



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

>>> Latvia

Date of entry into force of AEWA in the Contracting Party

>>> 01.01.2006

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 Environmental Protection and Regional Development

Name and title of the head of institution

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Designated National Focal Point (NFP) for AEWA matters

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>>> Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development, Nature Protection Department

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

Name and title of the TC NFP
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Name and title of the CEPA NFP
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Country

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E-mail

>>> No

Website

>>> No

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.

>>> Latvian Ornithological Society

Institute of Biology Laboratory of Ornithology

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

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> 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.

Yes

Did this require adjusting your national legislation?

Yes

Was your national legislation subsequently adjusted?

Yes. Please describe what these adjustments entailed

>>> Changes in Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No 421 "Hunting Regulations"

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

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.

[Latvia_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.

[Latvia_Q4_AEWA_NR_2018-2020_PopColA-Cat2_3_4.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.

[Latvia_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 Law (2003).

Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 421 "Hunting Regulations" (2014).

Limes

Yes, fully

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

>>> Hunting Law (2003).

Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 421 "Hunting Regulations" (2014).

Hooks

Yes, fully

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

>>> Hunting Law (2003).

Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 421 "Hunting Regulations" (2014).

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 Law (2003).

Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 421 "Hunting Regulations" (2014).

Tape recorders and other electronic devices

Yes, fully

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

>>> Hunting Law (2003).

Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 421 "Hunting Regulations" (2014).

Electrocuting devices

Yes, fully

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

>>> Hunting Law (2003).

Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 421 "Hunting Regulations" (2014).

Artificial light sources

Yes, fully

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

>>> Hunting Law (2003).

Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 421 "Hunting Regulations" (2014).

Mirrors and other dazzling devices

Yes, fully

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

>>> Hunting Law (2003).

Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 421 "Hunting Regulations" (2014).

Devices for illuminating targets

Yes, fully

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

>>> Hunting Law (2003).

Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 421 "Hunting Regulations" (2014).

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 Law (2003).

Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 421 "Hunting Regulations" (2014).

Explosives

Yes, fully

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

>>> Hunting Law (2003).

Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 421 "Hunting Regulations" (2014).

Nets

Yes, fully

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

>>> Hunting Law (2003).

Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 421 "Hunting Regulations" (2014).

Traps

Yes, fully

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

>>> Hunting Law (2003).

Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 421 "Hunting Regulations" (2014).

Poison

Yes, fully

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

>>> Hunting Law (2003).

Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 421 "Hunting Regulations" (2014).

Poisoned or anaesthetic baits

Yes, fully

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

>>> Hunting Law (2003).

Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 421 "Hunting Regulations" (2014).

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 Law (2003).

Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 421 "Hunting Regulations" (2014).

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 Law (2003).

Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 421 "Hunting Regulations" (2014).

Other non-selective modes of taking

Yes, fully

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

>>> Prohibited hunting from motor boats driven (0 speed) and any non-selective modes not mentioned above

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

>>> Hunting Law (2003).

Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 421 "Hunting Regulations" (2014).

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

>>> All non-selective modes prohibited

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

>>> No specific review of legislation

Was a review undertaken before MOP7?

Yes

What is the assessed level of enforcement and compliance?

High (almost full compliance)

Please provide details and reasons for the high level of compliance. Please describe in which areas enforcement and compliance are still insufficient.

>>> EU Birds Directive requirements implemented

Have any measures been put in place to ensure strengthened enforcement and compliance?

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> No specific need

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

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.

>>> Improvement of nature conservation legislation in accordance with EU requirements and best available information

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 4.1. Legal Measures

>>> No

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*

No NP and no action implemented

Please explain the reasons

>>> Small numbers of birds, visitors

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

Bean Goose / *Anser fabalis*

National Plan for Bean Goose / *Anser fabalis*

No NP and no action implemented

Please explain the reasons

>>> Birds in passage only

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

Ferruginous Duck / *Aythya nyroca*

National Plan for Ferruginous Duck / *Aythya nyroca*

No NP and no action implemented

Please explain the reasons

>>> Rare visitor, last record in 2014

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

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

No NP and no action implemented

Please explain the reasons

>>> Birds during migration, wintering, marine area only

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

Velvet Scoter / *Melanitta fusca*
National Plan for Velvet Scoter / *Melanitta fusca*

No NP and no action implemented

Please explain the reasons

>>> Birds during migration, wintering, marine area only

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

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

No NP and no action implemented

Please explain the reasons

>>> Not planed yet

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

Tundra Swan / *Cygnus columbianus*
National Plan for Tundra Swan / *Cygnus columbianus*

No NP and no action implemented

Please explain the reasons

>>> No need for NP

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

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

No NP and no action implemented

Please explain the reasons

>>> Main breeding sites are included in Natura2000 sites. Actions covered by specific sites management plans

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

Black-tailed Godwit / Limosa limosa

National Plan for Black-tailed Godwit / Limosa limosa

No NP and no action implemented

Please explain the reasons

>>> Small number of birds during migration

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

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

>>> Insufficient financial resources for this purpose

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> Strict financial regulations

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

>>> Insufficient financial resources for this purpose

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> Strict financial regulations

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.

>>> No special review regarding waterbirds. Prioritization of all groups of species and habitats

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

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

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

>>> National single Species Action Plan was elaborated in accordance with Ministerial Order No 127 On Species and Habitats Conservation Plans (2015)

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

>>> Management plan for Hazel grouse (*Bonasa bonasia*) (2017), Management plan for Lesser Spotted Eagle (*Clanga pomarina*) (2019)

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?

>>> Cabinet of Ministers Order No 283

On the national contingency plan for oil, hazardous or noxious substances pollution incidents at sea (2010)

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

>>> Main part of Latvia territory covered by African swine fever no direct impact to waterbirds

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 planned

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

>>> Species and Habitats Protection Law (adopted in 2000 by Parliament)

Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No 1165 Order on issuance of permits for taking of non- game species, introduction and reintroduction.(2010).

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.

No

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

>>> Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No 1165 Order on issuance of permits for taking of non- game species, introduction and reintroduction.(2010).

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 4.4. Re-establishments

>>> No planned re-establishment projects

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.

>>> Species and Habitats Protection Law (adopted in 2000 by Parliament)

Animal Protection Law (adopted in 2000 by Parliament)

Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No 1165 Order on issuance of permits for taking of non- game species, introduction and reintroduction.(2010).

Nature Protection Board is responsible institution on issuance of permits and enforcement

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No application for introduction during reporting period

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.

>>> Animal Protection Law (adopted in 2000 by Parliament)

Cabinet of Ministers Regulations Nr 1033 "On requirement of wild species in zoo and requirement on establishment and registration of zoo" (2010)

Nature Protection Board is responsible on enforcement

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> 5 registred zoos

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 need for eradication programm. Canadian goose included in the list of game species, small population.

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

>>> No specific eradiction programes for non-native species witch have negative impacts to migratory watwerbirds species. Aquatic reed management in partcular sites (Natura 2000 sits-Lake Engure, Lake Liepaja and Lake Pape) as site managment activity

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?

>>> Prohibition for any introduction in wild set by Species and Habitats Pretecton Law (2000)

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 4.5. Introductions

>>> Stricter legislation. Prohibition of any introduction. EIA procedure.

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

>>> Obligation for fishermen to report by-catch

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

>>> Strict control of by-catch, education if fishermen on need to report

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

No

Please explain the reasons.

>>> Lack of financial and human resources

When and how do you plan to do that?

>>> Not planed yet

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

No

Please explain the reasons.

>>> Lack of financial and human resources

When and how do you plan to do that?

>>> Not planed yet

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

>>> Improvement of fishing tools, strict fishing control system in Baltic Sea, EU Fisheries Regulations

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

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.

>>> Harvest not allowed, no egg harvest

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.

>>> No allowed, no egg harvest

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

Not Applicable

Please explain the reasons.

>>> Not exist such collonies

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)

Not Applicable

Please explain the reasons.

>>> All territories

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

Please explain the reasons.

>>> No offshore wind farms

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)

Yes

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

>>> All main sites included in Natura 2000 network

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 4.6 Seabirds

>>> no

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

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

>>> Report on progress and implementation of Birds Directive (Article 12 report) for 2013-2018
"Important Bird Areas of European Union Importance in Latvia" Compiled by Edmunds Račinskis (2004)

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

Yes

Please confirm when this process was concluded and when the inventory was communicated to the AEWA Secretariat

>>> Submitted in 14 December, 2020

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> Report on progress and implementation of Birds Directive (Article 12 report) for 2013-2018

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.

No

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

>>> Network of sites of international and national importance was identified before AEWA Guidelines on the preparation of site inventories for migratory waterbirds adoption and update

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> Natura 2000 network

Optionally, you can provide additional information on section 5.1. Habitat Inventories

>>> Report under Habitats Directive, Art. 17: Conservation Status of Species & habitats, assessment 2013-2018.

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

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> No specific assessment on future implications of climate changes. Natura 2000 site monitoring for each site

For the national protected area network

No

Please explain the reasons.

>>> No specific assessment on future implications of climate changes. Natura 2000 site monitoring for each site

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

>>> 98

Total area (ha)

>>> 1087590,4

Number of internationally important sites under national protection designation

>>> 98

Area of international importance under national protection designation (ha)

>>> 1087590,4

Please rate the effectiveness of the national protection designation

High

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

>>> Long tradition of wetland protection. Natura 2000

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

Number of sites

>>> 98

Area (in ha)

>>> 1087590,4

Please rate the effectiveness of the management measures

Moderate

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

>>> Not all sites requires specific management. Lack of human resources

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

>>> 98

Area (in ha)

>>> 1087590,4

Please rate the effectiveness of the climate resilience measures

Moderate

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

>>> Difficulties to evaluate effectiveness of climate resilience measures

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

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)
>>> Lake Engure Nature Park, Pape Nature Park

DESIGNATION GAP FILLING

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> All internationally and nationally important sites are covered by Natura 2000 network, no need for such plan

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

MANAGEMENT GAP FILING

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Not relevant

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> 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, fully

Please provide details

>>> Natura 2000 network

If available, please provide best practice examples of integration of the flyway site network into your country's water- and land-use policies and planning and decision-making processes

>>> No

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

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

>>> For many of important areas under protection management plans are implemented, for several territories management plans are in development.

Several aspects from Guidelines used during site assesment, establishment of protected areas.

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

>>> CSN Tool was accessed, but not really used yet. Good use perspective for future.

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))

Yes

Please provide details on each partnership arrangement your country has been involved in

>>> LIFE projects

Have a specific project or projects been established under the partnership arrangement(s) to implementation of habitat management, creation and restoration projects in the wider environment?

Yes

Please provide details on each project initiative

>>> LIFE projects

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 5.2. Conservation of Areas and Habitats

>>> Altogether in Latvia there are 682 specially protected nature areas certified by law or regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers "On Specially Protected Nature Territories."

4 national parks. Strict nature reserves are territories untouched by human activities or nearly natural, in which territories unhindered development of natural processes shall be ensured in order to protect and study rare or typical ecosystems and parts thereof. Strict nature reserves shall have zones in which all natural resources are completely excluded from economic and other activities.

1 biosphere reserve. Biosphere reserve are broad territory in which landscapes and ecosystems of international significance are located. The goal of establishing biosphere reserves is to ensure the preservation of natural diversity and to promote sustainable social and economic development of the territory.

42 nature parks. Nature parks are territories that represent the natural, cultural and historical values of a particular area, and that are suitable for recreation, education and the instruction of society. Organisation of recreation and economic activities in nature parks shall be carried out by ensuring the preservation of the natural, cultural and historical values located in such parks.

9 protected landscape areas. Protected landscape areas are territories remarkable for original and diverse landscapes and special beauty. The goals of such territories are to protect and preserve the cultural environment and landscapes characteristic of Latvia in all their diversity, as well as to ensure the preservation of environment appropriate for recreation of society and for tourism, and use of environment friendly management methods.

261 nature reserves. Nature reserves are nature territories little transformed or transformed in varying degrees by human activities, which territories include habitats of specially protected wild plant and animal species, and specially protected biotopes.

4 strict nature reserves. Strict nature reserves are territories untouched by human activities or nearly natural, in which territories unhindered development of natural processes shall be ensured in order to protect and study rare or typical ecosystems and parts thereof. Strict nature reserves shall have zones in which all natural resources are completely excluded from economic and other activities.

7 marine protected areas. Marine protected areas are locations in the territorial sea, exclusive economic zone or continental shelf of the Republic of Latvia, which are established for the protection of protected biotopes and specially protected species habitat, as well as migratory bird significant feeding and wintering places. microreserves

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

>>> Law on Species and Habitat Protection (2000)

Hunting Law (2003).

Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 421 "Hunting Regulations" (2014).

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> <https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/3941-law-on-the-conservation-of-species-and-biotopes>

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

>>> In accordance with Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No 421 "Hunting Regulations" (2014). Obligation report to State Forest Service any specimen of game species harvested.

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

The whole territory of your country

>>> Hunting Regulations for whole country

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

All forms of waterbird harvesting

>>> any harvested specimen of any game species should be reported

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> There is a statutory requirement for hunters to report harvest (game bag) information on the number of waterbirds shot during hunting season to State Forest Service.

Annual monitoring of the game bag is done by State Forest Service.

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))

Partially

When was lead shot use in wetlands partially banned?

>>> 2004

What legislation is in place?

>>> The use of lead ammunition is banned for waterbirds hunting in nature reserves by Cabinet of Ministers rules No 415 adopted in 22.07.2004, replaced by rules No 264 in 16.03.2010 and in other areas where ban introduced by particular nature area individual use and management rules .

Who enforces this legislation?

>>> State Forest Service, Nature Protection Board and State Police

What proportion of the country's territory (or wetlands) is covered by the ban?

>>> The ban covers all main waterbirds hunting areas .

Has your country introduced self-imposed and published timetable for banning fully the use of lead shot for hunting in wetlands?

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> In all main wetlands lead ammunition prohibition introduced, limited hunting.

Has assessment of compliance with the legislation been undertaken?

Yes

Please explain how this was assessed.

>>> Control by State Forest Service, Nature Protection Board and State Police during hunting. Control on ammunition used by hunters.

Please explain what was compliance with legislation found to be:

Moderate (more compliance than non-compliance)

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

>>> None

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

>>> Limited offer of lead free ammunition in trade. Hunters still prefer use of lead ammunition. Planned ban of lead ammunition use in wetlands for EU territory

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

No

If appropriate, please explain the reasons for not doing this

>>> Control by State Forest Service, Nature Protection Board and State Police. No information or evidence on problem with lead poisoning in waterbirds with need change legal acts.

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> no

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?

High

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

>>> no

Please provide details

>>> No traditions for illegal taking (illegal methods or other forms of birds poaching)

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))

Partially

Please provide details

>>> Small number of cases

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> no

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)

Yes

Please provide details and reference to the relevant legislation

>>> Regulations on Training and Examination of Hunters and Hunting Managers, as well as Issuance and Cancellation of Hunting Documents (2014)

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> Birds identification skills are part of mandatory hunters candidates education program. Identification skills

are included in the hunter's examination test. Education program and test approved by State Forest Service

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

What do these cover?

Club Affiliation

Emergency closure of hunting in cases of exceptionally unfavourable or endangering conditions

Other (please specify)

>>> Latvian Hunters Code of Ethics

Please provide details on each item selected above

>>> Two biggest hunters organizations- Latvian Hunters Association and Latvian Society of Hunters. Main part of hunters are members of hunting clubs which are members of hunters organizations.

Optional [Please upload links or examples]

>>> Placement of Duck Artificial Nests in Hunting Areas

Please rate the degree of application of these best practice codes and standards:

Medium (more applied than not applied)

Please provide details and reasons for non-application

>>> Regional differences. In some areas very limited interest to small game

Please rate the effectiveness these best practice codes and standards in supporting enforcement of hunting laws and regulations:

Medium (effective to some extent in supporting enforcement of hunting laws and regulations)

Please provide details and reasons for lower effectiveness

>>> Placement of Duck Artificial Nests in Hunting Areas

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> no

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

>>> Sustainable harvest is general principle for setting of hunting seasons and rules

Optionally, you can provide additional information on section 6.1. Hunting

>>> none

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

>>> Tourism Development Concept (2014-2020)

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> General description of tourism development. Nature tourism related to sea coast, wetlands (lakes, rivers)

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 describe how many initiatives are in place and provide details for each of them

>>> Regional initiatives specific to particular wetlands (Lake Engure, Lake Kaņieris etc).

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

Medium

Please provide details

>>> Not all tourism oriented initiatives are nature and waterbirds friendly. Ecotourism also requires trade-offs between different interest groups

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

Medium

Please provide details and the reasons for successful delivery and barriers to fuller delivery

>>> A compromise between nature conservation and sustainable use

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> none

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 6.2. Ecotourism

>>> Lake Engure Nature Park

<http://eedp.lv/>

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.

>>> Topic on lead fishing weights is less discussed and relatively new for anglers community.

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> None

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

>>> Law on Environmental Impact Assessment (1998)

Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No 300 "Arrangements for assessing the impact on the special conservation area of European interest (NATURA 2000)" (2011)

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

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Environmental impact assessment is carried out in accordance with the provisions stipulated in the "Law on Environmental Impact Assessment" The Law incorporate legal provisions resulting from the EU Directives 85/337/EEC, 97/11/EC, 92/43/EEC, 2001/42/EC, 2003/35/EC and 2009/147/EC. Cabinet of Ministers Regulations determine order of EIA procedure. Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No 300 "Arrangements for assessing the impact on the special conservation area of European interest (NATURA 2000)"

Do the SEA/EIA processes include public participation?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Public participation is obligatory part of each EIA process

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> none

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

Please describe each measure and provide details for each of them

>>> Environmental impact assessment is carried out in accordance with the provisions stipulated in the "Law on Environmental Impact Assessment" The Law incorporate legal provisions resulting from the EU Directives 85/337/EEC, 97/11/EC, 92/43/EEC, 2001/42/EC, 2003/35/EC and 2009/147/EC. Cabinet of Ministers Regulations determine order of EIA procedure. Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No 300 "Arrangements for assessing the impact on the special conservation area of European interest (NATURA 2000)"

Please rank the effectiveness of these measures:

High

Please provide details and the reasons for the high effectiveness

>>> Active public position in any development project at both local and regional level

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> None

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

>>> Windfarm development projects "Dobele" (Dobele district) , "Pienava" Tukums district), Kursižu, Novadnieku, Zaņas municipalities (Saldus district) and Targale and Popes municipalities (Ventspils district) .

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

>>> No projects with significant negative impacts on migratory waterbirds identified

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))

No

Please explain the reasons.

>>> No such information

Please estimate the number of sites of national and international importance for migratory waterbirds in your country that are subject to adverse impact of development activities or other pressures. Please list those sites with their names, central geographic coordinates and observed impacts.

>>> No information on such sites during reporting period

Please estimate the number of sites of national and international importance for migratory waterbirds in your country where adverse impact of development activities or other pressures has been effectively avoided, mitigated or compensated. Please list those sites with their names, central geographic coordinates and the impacts that have been addressed.

>>> No information on such sites during reporting period

Please estimate the number of sites of national and international importance for migratory waterbirds in your country where no effective avoidance, mitigation or compensation has been implemented for adverse impact of development activities or other pressures. Please list those sites with their names, central geographic coordinates and observed impacts.

>>> No information on such sites during reporting period

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

>>> All relevant information on minimization or mitigation of infrastructural development are used

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?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Regular consultation between Nature Protection Board and "Latvenergs"AS

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.

>>> Best available information used

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

Please explain the reasons.

>>> No such studies

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

>>> Natura 2000 network with 98 Special Protection Areas for birds, covering 6 612,61 km² of terrestrial areas and 4 274,90 km² marine areas. EIA procedure for each project with potential negative impact to Natura 2000 network.

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.

>>> EIA procedures

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

>>> Constructions to prevent electrocution and collision of White storks. Platforms for nests.

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?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Annual removal of old stork nests from most populated powerlines

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?

Not applicable

Please explain the reasons.

>>> No information on such power lines with high level waterbirds mortality

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

No

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

>>> No regular monitoring or evaluation of birds mortality. Lack of data. High pressure of predators (birds and mammals). No such monitoring in national scale.

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?

No

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

>>> Lack of data. High pressure of predators (birds and mammals). No such monitoring in national scale.

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?

>>> The Latvenergo AS is state owned. The key environmental principles of Latvenergo Group are laid down in the Environmental Policy. The basic principles in the Environmental Policy describing the environmental philosophy of Latvenergo Group and its attitude toward the environment are as follows:

To reduce pollutant emissions into the environment;

To use natural resources efficiently;

To care for the preservation of biodiversity;

To inform the public and stakeholders regularly and openly about environmental activities;

To act in an environmentally friendly manner and encourage partners and the public to do the same. One of basic principles in Latvenergo AS Environmental Policy-take care and promote the conservation of biological diversity, evaluate and control the Group's impact on the specially protected natural areas, species and habitats. The plans and implements measures aimed at the conservation of biodiversity. The main direction in this area is the white stork protection.

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

>>> All relevant information on minimization or mitigation of infrastructural development are used

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

>>> Nature Protection Board project "Evaluation of the potential windfarms potential impact on birds and bats"
Project "Gulf of Riga as potential source of wind energy" (Latvian Fund for Nature)

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.

>>> EU EIA requirements

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

No

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

>>> Post-construction monitoring is optional, but in some cases it is carried out as a research project in cooperation with the operator

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

No

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

>>> No precise mortality data available

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

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Guidelines for wind energy operations

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

>>> No such cases

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

Please provide details

>>> Main migration corridors and territories important for wind energy development are mapped

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?

>>> No significant potential negative impact identified.

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?

>>> Measures were not included in Environmental Policy Strategy (2009-2015) (in force till 26.03.2014).

Particular projects. Nature Protection Board project "Evaluation of the potential windfarms potential impact on birds and bats" EIA procedure.

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

Please provide details

>>> All available information used for EIA procedures

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

>>> Limited fisheries in inland lakes and rivers. By-catch of waterbirds in coastal marine fisheries

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)

Yes

Please provide details for each project / initiative

>>> Latvian Fund for Nature project "Green barometer" (indirect impact)

Portal "DabasDati" (indirect impact)

Are there any other examples or case studies in your country of policies and/or decision making that takes into account cultural and provisioning ecosystem services of migratory waterbirds?

No

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 6.3. Other Human Activities

>>> 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

Partially

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

>>> Environmental Monitoring Concept 2009-2012
State Environment Monitoring Program 2015-2020
Biological Diversity Subprogram:
1) Natura 2000 sites monitoring program;
2) Background monitoring program;
3) Special monitoring program

Is information on drivers of population trends also being collected?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> University of Latvia Laboratory of Ornithology.

Research directions:

Dynamics of Latvian avifauna

Ecology of waterbird populations

Bird and bat migration and its influencing mechanisms

Protection of birds and their habitats

Measures to improve bird habitats

Research on Lake Engure is part of the International Long-term Ecological Research (ILTER) Network

<https://www.ilter.network/?q=content/about>

Covering the passage period

Partially

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

>>> Main internationally and nationally important sites for passage birds covered, but not all of them

Is information on drivers of population trends also being collected?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> University of Latvia Laboratory of Ornithology.

Research directions:

Dynamics of Latvian avifauna

Bird and bat migration and its influencing mechanisms

Protection of birds and their habitats

Measures to improve bird habitats

Pape Ornithological Research Center in Rucava Parish (bird and bat migration research).

Latvian Ringing Center

Covering the non-breeding/wintering period

Partially

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

>>> Main internationally and nationally important sites for non-breeding /wintering birds covered, but not all of them

Is information on drivers of population trends also being collected?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Wintering waterbirds monitoring

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> Active volunteers involvement and data exchange www.putni.lv and www.dabasdati.lv

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

>>> All relevant data used

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

>>> Lack of human resources

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> none

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

>>> "Birds monitoring" is part of chapter Biological Diversity Monitoring Sub-Programm in State Environmental Monitoring Programm. Methodology of specialize birds monitoring. Natura 2000 sites monitoring methods. Involment of professionals as well as volunteers.

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

>>> Lack of financial resources during last triennium

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> Wintering waterbirds census in Baltic Sea and Riga Gulf

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

>>> Lack of financial resources

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> none

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)

>>> Relatively small fishing intensity. Limited funding and lack of methodology that would clearly identify the origin of lead

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> none

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 7. Research and Monitoring

>>> EU Life projects:

Restoration of hydrology of EU importance wetland habitats are carried out from 2011 till 2019 in Kemeru National Park NATURA 2000 site (Acronym-HYDROPLAN) <http://hydroplan.daba.gov.lv>

Restoration of Bittern habitats in two coastal lakes in Latvia (Acronym- COASTLAKE) (2013-2018)

<https://ldf.lv/lv/projects/life-coastlake>

Conservation of Lesser spotted eagle in Latvia (Arconym-AQPOM) (2016-2021)

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

>>> Awareness raising on Nature and Natural Species (not particular to waterbirds). Waterbirds and migratory species are significant and important part of awareness raising on conservation of wildlife and natural habitats.

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> - The Natural History Museum of Latvia gathers and maintains collections of natural specimens from Latvia and the world, does scientific research on the collections and popularizes them in permanent and temporary exhibits and other display activities.

- Magazine "Putni dabā": information about birds, but also about environmental problems in general. For example, about logging, environment-friendly farming, Bird's watchers tournament "Tornu cinas" organized by LOB traditionally attracts interest of press and general public.

Internet portal: www.dabasdati.lv

Internet portal: www.putni.lv

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 human resources. National focal point for AEWA only.

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> The Nature History Museum, The Latvian Ornithological Society and Latvian Fund for Nature are involved in awareness raising

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)

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> General education and information measures implemented. No special actions related to AEWA or to waterbirds.

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.

>>> birdwatching competition "Tower battles" organised by lob.lv, putnidaba.lv, dabasdati.lv (<http://putnidaba.lv/tornu-cinas/>)

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 finance resources

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> No funding or support provided

Optionally can provide additional information on section 8.1. Communication, Education and Public Awareness

>>> "Eiro Birdwatch " activities in organised by LOB, Nature Protection Board with financial suport by Latvian Environmental Protection Fund

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

>>> No specific resource for Strategic Plan Plan. Resources for whole nature conservation system

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> None

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

>>> Lack of finance and human resources for international informal meetings with non-contracting parties. Less non-parties states.

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> Informal private discussions with non-party state experts and NGO (Russia).

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

>>> Good coordination. One focal point for all CMS family agreements. Small number of involved person in nature conservation

Are priority capacity gaps addressed by the coordination mechanism?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Good cooperation

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

High

Please provide details and the reasons for the high effectiveness

>>> Small number of involved persons, good personal and professional relations

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> None

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

>>> Capacity needs for whole nature protection system, not only AEWA

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> None

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

>>> Cooperation with Estonia in cross-border protected areas important for waterbirds (Ziemeļu purvi-Nigula)

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> None

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 Protection Department is responsible on Impementation of AEWA and other CMS agreements as well as CBD, including strategic plan.

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> None

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 Protection Department is part of Ministry of Environment Protection and Regional Development of Latvia. Involvement in development and assessment of processes

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> None

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

>>> Protection of species and habitats, including migratory bird species, integrated in nature conservation policy

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> None

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

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Environment Policy Concept 2014-2020 incorporate general principles, targets, actions (habitats and species protection)

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> None

92.2 Other strategic plans and policies

Yes

Please name the other strategic planning processes

>>> National Programme on Biological Diversity (2000)

Please provide details

>>> Species and Habitats conservation are priorities

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> None

Sustainable Development Goals

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Improvement of communication, education and public awareness about biodiversity issues, including migratory species (also AEWA species) is one of duties of national state agencies.

Farmland birds index is used as indicator for agriculture land biodiversity assessment.

Use of agriculture chemicals and waste water regulated.

Trans boundary Ramsar site with Estonia.

Prohibited introduction of species non-typical for Latvian nature.

All important bird areas included in NATura 2000 network.

Reduced use of lead in wetlands

Restoration of Habitats for waterbirds.

Aichi Targets

Yes

Please provide details

>>> CBD Aichi Targets are background targets for biodiversity conservation and integration of nature protection requirements in development strategies, policies and legal acts

Strategic Plan for Migratory Species

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Migratory species and actions for conservation of migratory species are significant part of nature protection

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> None

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?

>>> Develop close linkages and synergies, in particular with Ramsar.

Closer cooperation between the treaties: Birds Directive has developed action plans for a number of quarry species of waterbirds with unfavourable conservation status in the EU. Although these have yet to be implemented, there is significant potential for collaboration in their development for the whole of the relevant biogeographical populations.

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

>>> Lack of financial resources. Restrictions.

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> None

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

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Lack of financial resources. Restrictions

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> None

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)

Not Applicable: the country has no arrangement with the UN to provide JPOs

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> None

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

>>> No specific financial support to Africa Action Plan

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

>>> Insufficient financial resources for such purposes and strict financing constraints

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

>>> No participation in South-South, North-South or triangular cooperation to exchange financial and technical support

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

>>> No innovative financing mechanisms used

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

>>> Not relevant

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 9. Implementation

>>> None

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

No relevant activities

Please explain the reasons

>>> No specific research, assessment or adoption measures relevant to migratory waterbirds. Main research in forestry sector.

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

>>> Lack of financial and human resources

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

No relevant activities

Please explain the reasons

>>> Lack of financial and human resources

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

No relevant activities

Please explain the reasons

>>> Lack of financial and human resources

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).

No relevant activities

Please explain the reasons

>>> Lack of financial and human resources

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.

Not applicable

Please explain

>>> No priority species particularly vulnerable to climate change or populations particularly vulnerable to climate changes presented

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 10. Climate Change

>>> Research activities related to forestry and grasslands

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

>>> No specific challenges

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Miti_un_patiesiba_par_putnu_gripu.pdf](#)

[Vai_Tu_zini_kas_ir_putnu_gripa.pdf](#)

List required further guidance or information

>>> No specific need for further guidance or information at this stage

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> EU level actions

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

>>> The Food and Veterinary Service is competent state institution regarding veterinary issues including Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza. Actual information on HPAI in Food and Veterinary Service web page www.pvd.gov.lv

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.

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[AEWA MOP8 Report LV.pdf](#)

Date of submission

>>> 02.03.2021