**2021 and 2022**

**Reports on the Implementation of the International Single Species Action Plan for the Conservation of the Northern Bald Ibis   
(NBI ISSAP)**

**Türkiye**

**IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR THE NBI ISSAP[[1]](#footnote-1)**

| **SSAP action** | **Means of implementation (activities)** | | **Responsible for implementation (others to be involved)** | **Funding needs / source** | **Priority** | **Timeline / deadline** | **Comments** | **January 2021**  **Report** | **March 2022**  **Report** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Result 1.1. Chick mortality on nest is minimised** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **1.1.1. Prevent human disturbance and incidental nest destruction by predators such as ravens through close monitoring**  **MOR, SYR, TUR** | TUR – no activities needed  SYR – N/A  MOR - To maintain surveillance on breeding sites  Recruit wardens for the new colonies  Acquire monitoring material for additional wardens (motorbikes, binoculars, telescopes..etc.)  Raise awareness among local users at breeding | | DREFLCD – SO  DREFLCD – SO  GREPOM  DREFLCD – SO  GREPOM | 120000.00  HCEFLCD  30000.00  HCEFLCD  50000,00  HCEFLCD / BirdLife / CEPF  10000.00  HCEFLCD - GREPOM | Essential  Essential  Essential  Essential | Ongoing  Durant all the planning period  2018-2019  Breeding season  2017  2018-2020  During the breeding season | This action mainly concerns disturbance that leads to predation. Not a major issue in Turkey.  Not needed because breeding station is secure. Not much problem with raptors. Occasional predation by martens when not deterred by dogs. 3-4 pairs outside nesting station on cliffs around town, not protected, but still low predation risk.  Actions may be required at short notice to react to new situations  [may require only low level monitoring but detailed initial monitoring needed to determine any requirements is priority[[2]](#footnote-2)] | 1.1.1.TUR -The situation is the same ( two dogs in the station), we continue monitoring the cliff near town | 1.1.1.TUR -The situation is the same ( two dogs in the station), we continue monitoring the cliff near town |
| **1.1.2. Collect discarded/lost fishing lines and nets around colonies**  **MOR** |  | |  |  |  |  | MOR - Included in the daily task of the wardens  [note agreed this can be removed as separate activity for future documents] |  |  |
| **1.1.3. Increase awareness amongst fishermen**  **MOR** | MOR - Cf . 1.1.1.4 | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **1.1.4. Provide (safe) nesting material around colonies**  **MOR, SYR** | SYR – N/A | |  |  |  |  | MOR - Not needed at the moment for Morocco population [keep listed for future consideration only] |  |  |
| **1.1.5. Improve nesting ledges if Syrian population increases**  **SYR** | SYR – N/A | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Result 1.2. Food availability is increased** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **1.2.1. Maintain the reservoir in proximity of the colony SYR** | SYR – N/A | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **1.2.2. Establish food availability monitoring and alarm system for cases of drought**  **MOR, SYR** | SYR – N/A  MOR - Cf 4.7 | |  |  |  |  | To be discussed at PANIC meeting for MOR.  [for potential trials of supplementary feeding, but kept here mainly just for future consideration] |  |  |
| **Result 1.3. Improved access to water** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **1.3.1. Maintain supply of fresh water at waterholes close to colonies**  **MOR** | MOR - To maintain fresh water supply by the colonies    To establish watering points at new sites | | PNSM  DREFLCD-SO | ---  ---- | Medium  Medium | During all the planning period  Starting 2018 | Part of wardens routine  If the IBIS reuse these sites |  |  |
| **1.3.2. Establish emergency water ponds for cases of drought**  **SYR** | SYR – N/A | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Result 1.4. Catastrophic impact of diseases prevented** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **1.4.1. Maintain regular monitoring and hygiene protocol**  **TUR** | TUR  1. Establish a protocol for regular communication between the Ministry of Forest and Water Affairs and the Ministry of Agriculture to exchange alerts for any avian disease outbreaks in the area in domestic and wild birds.  2.To implement the protocol at local level in Birecik.  3.Introduce and enhanced hygiene protocol for staff in contact with the birds – uniforms and shoes to be used only in the station and washed there + disinfected; establish safe change area for staff.  4.Reduce opportunities for contact between NBI and wild birds at the feeding station by netting the feeding pots. | | 1.MFWA (Taner Hatipoglu) + MA (person to be nominated)  2.MFWA (Taner Hatipoglu & Reshad tbc) + MA (to name person)  3.MFWA (Reshad tbc)  4.MFWA (Taner Hatipoglu) | 1.N/A  2.N/A  3.Costs covered by MFWA  4.Costs covered by MFWA | 1.High  2.High  3.High  4.High | 1.End 2017  2.Jan 2018 onwards  3.End June 2018  4.End 2017 | Disease is major risk to Turkish population, all being at one colony at high density. Particularly avian influenza.  Continue existing hygiene and monitoring protocols, e.g. high standards for food preparation. Following are considerations for additional measures.  Various measures to be considered when outbreaks suspected, e.g. put shading over cage, various levels of ‘lock-down’. Good experience in zoos and other captive breeding centres, with examples provided by WWT and Sharjah.  Reduce access for other birds (mainly migrant waterbirds rather than local landbirds) to ibis food which could bring AI. Hygiene for people in contact with birds in captivity –  two visits per day year round. May need measures to reduce risk of transmission through personnel: disinfectant, use mask and gloves when preparing food; boards across walkways where staff must change shoes. (Staff don’t currently have uniforms – introduce work-only clothes.)  Screening: samples taken annually for salmonella etc. and other disease monitoring, but this has limited value as deaths often sudden. More important is rapid reaction when find a sick bird (again, AI is the priority).  Risks from visitors low despite c.30,000 per year as they are kept >150m away from the birds. (maintain this!)  A quarantine or isolation area is being introduced for sick birds. | 1. Done.  Two ministries merged (now we are Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry).  Meetings are held between units in the Ministry and also monthly meetings are held between provincial units.    2. We continue existing hygiene and monitoring protocols, e.g. high standards for food preparation.  3. Staff wear disposable overalls and gloves while preparing feed in feed preparation room and in feeding area.  4. A quarantine room was built for sick birds | Same  Same  Same  In breeding station contact with other birds is minimal  Personnel use disposable gloves and wearing overalls during two meals a day in feeding area at the station, other times nobody is in contact with the birds |
| **1.4.2. Create new semi-wild population away from Birecik**  **TUR** | TUR  1.Identify suitable locations and undertake a feasibility study in order to choose the most appropriate one.  2.Decide on the objectives of the project and prepare detailed plan & resource need assessment  3.Apply for funding to the Ministry of Development | | 1.MFWA (Reshad tbc & Taner Hatipoglu) + University of Ankara (to name person)  2.MFWA (Taner Hatipoglu, Reshad tbc, Regional Director in Sanliurfa)  3.MFWA (Director General & Deputy Minister) | 1.Cost covered by MFWA  2.Costs covered by MFWA  3.N/A | 1.High  2.High  3.High | 1.End 2018  2.End June 2019  3.July 2019 | Criteria for feasibility assessment discussed at IAGNABI 2016, but refer also to the AEWA Guidelines on Conservation Translocation. Consider requesting external expert support for the feasibility study; possible joint activity with Algeria (see action 3.7)  Results of the application expected Mar-Apr 2020 | 1. Still looking for suitable locations. | No progress |
| **1.4.3. Establish disease emergency response system**  **MOR, TUR** | TUR  1.Design a disease emergency response system for Avian Influenza.  2.Roll out and implement the response system.  MOR - Update protocol for health scanning of NBI populations  Establish partnerships for the implementation of the protocol  Implement protocol when necessary | | 1.MFWA (Taner Hatipoglu & Rashed tbc) + MA (person to name)  2.MFWA (Taner Hatipoglu & Rashed tbc) + MA (person add name)  DREFLCD-SO  ONSSA  DREFLCD-SO  DREFLCD-SO | 1.N/A  2.N/A  ----  ----  5000.00 | 1.High  2.High  Medium  Medium  Medium | 1.End June 2018  2.July 2018 onwards  2018  2018  2019-2020 | Protocol exists for daily operation of the centre with hygiene and monitoring included – continue this. But no measures specifically about disease response. Therefore, disease outbreak protocols to be developed and rehearsed regularly. Response is dependent on where outbreak occurs (inside cages or outside cages and at what distance) eg. Covering roofs, quarantine, closing access to facilities, etc.. Check EAZA guidelines (?); Ministry of Agriculture also has guidelines. Use both.  Activities link to Action 1.4.1., activity 3 | 1.Done  Local staff is in constant contact with Provincial Directorate and Ministry.  One Veterinarian in province is permanently responsible of the station. | Same  Same |
| **1.4.5. Enforce protocols for carcass and waste removal from domestic bird farms in case of outbreaks**  **MOR** | MOR – Coordinate with competent services and local authorities when needed | | DREFLCD-SO  ONSSA | ------ | As needed | 2017-2020 |  |  |  |
| **1.4.6. Apply stringent health control and screening of captive birds prior to conservation translocation**  **ALL** | TUR – no activities envisaged  SYR – N/A  MOR - NA  ALG Check sanitary protocol required by Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and fisheries. | | ALG - General Direction of Forests (DGF) |  |  | 2018 (prior to arrival!) | Translocation in Turkey unlikely by 2020  ALG - Administrative process to be followed.  Also check IAGNBI guidelines on sanitary protocol |  |  |
| **Result 1.5. Reduced intra-specific competition for nesting sites** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **1.5.1. Enlarge and improve nesting ledges**  **MOR** | | MOR - To study technical feasibility of edges management in the colonies  To implement management interventions selected  To monitor the impact of the implemented management | DREFLCD-SO / GREPOM  SEO-BL / GREPOM /  DREFLCD-SO  DREFLCD-SO | ----  4000.00  ---- | High  High  High | 2018  2018  2018-2020 |  |  |  |
| **1.5.2. Test and establish artificial ledges**  **MOR** | |  |  |  |  |  | MOR - Not during the 3 year period  Explore the possibility of implementing this activity during the feasibility assessment activity 1.5.1.1 |  |  |
| **Result 1.6. Human disturbance is minimised** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **1.6.1. Maintain and improve wardening in the colonies**  **MOR, SYR** | MOR - Cf 1.1.1.1, 1.1.1.2 & 1.1.1.4  SYR – N/A | | SYR - SSCW |  |  |  | SYR: Wardening for monitoring possible NBI might be possible if carefully planned at the moment. Don’t rule out. |  |  |
| **1.6.2. Increase awareness amongst local people and visitors**  **MOR, SYR** | MOR - Design and implement an awareness plan in Tamri region  To keep the awareness system towards local population and visitors in the colonies at PNSM  SYR – N/A | | DREFLCD-SO / GREPOM  PNSM / GREPOM | 20000.00  3000.00 | Medium  Medium | 2018-2020  During all planning period | Opérationnaliser les propositions du PAG du SIBE de Tamri |  |  |
| **1.6.3. Provide alternative water sources for pastoralists**  **SYR** | SYR – N/A | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **1.6.4. Manage access by pastoralists to existing water sources**  **SYR** | SYR – N/A | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **1.6.5. Designate all colonies as protected**  **MOR, SYR, TUR** | SYR – N/A  TUR – no activities needed  MOR - To launch the process to create a formally protected area in Tamri | | DREFLCD-SO  HCEFLCD | ---- | Essential | 2019-2020 | Current Birecik colony is protected and well safeguarded from human disturbance, and any new colony would be likewise, as a precondition to its establishment. Continue this. No additional measures needed.  Conditioned by the promulgation of implementing decree on the new law on Protected areas (but need to advance) |  |  |
| **1.6.6. Develop and implement management plans for the protected areas**  **MOR, SYR, TUR** | SYR – N/A  TUR - Carry on with the implementation of the management plan for Birecik  MOR - To update SMNP management plan  To implement the management at Tamri SIBE[[3]](#footnote-3) | | Min FWA (Regional Director & Regional Engineer)  DREFLCD-SO  HCEFLCD  DREFLCD-SO  HCEFLCD | Costs covered by MFWA  100000.00  300000.00 | Essential  Essential  Essential | Ongoing  2019-2020  2019-2020 | Conditioned by the promulgation of implementing decree on the new law on Protected areas | TUR. - Carry on with the implementation of the management plan for Birecik  National Action Plan for Bald Ibis was completed by December 2019 | Same |
| **Result 1.7. Predation is minimised** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **1.7.1. Monitor predation levels**  **MOR, SYR** | SYR – N/A | |  |  | MOR - Low |  |  |  |  |
| **1.7.2. Undertake predation control measures when necessary**  **MOR, SYR** | SYR – N/A | |  |  | MOR - Low |  |  |  |  |
| **Result 1.8. Problematic buildings on cliffs are removed and new ones prevented** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **1.8.1. Strengthen enforcement of legislation, also through the involvement of other authorities than NP**  **MOR** | MOR - Monitoring and control of constructions | | DREFLCD-SO | Operating costs | Medium | During all planning period |  |  |  |
| **Result 1.9. Impact of collapse of breeding cliffs is minimised** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **1.9.1. Evaluate possibility of improving current roosting sites as potential new breeding sites**  **MOR** |  | |  |  |  |  | MOR - Not relevant during the 3 year planning period |  |  |
| **Result 2.1. Impact of locust treatment is prevented** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **2.1.1. Continue work with locust control unit to avoid toxic treatment within Souss Massa NP**  **MOR** | MOR - Maintain the coordination and collaboration with the authorities responsible of anti-locust fight | | DREFLCD-SO | ------ | Medium | During all planning period |  |  |  |
| **Result 2.2. Illegal killing and trapping is minimised** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **2.2.1. Raise awareness among hunter/falconers on satellite tagging and NBI conservation**  **KSA** | 1.Run at least one event, such as a workshop, a year focused on the areas (1) between Jeddah and Jizan and (2) north KSA. | | 1.SWA (to name person) | 1.Costs to be covered by SWA | 1.High | 1.Once a year from 2018 to 2020 | Two workshops with falconers in other parts of the country took place in 2017.  Falconry clubs established to bring the practice under an umbrella with rules and licensing; build on/expand this.  Hunters more difficult, as no opportunity for an umbrella body. Age average 18-25 years, many university students. Main options seem to be enforcement and publicising prosecutions and bans i.e. extensive public awareness programmes using both traditional and social media; both approaches merit expansion. National reputation affected by illegal hunting is a serious concern,  Efforts to control hunting also assisted by protection of coastal areas (20km inland). Warden camps to deter hunting to be developed further – but this is enforcement and broadbrush – being site-specific, may not currently benefit NBI in absence of known sites. |  |  |
| **2.2.2. Reduce visibility of satellite tags by finding alternative means of attachment**  **ALL** | E POP – N/A  1.MOR, funding permitting, to use in their satellite tagging newer, smaller and less-visible tags. | | 1.High Commission (seek advice through the NBI IWG and IAGNBI networks) | 1.To be estimated (depends on the brand/technology and number of tags used) | 1.High  MOR - Low | 1.As necessary | May not be of significance in E POP in next 3 years as releases are unlikely in this period.  May be relevant to MOR where catching and tagging is planned. Warning was expressed also regarding colour rings that may attract the attention of hunters.  Note that advances in technology may soon make small transmitters more viable (and affordable) to help resolve this. Needs clarification here by expert input.[*check above and replicate for other regions*] |  |  |
| **2.2.3. Raise awareness among hunters/trappers and/or general public on NBI in key areas, where needed**  **ALL** | SYR – N/A  TUR – N/A  KSA – No activities envisaged  ETH – N/A  ALG – 1. Exhibition of NBI at animal parks (see 3.7.1)  2. Hunters questionnaires & sensitisation (after initial site[[4]](#endnote-1) selection)  3. Organization of awareness workshops  4. Use of social media to raise awareness and promote vigilance for NBI | | ALG - DGF, Animal parks  2. DGF, NGOs, National Federation of Hunters Assocs  3. DGF  4.Bird Observers FB pages ‘To save wildlife in Algeria’ | ALG- Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and fisheries | ALG - High  MOR - Low | ALG - 2018  2019,20  Ongoing | Currently no key areas known in KSA  Great efforts are made in terms of awareness, not specifically for the bald ibis but for all wild animals including birds |  |  |
| **Result 2.3. Risk of electrocution and collision with power lines is minimised** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **2.3.1. Identify critical and dangerous power lines around known key sites**  **ALL** | SYR – N/A  TUR – No activities needed  KSA – No activities envisaged  YEM – N/A  ETH – No activities needed  ALG - (After initial site selection) | |  |  | MOR - Low | 2019 | Dangerous powerlines already identified in Birecik area therefore this action is not required in Turkey.  No key sites known currently in KSA.  ETH generally considered safe regarding power lines (no dangerous power lines in the known site). |  |  |
| **2.3.2. Retrofit design or put dangerous sections of power lines underground**  **ALL** | SYR – N/A  KSA – N/A  YEM – N/A  ETH – N/A  TUR  1.Provide advice and examples technical solutions to MFWA  2.Approach the utility company at Birecik with proposal for solutions to securing pylons and wires  3.In case of negative response, approach the Ministry of Energy  ALG - (After initial site selection) | | 1.UNEP/AEWA Secretariat (Sergey Dereliev) + Energy Task Force members  2.MFWA (Deputy Director General)  3.MFWA (Deputy Director General) | 1.N/A  2.N/A  3.N/A | 1.Essential  2.Essential  3.Essential  MOR - Low | 1.End 2017  2.End June 2018  3.Within 3 months after negative response  2019 | In Birecik additional collision risk at night or sandstorms. Need to increase visibility – range of options exist in various countries, e.g. plastic streamers or balls etc; mitigation measures need to be suited to species, problem and location.  CMS/AEWA guidelines on avoiding/mitigating power line impact on birds to be used.  In KSA no key sites – general improvement of the grid (in line with wider obligations not specific to NBI) but beyond scope of a single species plan. | 1.Advice and examples of technical solutions were taken from Spain.  2. This example of technical solution were sent to the utility company at Birecik.  3. Company applied some technical solutions to some wires and pylons. | No progress |
| **2.3.3. Take NBI into account in SEA/EIA procedures for new power lines (possible re-routing) around key areas**  **ALL** | SYR – N/A  TUR – No activities envisaged  KSA – N/A  YEM – N/A  ETH – N/A  ALG - (After initial site selection)  MOR - Take NBI into account in SEA/EIA procedures for new power lines (possible re-routing) around key areas  [Ensure this factor considered in all developments in Agadir and Tamri regions] | | HCEFLCD  DREFLCD-SO | ---- | Medium | 2019  During all Planning period | Nothing new needed in the next 3 years in TUR.  MOR – this point will be considered in more detail at PANIC. |  |  |
| **2.3.4. Introduce bird safe standards into national regulations**  **ALL** | SYR – N/A  TUR – No activities envisaged  KSA – N/A  YEM – N/A  ETH – N/A  ALG - Approach Electricity Society regarding safe design of pylons  MOR- Take NBI into account in SEA/EIA procedures for new power lines (possible re-routing) around key areas | | DGF letter to Minister of Energy  HCEFLCD  DREFLCD-SO | Minister of Energy  ---- | Medium  Medium | 2017  2018 & During all Planning period | Much bigger subject than NBI - beyond scope of a SSAP although should be highlighted where possible with reference to this SSAP.  This is not a priority, as there are very few cases of electrocution reported in ALG  MOR – this point will be considered in more detail at PANIC. |  |  |
| **Result 2.4. Establishment of windfarms close to key sites is avoided** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **2.4.1. Exclude NBI key areas from renewable energy development**  **ALL** | SYR – N/A  KSA – N/A  YEM – N/A  ETH – N/A  TUR  1.Routinely monitor for potential renewable energy projects that might be planned for the NBI protected area.  ALG - (After initial site selection)  MOR – N/A | | 1.MFWA (Taner Hatipoglu) | 1.N/A | 1.Ongoing | 1.High | No projects known in the ETH site.  No detail or key areas in KSA.  In TUR solar farms are planned but should be kept out of the protected area used by the NBI under existing rules. Need to monitor in case of change to rules or priorities: routine/ongoing work. | 1.Continue monitoring the area. No changes for now. | No project for now |
| **2.4.2. Take NBI into account in SEA/EIA procedures for windfarms (possible re-location) around key areas**  **ALL** | SYR – N/A  KSA – N/A  YEM – N/A  ETH – N/A  TUR  1.Routinely monitor for potential wind farm projects in the vicinity of Birecik.  ALG - (After initial site selection)  MOR – N/A | | 1.MFWA (Taner Hatipoglu) | 1.N/A | 1.Ongoing | 1.High | Currently no windfarm projects are known for the Birecik area. | 1.Continue monitoring the area. For now, there is not any application for wind farm near Birecik. | Same |
| **Result 2.5. Survival chance of dispersing juveniles is increased** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **2.5.1. Identify feeding and roosting sites outside Souss-Massa/Tamri and assess their status**  **MOR** | MOR - Continue with survey to identify sites  Training Moroccan experts on capture, and tagging NBI  Tagging with GPS transmitter  To gather information from fishermen and other resource-people | | HCEFLCD  DREFLCD-SO  GREPOM  HCEFLCD  DREFLCD-SO  GREPOM  HCEFLCD  DREFLCD-SO  GREPOM  DREFLCD-SO  GREPOM | 5000.00  10000.00  40000.00  ----- | Essential  Essential  Essential  Essential | 2017-2020  2018  2018-2020  2017-2020 |  |  |  |
| **2.5.2. Put conservation measures in place as necessary**  **MOR** | MOR - To define actions tailored to each site  To implement the defined actions | | HCEFLCD  DREFLCD-SO  GREPOM  HCEFLCD  DREFLCD-SO  GREPOM | ----  To be defined accordingly | Medium  Medium | 2017-2020  2017-2020 |  |  |  |
| **Result 2.6. Decline in area of feeding habitat is minimised** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **2.6.1. Monitor and control sand extraction activities; enforce existing legislation**  **TUR** | TUR - No activities needed | |  |  |  |  | Sand extraction is forbidden in the protected area, which extend along river from Syrian border to N of Birecik. Nothing additional needed at this stage. |  |  |
| **2.6.2. Promote NBI-friendly crop pattern, e.g. by subsidising**  **MOR, TUR** | TUR – No activities needed | |  |  | MOR - Low |  | NBI feed along the valley, often in agricultural land – especially aubergine & parsley fields, pistachio groves. No problem so subsidising for other crops not necessary; also, no change in crops foreseen. |  |  |
| **2.6.3. Promotion of low-input crops**  **MOR, TUR** | TUR – No activities envisaged | |  |  | MOR - Low |  | Some pesticide use, but farmer relations are good and they inform NBI team of planned use; in general not seen as a big issue. |  |  |
| **2.6.4. Promote eco-friendly source of income**  **MOR, TUR** | TUR – No activities envisaged  MOR - Identification of new projects to implement with local population  Implementation of the projects identified | | DREFLCD-SO  GREPOM  DREFLCD-SO  GREPOM | -----  200000,00 | Medium  Medium | 2017  2017-2020 |  |  |  |
| **2.6.5. Promote NBI-based tourism for direct benefit to local community**  **MOR, TUR** | TUR – No activities envisaged  MOR - To develop a tourism product on NBI    To organise and promote marketing around that tourism product | | DREFLCD-SO  DREFLCD-SO  Communal organisations Tourism sector partners | 5000,00  ----- | High  Medium | 2018  2018-2020 | Limited scope for extension of this in Turkey but could expand exhibits in new visitor centre. Nearly all visitors to Birecik breeding centre visit very briefly, and their visits bring limited benefit to local community (only a small shop). |  |  |
| **Result 2.7. Habitat loss/degradation due to infrastructure/ urban development is minimised** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **2.7.1. NBI areas taken into account in physical planning and SEA/EIA procedures**  **ALL** | TUR – Not activities needed  ETH – No activities envisaged  MOR - Take NBI into account in all major physical planning / development and in SEA/EIA procedures for key areas for Bald Ibis | | HCEFLCD  DREFLCD-SO | ---- | Essential | During all Planning period | No major development pressures in Birecik site (TUR) which is protected and has management plan.  Minimal development in the ETH site. |  |  |
| **Result 2.8. Desertification of habitat in key areas is prevented or mitigated** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **2.8.1. Regulate agriculture activities in key areas**  **KSA** | KSA - N/A | |  |  |  |  | Currently no known sites in KSA. |  |  |
| **2.8.2. Regulate grazing in key areas (through promotion of sustainable practices with local communities)**  **ETH, MOR, SYR, YEM** | SYR – N/A  YEM – N/A  ETH – No activities needed | |  |  | MOR - Low |  | No pressure or change in threat from grazing (not much grazing at all) or other factors at the ETH known site. Ibises don’t need long grass or bushland, and they use highly modified habitats. Traditional land management systems are compatible with ibis survival.  No evidence of negative impact of grazing on Bald Ibis Population in Morocco |  |  |
| **2.8.3. Support provision of alternative sources of energy (gas, solar, etc.) and improve energy use efficiency**  **SYR, MOR** | SYR – N/A | |  |  | MOR - Low |  |  |  |  |
| **2.8.4. Enforce environmental regulations on charcoal production**  **YEM** | YEM - N/A | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **2.8.5. Identify degraded habitats in key areas and restore them**  **ALL** | TUR – No activities needed  KSA – No activities envisaged  ETH – No activities needed | |  |  | MOR - Low |  | TUR No habitat limitation at present around Birecik, and core Protected Area (179 ha) is safe from degrading factors. Birecik PA is part of a larger preservation area, extending along the Euphrates (thus mainly wetland, and known to be important for birds) 30 km towards Syrian border, which has management plan to prevent degradation.  KSA No key areas known at present.  ETH Quality of habitat is fine for ibises; long-established land use system, apparently sustainable. |  |  |
| **Result 3.1. Eastern population increased 5-fold** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **3.1.1. Develop project for further reinforcement of the Syrian popn. and implement it**  **SYR, TUR** | SYR – N/A  TUR – N/A | | SYR - SSCW |  |  |  | No extant population is confirmed in SYR.  SYR. Monitoring and observing opportunities for birds might still be carefully planned despite difficulties. Don’t rule out |  |  |
| **Result 3.2. Semi-wild population in Birecik is maintained at a minimum of 150 birds** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **3.2.1. Continue the conservation programme in Birecik**  **TUR** | TUR - Ongoing. | |  |  |  |  | Continue, but consider implications of population increase, which puts this site at/beyond carrying capacity: now >250 birds, probably as many as can be sustained.  Planning to pass any future ‘excess’ beyond 250 birds to Turkish zoos (two already received, a third planned) or new site.  Sharjah has an interest in keeping a captive flock, which would spread the risk, so surplus birds could be possibly exported to UAE. Turkish delegation suggested to visit Sharjah. | In 2018  -2 pairs (4 birds) were sent to Bursa Zoo  -2 pairs (4 birds) were sent to Gaziantep Zoo  In 2019  1 pair ( birds) were sent to Gaziantep Zoo  Darıca Zoo and Bursa Zoo have juveniles,  Gaziantep Zoo has not yet. | This year (mid of July) 2 pairs will be send to Darıca Zoo  Bursa Zoo and Gaziantep Zoo have juveniles,  Darıca Zoo has not juvenile last (2021) end this year. |
| **Result 3.3. A wild migratory population is established in Birecik** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **3.3.1. Further releases from Birecik**  **TUR** | TUR - No activities envisaged in period | |  |  |  |  | Not likely in the next three years. | Can be planned after peace in the Middle East. |  |
| **Result 3.4. Semi-wild population established at a second site in Turkey (ideally in area compatible with 3.5)** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **3.4.1. Identify potential areas and undertake feasibility studies and risk assessments**  **TUR** | TUR - Covered by activity 1.4.2 | |  |  |  |  |  | Still looking for suitable locations. | No progress |
| **Result 3.5. A wild population is established away from Birecik** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **3.5.1. Identify potential areas for reintroduction and undertake feasibility studies and risk assessments**  **TUR** | TUR - No activities envisaged. (see comment) | |  |  |  |  | No implementation expected in the next three years.  Studies only should begin and ToRs developed. | Still looking for suitable locations. | No progress |
| **3.5.2. Implement reintroduction upon positive conclusions from feasibility studies and risk assessments**  **TUR** | TUR - No activities envisaged. | |  |  |  |  | No implementation expected in the next three years. |  |  |
| **Result 3.6. Sites away from Souss-Massa/Tamri are re-colonised/colonised** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **3.6.1. Monitor and assess potential/feasibility of roosting/former colony sites which are visited by birds**  **MOR** |  | |  |  | MOR - Low |  |  |  |  |
| **3.6.2. Improve conditions in the most favourably assessed sites to attract breeders**  **MOR** |  | |  |  | MOR - Low |  |  |  |  |
| **Result 3.7. A population is re-established in Algeria** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **3.7.1. Identify potential areas for reintroduction, including possible wintering areas and undertake feasibility studies and risk assessments**  **ALG** | ALG –  Summarise bibliography  Define 2-3 potential areas/sites for feasibility studies  Prepare questionnaires for local population  Site prospection  As part of site selection process, assess:  1) food availability (each of 4 seasons),  2) pesticide (locust control) risk | | Forest administration (DGF) & Agence Nature Conservation (ANN)  [With inputs from Cultural Park of Atlas Sahara (Culture Ministry)  University (all Algeria)  MEE (Ministry Env)  RNOOA (NGO of observers)  University (AlBayadh, Tiaret,Laghouat...)  National Plant Protection Institute (INPV) | Applying to:  Ministry of Agriculture  Ministry of Culture  Ministry of Environment (MEE)  Ministry of Education and Scientific Research  (MERS) | High | 2017  2017-18  2018 | Write to AEWA informing intention of reintroduction  Consult AEWA reintroduction guidelines & IAGNBI release guidelines (2016 update in report). |  |  |
| **3.7.2. Implement reintroduction upon positive conclusions of the feasibility studies and risk assessments**  **ALG** | ALG Visit to Proyecto Eremita/Jerez Zoo for demonstration and training of keeper , manager(s), vet.  Agree exhibit and project aviary design based on:  Spanish visit, EEP best practice manual & behavioural guide.  Aviary construction of exhibition aviary at animal parks and at hunting centres  Developing and submitting proposal for larger project  Transfer of selected birds to zoo  Familiarising with husbandry techniques | | Forest administration (DGF)  DGF  Ministry of Agriculture  Ministry of Culture  DGF/Hunting Centers/animal parks  DGF  DGF  DGF | (?)  DGF/Ministry of Agriculture  DGF/Ministry of Agriculture  International eg IUCN, UNDP?  EEP Zoos  EEP Zoos | High  High  High  High  High  High | April 2018  2018  2018  2018  Sep 2018  2018,19,20 | First contact through formal letter to Andalusia Govt. & NBI EEP & Jerez Zoo. (2017-Jan-2018)  Hunting centre: centre specialized in animal breeding  after the construction of the aviaries and training |  |  |
| **Result 4.1. Use of dispersal sites and suitability for colonisation as breeding sites is identified** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **4.1.1. Assess suitability of nesting and feeding areas**  **MOR** |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Result 4.2. Potential for re-colonisation of former breeding sites is identified** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **4.2.1. Assess suitability of nesting and feeding areas**  **MOR** | MOR - Assess suitability of new discovered nesting and their surround feeding areas | | HCEFLCD  DREFLCD-SO  GREPOM | 2000.00 | Medium | 2018-2020 |  |  |  |
| **Result 4.3. A method of managing juveniles after split up from migrating flock is developed** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **4.3.1. Undertake trial with experimental flock**  **ALL** | TUR - No activities envisaged. | |  |  | MOR - Low |  | Method to be developed by projects handling captive or experimental flocks. The topic is held over until such approaches are possible and needed.  IAGNBI to lead any approach |  |  |
| **Result 4.4. Population viability assessment for both Western and Eastern populations is available** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **4.4.1. Run and publish population viability assessment**  **ALL** | TUR - No activities envisaged. | |  |  | MOR - Medium |  | No extant E POP at present.  For the W POP was not considered a priority as it is increasing. |  |  |
| **Result 4.5. Use of stop-over and wintering sites by birds is determined** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **4.5.1. Undertake field surveys**  **ALL** | E POP – N/A | |  |  | MOR - Low |  | E POP – No extant population is known at present.  MOR – more info on wintering sites could lead to finding new sites? Good to compile information at least or consider more effort. PANIC topic.. |  |  |
| **Result 4.6. Actual sites identified through satellite tracking have been verified on the grounds, delineated and mapped** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **4.6.1. Undertake field work and mapping**  **(TUR)** | E POP – N/A | |  |  |  |  | E POP – No extant population is known at present and no releases are planned in the next three years. |  |  |
| **Result 4.7. Feeding micro-habitat selection in breeding, stop-over and wintering areas understood** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **4.7.1. Undertake studies**  **ALL** | TUR - No activities envisaged. | |  |  | MOR - Low |  | Believed to be well enough understood in TUR.  This may become more relevant for MOR when more sites identified, after 2020.  More feasible if change the intention: last word to change to ‘mapped’ rather than ‘understood’.  MOR to follow up in PANIC. |  |  |
| **Result 4.8. Genetic make-up and levels of inbreeding/outbreeding have been determined in Syrian and Turkish populations** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **4.8.1. Collect samples at any possible occasion**  **ALL E Pop RSs** | TUR – No activities envisaged.  ALL other RSs – N/A | |  |  |  |  | Difficult to get permits for export of samples, but scope to work with existing collected material. Used to collect blood for sexing, but now use feathers with local University (Harran). DNA less easily extracted than from blood samples, but good enough. Have 200 samples in Middle East Technical University (METU) – seek ways to have these analysed. |  | A scientific publication about the sample at METU is being prepared. |
| **4.8.2. Undertake genetic analysis and publish results**  **ALL E Pop RSs** | E POP - 1.Facilitate a link between Univ of Ankara / Middle East Tech University and a western research group specialising in NBI genetics. | | 1.MFWA (Taner Hatipoglu) & NBI IWG Coordinator (Chris Bowden) | 1.N/A | 1.High | End 2018 | Already attempted by Taner Hatipoglu with University of Trier. | No result for now. | No result for now. |
| **Result 4.9. Juvenile dispersal in Moroccan population is mapped** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **4.9.1. Satellite telemetry study**  **MOR** | MOR - Cf. Result 2.5. | |  |  |  |  | To discuss further at PANIC |  |  |
| **4.9.2. Ground verification MOR** | MOR - Cf. Result 2.5. | |  |  |  |  | To discuss further at PANIC |  |  |
| **Result 4.10. Potential risk of power line collision and electrocution is understood** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **4.10.1. Undertake assessment of risks thru monitoring**  **ALL** | E POP – No activities envisaged. | |  |  | MOR - Low |  | Risks in TUR quite clear, no extant population in the other RSs of the E POP. |  |  |
| **Result 4.11. Reasons for extinction of former colonies are understood and documented** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **4.11.1. Design and undertake study**  **MOR** |  | |  |  | MOR - Low |  |  |  |  |
| **Complementary Actions** | | | | | | | |  |  |
| **CA1. Develop NBI IWG educational & public awareness materials to adapt in each country** | 1.Conceptualise the scope of the materials  2.Produce multilingual versions plus provide electronic files for adaptation to RSs | | 1.NBI IWG coordinator (Chris Bowden)  2.NBI IWG coordinator (Chris Bowden) | 1.N/A  2.10,000-20,000 EUR | 1.Medium  2.Medium | 1.End 2018  2.Mid 2019 | Can use advice and support from Sharjah. |  |  |
| **CA2. Maintain annual monitoring of NBI sites in ETH** | 1.Clarify the list of sites to be monitored  2.Organise annual visits to each site | | 1.EWCA (Mihret Ewnetu) & EWNHS (Yilma Dellelegn)  2.EWCA (Mihret Ewnetu) & EWNHS (Yilma Dellelegn) | 1.N/A  2.1,500+ EUR annually (EWCA) | 1.High  2.High | 1.End 2017  2.Jan 2018 onwards | Monitoring of the known and other potential sites may lead to confirmation of extant migrating birds. |  |  |

1. This implementation plan was developed during the 2nd meeting of the AEWA Northern Bald Ibis International Group meeting on 25-27 September 2017 on the basis of the AEWA International Single Species Action Plan for the Conservation of the Northern Bald Ibis (November 2015) and was endorsed by the IWG members by correspondence on Dec 31 2017. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Visit was paid to the sites and, under the current circumstances, it does not seem urgent to establish permanent surveillance. Subject to some initial intensive monitoring, It may be enough with some surveys to identify the potential conflict with local users, as well as to investigate the local knowledge about the colony, raise awareness and evaluate. [visit report available from PNSM]. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. SIBE: Site d'intérêt biologique et écologique: site of biological an ecological interest, not an official conservation tool but committed to be protected. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. [↑](#endnote-ref-1)