means for hunting.

Live birds which are blind or mutilated used as decoys

Yes, fully

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

>>> > Para 8 of the "Order N95 of the Minister of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia on rules, dates, permitted means for hunting on migratory bird species" provides with the list of prohibited means for hunting.

Tape recorders and other electronic devices

Yes, fully

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

>>> > Para 8 of the "Order N95 of the Minister of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia on rules, dates, permitted means for hunting on migratory bird species" provides with the list of prohibited means for hunting.

Electrocuting devices

Yes, fully

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

>>> > Para 8 of the "Order N95 of the Minister of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia on rules, dates, permitted means for hunting on migratory bird species" provides with the list of prohibited means for hunting.

Artificial light sources

Yes, fully

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

>>> > Para 8 of the "Order N95 of the Minister of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia on rules, dates, permitted means for hunting on migratory bird species" provides with the list of prohibited means for hunting.

Mirrors and other dazzling devices

Yes, fully

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

>>> > Para 8 of the "Order N95 of the Minister of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia on rules, dates, permitted means for hunting on migratory bird species" provides with the list of prohibited means for hunting. All listed above means are mentioned in the Order

Devices for illuminating targets

Yes, fully

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

>>> > Para 8 of the "Order N95 of the Minister of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia on rules, dates, permitted means for hunting on migratory bird species" provides with the list of prohibited means for hunting. All listed above means are mentioned in the Order

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

>>> > Para 8 of the "Order N95 of the Minister of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia on rules, dates, permitted means for hunting on migratory bird species" provides with the list of prohibited means for hunting.

Explosives

Yes, fully

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

>>> > Para 8 of the "Order N95 of the Minister of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia on rules, dates, permitted means for hunting on migratory bird species" provides with the list of prohibited means for hunting.

Nets

Yes, fully

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

>>> > Para 8 of the "Order N95 of the Minister of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia on rules, dates, permitted means for hunting on migratory bird species" provides with the list of prohibited means for hunting.

Traps

Yes, fully

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

>>> > Para 8 of the "Order N95 of the Minister of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia on rules, dates, permitted means for hunting on migratory bird species" provides with the list of prohibited

means for hunting.

Poison

Yes, fully

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

>>> > Para 8 of the "Order N95 of the Minister of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia on rules, dates, permitted means for hunting on migratory bird species" provides with the list of prohibited means for hunting.

Poisoned or anaesthetic baits

Yes, fully

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

>>> > Para 8 of the "Order N95 of the Minister of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia on rules, dates, permitted means for hunting on migratory bird species" provides with the list of prohibited means for hunting.

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

>>> > Para 8 of the "Order N95 of the Minister of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia on rules, dates, permitted means for hunting on migratory bird species" provides with the list of prohibited means for hunting.

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

>>> > Para 8 of the "Order N95 of the Minister of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia on rules, dates, permitted means for hunting on migratory bird species" provides with the list of prohibited means for hunting

Other non-selective modes of taking

Yes, fully

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

>>> > Para 8 of the "Order N95 of the Minister of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia on rules, dates, permitted means for hunting on migratory bird species" provides with the list of prohibited means for hunting.

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

>>> > Para 8 of the "Order N95 of the Minister of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia on rules, dates, permitted means for hunting on migratory bird species" provides with the list of prohibited means for hunting. All listed above means are mentioned in the Order

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

>>> Para 8 of the "Order N95 of the Minister of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia on rules, dates, permitted means for hunting on migratory bird species" provides with the list of prohibited means for hunting. All listed above means are mentioned in the Order

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

>>> The law on Biodiversity is in the process of being drafted, it is planned to use AEWA issues

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.

No

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

>>> A Biodiversity Law is being drafted. At this stage, the draft law uses the guidelines of the Bern Convention and the Directive of the Council of Europe. It is also planned to use the AEWA guideline.

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

**White-headed Duck / *Oxyura leucocephala*
National Plan for White-headed Duck / *Oxyura leucocephala***

No NP and no action implemented

Please explain the reasons

>>> Because of lack financial recourses

**Ferruginous Duck / *Aythya nyroca*
National Plan for Ferruginous Duck / *Aythya nyroca***

No NP and no action implemented

Please explain the reasons

>>> Because of lack financial recourses

**Corncrake / *Crex crex*
National Plan for Corncrake / *Crex crex***

No NP and no action implemented

Please explain the reasons

>>> Because of lack financial recourses

**Dalmatian Pelican / *Pelecanus crispus*
National Plan for Dalmatian Pelican / *Pelecanus crispus***

No NP and no action implemented

Please explain the reasons

>>> Because of lack financial recourses

**Great Snipe / *Gallinago media*
National Plan for Great Snipe / *Gallinago media***

No NP and no action implemented

Please explain the reasons

>>> Because of lack financial resources

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

>>> Because of lack financial resources

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

>>> Because of lack financial resources

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

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> Work on this issue is underway

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)

No

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

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 4.2. Single Species Action Plans

>>> There is a need to prepare a SSAP, though there is a lack of financial resources for the development as well as for its implementation.

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.

No

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

>>> There was not a need to apply any kind of guidelines, as there was not an emergency situation

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

>>> There is a need identified to keep a register, though the register itself is still not established because of lack of proper management.

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

No

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)

Yes

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

Dalmatian Pelican / *Pelecanus crispus*

Projects for Dalmatian Pelican / *Pelecanus crispus*

No plan in place, but the idea of re-establishment is being considered

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.

No

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

>>> The need to take such action has not been identified at this stage

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.

>>> This issue is regulated by the Law on Fauna (Article 23).

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)

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Taking into account that introduction of non-native species is prohibited by legislation of Georgia, the zoos should be comply with these provisions, otherwise they will be fined. So, the additional regulatory provisions do not seem to be necessary at this stage.

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

>>> No programmes has been developed yet. Relevant scientific research is planned to have scientifically validated conclusions and recommendations.

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

>>> Lack of human and financial resources. A relevant scientific investigation should be conducted first to have the scientifically proved conclusions and recommendations.

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

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)

Partial Data

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

>>> The Ilia State University has some data on bird by-catch. In early Spring 2018, during the dolphin research in the Black sea, 52 individuals were observed as a by-catch.

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

Not Applicable

Please explain the reasons.

>>> Georgian law does not provide by-catch of seabirds, it is considered illegal and fined by environmental supervision

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

No

Please explain the reasons.

>>> Because of lack finance

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)

Not Applicable

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> Georgian law does not provide incidental catch of seabirds, it is considered illegal and fined by environmental supervision

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

Not Applicable

Please explain the reasons.

>>> No hunting is allowed on seabirds

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

Not Applicable

Please explain the reasons.

>>> There are no seabird hunting species

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

Not Applicable

Please explain the reasons.

>>> There is no seabird colonies

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)

No

When and how do you plan to do that?

>>> The discovery of key coastal and at-sea areas has begun, and appropriate mapping is planned in the near future.

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)

Not Applicable

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)

No

Please explain the reasons.

>>> Due to lack of finances

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))

Yes

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Emerald_Network_map.pdf](#)

[IBA_map.pdf](#)

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

>>> "Important Bird Areas" and "Special Protected Areas" have been identified in Georgia (2016), which describes the key sites important for conservation of bird species, including those covered by AEWA. There are also 66 Emerald sites (2021), Many of them are important for waterbirds. We also have a 4 Ramsar site (2021) that is a habitat for migratory waterbirds.

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[SPA_map.pdf](#)

[ramsar_map.pdf](#)

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

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

>>> The sites important for birds used to identify by assigning a status of Ramsar sites. During 1998-2020 4 sites had obtained a status of sites of international importance

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[ramsar_map.pdf](#)

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).

>>> avakheti Protected Areas are important areas for birds and there are also 2 recently established Ramsar sites. The protected area management programs (Javakheti and Vashlovani) offer unit actions related to climate change (eg adaptation plan development, monitoring equipment, training).

The process of developing new management plans is currently underway.

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

[Javakheti managment plan](#)

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).

>>> NBSAP 2014-2015 contains the objective on assessment of the impact of climate change on biodiversity in vulnerable areas and protected areas.

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

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

>>> 130

Total area (ha)

>>> 3318893

Number of internationally important sites under national protection designation

>>> 130

Area of international importance under national protection designation (ha)

>>> 3318893

Please rate the effectiveness of the national protection designation

High

Please provide details and reasons for the high level of effectiveness.

>>> According to the Environmental Assessment Code of Georgia, any impact on these sites requires prior agreement with the Ministry of Environmental protection and Agriculture of Georgia.

Please rate the effectiveness of the management measures

Moderate

Please provide details and reasons for the lower level of effectiveness.

>>> Some national protected areas, which are cover international sites too, do not have a management plan, although they are in preparation.

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)

>>> Javakheti management plan (2014).

New management plan of Javakheti is in the process of development

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

[Javakheti managment plan](#)

DESIGNATION GAP FILLING

Yes

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

>>> National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan of Georgia 2014 - 2020

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[NBSAP_Georgia.pdf](#)

Has it been implemented?

Yes, being implemented

MANAGEMENT GAP FILING

Being developed

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> Work on a new Strategy action plan is planned

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

Please provide details and reasons for partial integration

>>> Provided for in the EIA process

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.

No

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

>>> Birdlife International identified with national partners IBA network using Birdlife International guidelines

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.

No

47. Following MOP7, has your country been involved in the establishment of innovative, international, multi-stakeholder partnerships to guide the development and implementation of habitat management, creation and restoration projects in the wider environment? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 4.4(a))

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Because of lack finance

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

>>> According to Georgian legislation, quotas and special hunting areas, as well as hunting period are defined for those AEWA waterbird species, which at the same time are designated as hunting species.

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))

No

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> The information on hunting levels related to the waterbirds is not complete, because the only mechanism of controlling the hunting levels is the Environmental Inspectorate, which cannot collect the information all over the country.

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))

Not applicable

Please explain the reasons

>>> This is a complex issue, which demands legislative and administrative changes in all related fields, such as hunting guns, education, etc.

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 and reasons for the lower level of effectiveness.

>>> Poaching is still a problem in the country. Department of Environmental Supervision takes measures to enhance enforcement.

Please provide details

>>> Some measures to increase capacity of controlling bodies have been undertaken, such as trainings, technical equipment.

52. Does your country maintain an adequate system for making realistic estimates of the number of waterbirds taken illegally? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 2.1(b))

Yes

Please provide details

>>> There is a database on illegally taken species, detected by the Department of Environmental Supervision in the country.

53. Is legally binding proficiency testing for hunters, including amongst other things bird identification, in place in your country? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.8; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 2.2)

Partially

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> At the request of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia, the citizen is obliged to pass a test for the right to carry a hunting weapon

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

<https://www.sa.gov.ge/p/weapon/test>

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)

No

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> A draft law on hunting is being drafted

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.

No

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

>>> Sustainable harvest principles have already foreseen in the Georgian legislation in the "Law on Fauna".

According to the law, the ministry issues an order on "start and end dates for hunting and fishing." (Article 47)

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Law_on_Fauna.pdf](#)

6.2. Ecotourism

56. Is wetland- and waterbird-related ecotourism integrated into your country's national tourism development strategies or other relevant national strategies? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.2.1; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 2.5(c))

Yes

Please describe and provide details

>>> This issue is taken into account in NBSAP Georgia

Field for additional information (optional)

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[NBSAP_Georgia.pdf](#)

57. Are there existing ecotourism initiatives in your country specifically based on migratory waterbirds and their habitats? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 2.5)

Yes

Please rank the degree to which these initiatives are designed to deliver both conservation and community benefits:

Medium

Please rank the degree to which these dual benefits are being delivered in practice:

Medium

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> Travel companies operating in the country (such is: Batumi birding, Caucasus birding, Ecotours Georgia)

organize special eco-tours aimed at AEWA waterbird watching in Kolkheta and Javakheti national parks.

Tourists and locals have a chance to watch thousands and tens of thousands of birds in one day.

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

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

>>> The Law of Georgia "Environmental Assessment Code" entered into force on 01 January 2018.

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Environmental_Assessment_Code.pdf](#)

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

Yes

Please provide details

>>> The Law of Georgia "Environmental Assessment Code" (Article 10)

Do the SEA/EIA processes include public participation?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> At the scoping stage, the SEA/EIA considers the involvement of people

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> There is a general requirement that an ecological expertise should be made prior to perform any human activity such as constructing of new large objects, roads, plants, factories, which would potentially have a negative impact on the environment. This Code describes requirements and details for procedures.

60. Are there any other legal and/or administrative measures in your country to avoid, mitigate and compensate for adverse impacts of development activities on the sites of national and international importance for migratory birds? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 3.5)

Yes

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Law_of_Georgia_on_Environmental_Liability.pdf](#)

Please describe each measure and provide details for each of them

>>> Law of Georgia on Environmental Liability Entered into force on 2 March 2021

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

Please provide information on the outstanding cases

>>> There was build wind farm in Georgia (In Gori). Also, several of projects are planned to build wind farm in Georgia (Gori and Kaspi regions), Ministry of Environmental protection and Agriculture of Georgia gave expert conclusions to the projects regarding its effect on migratory birds and provided a set of recommendations on mitigation of possible negative impact of that facilities on migratory birds.

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

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> Wind farm and power line construction projects include a variety of mitigation measures to protect migratory birds. In accordance with the decision issued by the Ministry of Environment and Agriculture, the implementation of these mitigation measures is mandatory for project implementing companies

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

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> All EIA projects that may affect migratory birds in the future are highlighted. Mitigation measures have been developed at the project planning stage, the implementation of these measure are controlled by the Department of Environmental Supervision.

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

>>> For infrastructure projects, it is mandatory to implement various mitigation measures, such as arranging line marking devices, taking into account the minimum distance between power lines, etc.

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

Please provide details.

>>> In the case of such a project, NGOs prepare comments and recommendations before issuing an environmental permit. Stake holders can get involved in the scoping phase of any project.

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

Please provide details.

>>> During the power line project planning process, several seasonal researches are conducted by construction companies, the results are reflected in the EIA report.

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?

Yes

Please provide details.

>>> According to the results obtained during the research, measures to avoid impact and mitigate measures the above are determined.

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

>>> The information is presented in the EIA report

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

Please provide details.

>>> The EIA report discusses alternative options for project implementation

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

>>> For power line projects, it is mandatory to implement various mitigation measures, such as arranging line marking devices, taking into account the minimum distance between power lines, etc.

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?

Being identified

Please provide details.

>>> The project implementing company is obliged to register such cases and notify the Ministry

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

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

Please provide details.

>>> The project implementing company is obliged to register such cases and notify the Ministry.

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?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> This issue is taken into account NBSAP Georgia

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

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?

Being developed

Please provide details.

>>> Sensitive areas have been identified

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.

>>> The project implementing company is obliged to such cases

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?

Yes

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

Please provide details

>>> introducing shortterm shutdowns during peak migration and minimising lighting in wind farms are mandatory for the construction company

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

Not applicable

Please explain the reasons

>>> Planned wind farms in Georgia will not be able to change the population status of AEWA species because wind farms are not planned in sensitive areas (no projects match migration routes)

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

Not applicable

Please explain the reasons

>>> Planned wind farms in Georgia will not be able to change the population status of AEWA species because wind farms are not planned in sensitive areas (no projects match migration routes)

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?

Not applicable

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

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

Yes

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)

No

Please provide details

>>> Very rare cases of sea gull by-catches.

70. Has any project / initiative been implemented in your country that promotes the integration of cultural and provisioning ecosystem services of migratory waterbirds into policy and decision-making affecting them or their habitats? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 2.6)

No

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

Fully [Guidance: Coverage is full when all waterbird species are covered by monitoring schemes that yield statistically robust estimates of breeding population size and trend at least once in every triennium.]

Please provide details.

>>> Ilia State University has been monitoring waterbird species in Javakheti region.

Is information on drivers of population trends also being collected?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> For additional please contact Zura Javakhishvili at zurab.javakhishvili.1@iliauni.edu.ge

Covering the passage period

Partially

Please provide details. (incl. list the species covered OR not covered (whichever list is shorter))

>>> Ilia State University has been monitoring waterbird species in Javakheti region.

Is information on drivers of population trends also being collected?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> For additional please contact Zura Javakhishvili at zurab.javakhishvili.1@iliauni.edu.ge

Covering the non-breeding/wintering period

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

Please provide details.

>>> Ilia State University and non-governmental organization "Psovi" has been monitoring winter waterbird species in Kolkheta National Park since 2012-2013.

Is information on drivers of population trends also being collected?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> For additional please contact Zura Javakhishvili at zurab.javakhishvili.1@iliauni.edu.ge

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> .

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

>>> For additional please contact Zura Javakhishvili at zurab.javakhishvili.1@iliauni.edu.ge

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

>>> Because of lack finance

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.

No

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

>>> Iliia State University used the International Waterbird Census Guideline

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)

Yes

Nationally

Yes

Please provide details

>>> In 2018 with GIZ support, Iliia State university has trained representatives of Kolkheti National Park and Non-governmental organizations. The trainings covered issues related to identification of migratory species.

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

>>> Because of lack of financial resources

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)

>>> Because of lack of financial resources

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.

Being developed

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

>>> The non-governmental organization "Nature Conservation Georgia", with the financial support of the Women's Fund in Georgia, has been implementing the project (training course) "Women for Nature Conservation" since the end of 2020. The field course included field identification of waterbirds on the Jandari and Kumisi lakes.

For more information, please contact the representative of the non-governmental organization "Nature Conservation Georgia, Dachi Shoshitashvili. (Shoshitashvili.dachi@gmail.com)

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

Yes

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> In terms of 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)

Yes

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

Government

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

Yes

Please provide details

>>> It has just started working on this issue

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

There is very close cooperation

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> AEWA focal point and National CEPA Focal Point are the same person

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:

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?

Moderate

Please provide details

>>> In 2018 with GIZ support, Ilia State university has trained representatives of Kolkheti National Park and Non-governmental organizations. The trainings covered issues related to identification of migratory species.

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

No

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)

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Lack of financial recourses

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))

Yes

Please provide details; attach the assessment or provide a weblink, if available

>>> Georgia, under the Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) has undertaken assessment of needs for implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for 2014-2020, which is the main strategic document in Georgia and to some extent covers issues related to AEWA. At the same time, the Biodiversity Finance Plan was developed and adopted in 2019 and the plan is currently being implemented to close the gap in financial needs. The finance plan aims at increasing financial resources for conservation for all sources, including the state budget.

The new needs assessment will be undertaken once the new NBSAP is developed

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

<http://biodiversityfinance.org/knowledge-product/biodiversity-finance-plan-bfp>

Have you developed a resource mobilization plan?

Yes, and it is being implemented

Please rate the degree of implementation of the resource mobilisation plan:

Medium (some resources are secured)

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

>>> There is no formal provisions on that issues in bilateral agreements between Georgia and other countries.

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, but it is not operational

Please explain the reasons

>>> There is regular exchange of relevant information between the Ministry of Environmental protection and Agriculture of Georgia and relevant research institutions.

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> Communication between the focal point of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and focal points of other biodiversity related conventions or agreements has an informal character yet.

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

No

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> Work on this issue is ongoing

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)

Yes

Please provide details on each twinning arrangement

>>> several departments and agencies under the Ministry of Environmental protection and Agriculture of Georgia work on this issue.

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

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

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

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

>>> National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan of Georgia
2014 - 2020 (Actions: A.3-o3.3, A.3- o5.1.,A.3 - o5.3.,C.1.-o1.1,C.1.-o1.3.,

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[NBSAP_Georgia.pdf](#)

Sustainable Development Goals

Yes

Aichi Targets

Yes

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> Relevant information on AEWA issues is provided to the person who works on post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework in Georgia, so that the country can take AEWA issues into account in the post 2020 development process and preparation of the national positions.

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?

>>> It is necessary to implement joint projects on issues that are a priority for all parties. This will enable the countries to use existing financial resources more efficiently.

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

No

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

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Because of lack finance

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

>>> Because of lack of finance

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

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

>>> Lack of resources

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

Planned

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)

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

>>> As part of the „Joint Monitoring for Environmental Protection in BSB countries“ project (funded by EUROPEAN UNION), Georgian non-governmental organization Sabuko plans to study biodiversity and habitats in Kolkheti National Park.

Project “Joint Monitoring for Environmental Protection in BSB countries” is aimed at solving common problems of nature parks and protected areas in the Black Sea Basin (BSB).

For their implementation, a cross-border center will be established dedicated to joint environmental monitoring and research of the ecological status of the protected ecosystems located in the four partner countries and the Black Sea aquatory.

Target Area from Georgia is Kokheti National Park, which is important habitat for AEWA species (there is also two Ramsar sites).

The results of the project will be:

develop methodology for joint monitoring of natural habitats and invasive species in the territories included in the project. The methodology will ensure the collection of compatible data, up-to-date information on the location and size of damaged areas and types of pressure, the assessment of potential sources and forms of threats and develop measures for the protection of natural habitats and combating invasive species.

The implementation of the project started in June 2020 and will last until June 2022.

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

<https://sabuko.org/>

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

Planned

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

f. Other undertaken or planned relevant activities.

Yes

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

>>> Javakheti Protected Areas are important areas for birds and there are also 2 recently established Ramsar sites. The protected area management programs (Javakheti and Vashlovani) offer unit actions related to climate change (eg adaptation plan development, monitoring equipment, training).

The process of developing new management plans is currently underway.

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?

>>> The process of developing new management plans of Javakheti and Vashlovani Protected Areas is currently underway. It is planned to use the AVA guideline.

Pressures and Responses

11. Avian Influenza

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 11. Avian Influenza

>>> Collaborative project between Ilia State University(Georgia), Erasmus Medical Center(Netherlands) and Royal veterinary college has been implementing Since 2008. for additional please contact Zura Javakhishvili at zurab.javakhishvili.1@iliauni.edu.ge

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

>>> 08 April, 2021