



5th SESSION OF THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES
14 – 18 May 2012, La Rochelle, France

“Migratory waterbirds and people - sharing wetlands”

PROGRESS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AEWA STRATEGIC PLAN 2009-2017

Compiled by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat for the AEWA Standing Committee

Summary

The AEWA Strategic Plan for the period 2009-2017 was adopted by MOP4 in 2008. This progress report is compiled by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat for the Standing Committee. To achieve the Strategic Plan goal, five objectives have been set, each with its associated targets, amounting to 26 altogether. The targets are measured by 35 quantifiable indicators. Another 12 indicators have been assigned to measure the overall progress towards the goal. This report has been produced on the basis of the Strategic Plan Logical Framework. The assessments are drawn from various sources, predominantly other MOP5 documents. Each target or indicator has been assessed and placed in one of six categories.

With 2/3 of the indicators either not achieved or with limited progress, the overall progress towards achieving the Strategic Plan goal has been assessed as very insufficient. Only one indicator has been achieved.

The overall progress towards achieving the Strategic Plan objectives has been described as average to insufficient taking into account that in the highest proportion of targets (38%) only limited progress has been made and in the case of another 35%, the progress is only average. Only one target has been fully reached and significant progress has been made towards reaching two more.

Amongst the five objectives, some overall more systematic progress has been achieved with Objective 2, while the least progress has been scored with Objective 1, where 60% of the targets show limited progress while the remaining 40% have achieved an average rank. Progress made towards achieving the other three objectives is ranked closely between these two.

A detailed overview was made of the progress towards each objective and its associated targets and the report concludes with recommendations on advancing the implementation of the Strategic Plan and improving the monitoring of its implementation, which will require further synergies as well as resource- and capacity-sharing.

Introduction

The AEWA Strategic Plan for the period 2009-2017 was adopted in 2008 by the 4th Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP) with resolution 4.7. The Strategic Plan aims at providing the context for implementation of the Agreement, putting forward a medium-term perspective, by setting the overall goal, the objectives and targets for a period of nine years (three triennial MOP cycles). It is intended to provide coherent and strategic guidance to the Contracting Parties and other stakeholders in their endeavour to act effectively both nationally and regionally whilst cooperating internationally along the flyways. The Strategic Plan further provides guidance to the AEWA governing bodies (the Meeting of the Parties, the Standing and Technical Committees) and the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat.

Resolution 4.7, amongst others, requested the Standing Committee to monitor the implementation of the Strategic Plan and report progress to each ordinary session of the MOP.

This progress report on the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2009-2017 has been compiled by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat for the StC and approved by the Committee for submission to MOP5.

Report structure and approach

The vision put forward in the Strategic Plan reads as follows:

All countries along the African-Eurasian Flyways share viable waterbird populations, and people throughout the region understand, respect, facilitate and sustain the phenomenon of their migration.

The goal of this Strategic Plan is **to maintain or to restore migratory waterbird species and their populations at a favourable conservation status throughout their flyways** and it sets five related objectives corresponding to the headings of the AEWA Action Plan, each aiming at achieving, respectively, favourable conservation status, sustainable use, increased knowledge, improved communication, and improved cooperation and capacity.

To achieve each objective, a series of targets has been set – three for Objective 4, five for Objectives 1, 2 and 3, and eight for Objective 5. Each target is measured by quantifiable indicators, usually one per target, with the exception of Targets 2.1 and 3.1 (two indicators) and Target 4.2 (nine indicators), amounting to 35 in total. Twelve indicators have also been assigned to measure the progress towards achieving the overall goal of the Strategic Plan – eight of which are at the Agreement-wide level and four at the national level. The sources of these indicators have also been identified, and have been reflected in the Strategic Plan Logical Framework as ‘means of verification’.

To compile this report the detailed overview of progress against each target and indicator was produced first, on the basis of the Strategic Plan Logical Framework, which is presented in Tables 3-8. Summaries of progress have been drawn from a number of other MOP5 documents, such as AEWA/MOP 5.12 (*Analysis of AEWA National Reports for the triennium 2009-2011*), AEWA/MOP 5.14 (*5th edition of the AEWA Conservation Status Report*), AEWA/MOP 5.18 (*Report on the Implementation and Revision of the Communication Strategy*), AEWA/MOP 5.32 (*Report on the Implementation of the African Initiative for the Period 2009-2012*) and others, as well as some other information sources.

Progress towards each indicator or target has been assessed on the basis of the available information and they have been placed in one of the following six categories: not achieved/not reached/no progress, limited progress, good progress, significant progress, achieved/reached, not assessed.

On the basis of these accounts, an overall assessment was made of the progress towards achieving the Strategic Plan goal, all objectives as a whole and each objective separately. The major achievements have been acknowledged and the significant gaps have been pointed out. Recommendations for further actions have also been proposed and shall be addressed by the Parties, the Agreement’s governing bodies, the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat and all other involved stakeholders and partners.

Progress towards achieving the Strategic Plan goal

The Strategic Plan goal follows the Agreement’s fundamental principles (Article II) and aims at **maintaining or restoring migratory waterbird species and their populations at a favourable conservation status throughout their flyways**. The progress towards the overall goal is measured through 12 indicators - eight at the Agreement-wide level and four at the national level. Table 1 presents the distribution of these 12 indicators across the six categories of progress.

	International level	National level	Overall
Not achieved/ no progress	3	2	5
Limited progress	2	1	3
Good progress	2		2
Significant progress			
Achieved	1		1
Not assessed		1	1
Overall	8	4	12

Table 1. Number of Strategic Plan goal indicators according to their category of progress.

Overall, 42% of indicators have not been achieved with another 25% registering only limited progress, while only 17% of the indicators are on a good course and 8% (one indicator) have been achieved (see Figure 1). Another 8% have not been assessed. **Thus, with 2/3 of the indicators in the “red zone” the progress towards achieving the goal can be described as very insufficient.**

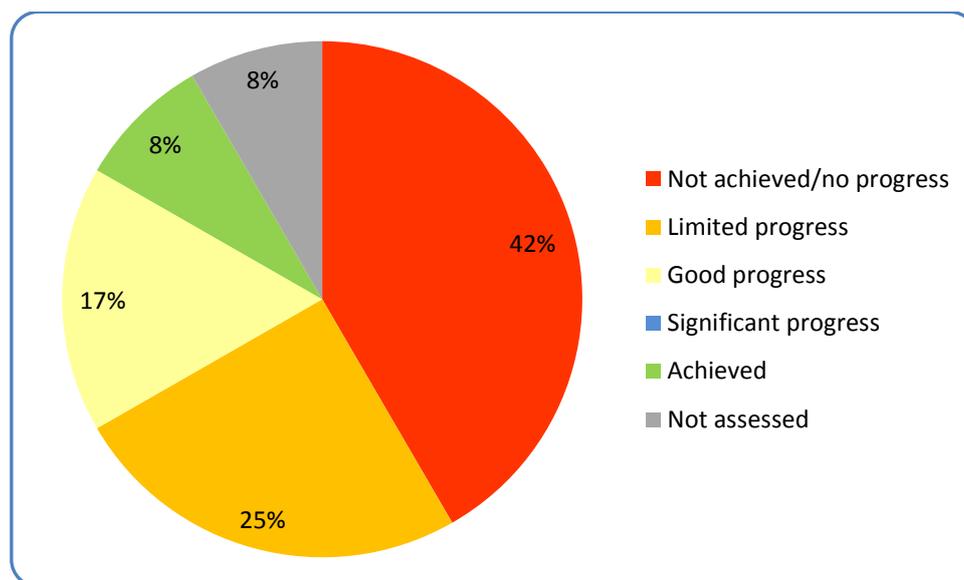


Figure 1. Proportion of Strategic Plan goal indicators per category of progress.

The Agreement-wide level indicators (G1-G8) have a slightly better pattern with 37% of indicators not achieved and a higher proportion of achieved indicators or such with good progress, 17% and 25% respectively (see Figure 2), nevertheless **still show overall very insufficient progress**. Half of the national

level indicators (G9-G12) are not achieved, with an additional quarter showing limited progress, while the remaining quarter is not assessed (*see Figure 3*), thus **outlining a rather poor situation**.

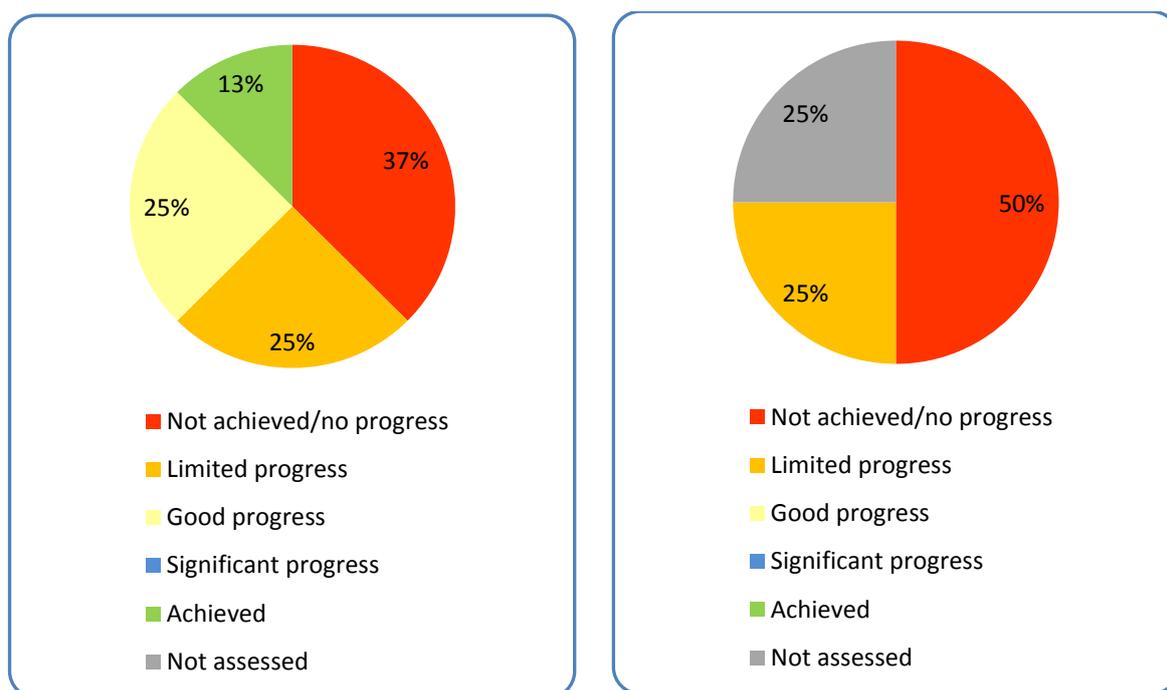


Figure 2 (left). Proportion of Strategic Plan goal indicators at the Agreement-wide level per category of progress.

Figure 3 (right). Proportion of Strategic Plan goal indicators at the national level per category of progress.

The indicators which failed to be achieved, relate to populations retaining their favourable conservation status (G2), downlisting on the IUCN Red List and national red lists (G6 and G12), reducing extinction risk (globally) (G5) and preventing extinctions (nationally) (G9) (*see Table 3*). Limited progress has been recorded in achieving the threshold of populations with a positive trend (both nationally and internationally) (G3 and G11) and an improved overall status as measured by the waterbird Indicator (G4).

On a good course towards being achieved is the reduction of populations listed under Category 1 of Column A in the AEWa Table 1 (populations with poorest status) with a target of 20% of which 7% have already been reached (G7), as well as the prevention of extinction of AEWa populations (G1). No population has been declared extinct, but one critically endangered species – the Slender-billed Curlew (*Numenius tenuirostris*) – has not been observed since 1998.

The only indicator which has been achieved so far is the reduction of populations listed on Column A as a whole (small, threatened or vulnerable populations with poor conservation status) (G8). The target of 5% has been surpassed (8%) and this indicator may benefit from a review of its threshold.

No assessment has been possible of the retention of favourable conservation status of species at national level (G10), the means of verification of the indicator for which has to be identified and progress measured.

Overall progress towards achieving the Strategic Plan objectives

Five objectives have been set towards achieving the Strategic Plan goal each aiming at, respectively, favourable conservation status, sustainable use, increased knowledge, improved communication, improved cooperation and capacity.

	Objective 1	Objective 2	Objective 3	Objective 4	Objective 5	Overall
Not reached/ no progress						
Limited progress	3		2	2	3	10
Good progress	2	4			3	9
Significant progress			1		1	2
Reached				1		1
Not assessed		1	2		1	4
Overall	5	5	5	3	8	26

Table 2. Number of targets per Strategic plan objective according to their category of progress.

Altogether 26 targets have been identified - three for Objective 4, five for Objectives 1, 2 and 3, and eight for Objective 5. Through the indicators associated with each of these targets, the progress towards the achievement of the objectives is measured. Table 2 presents the distribution of these 26 targets across the six categories of progress.

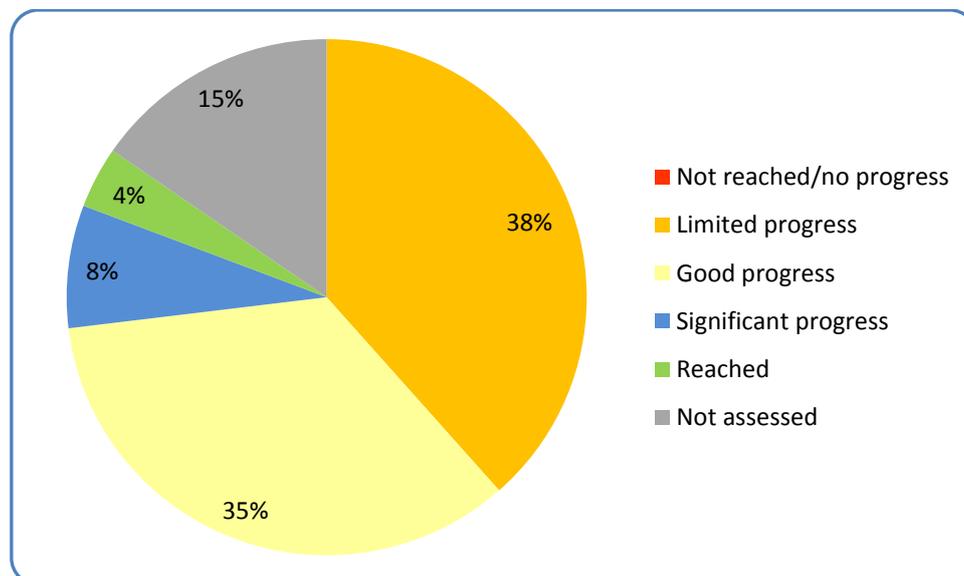


Figure 4. Proportion of the targets associated with the Strategic Plan objectives per category of progress.

No target has been identified as completely lacking progress, which sets a positive background; however 38% of targets have registered only limited progress (see *Figure 4*). A high proportion of targets (35%) are showing good progress, while much lower number of targets have been reached (one target) or are scoring significant progress (two targets), respectively 4% and 8%. A relatively high proportion of targets (15%) have not been assessed. **Overall the progress towards achieving the Strategic Plan objectives can be described as being average to insufficient.**

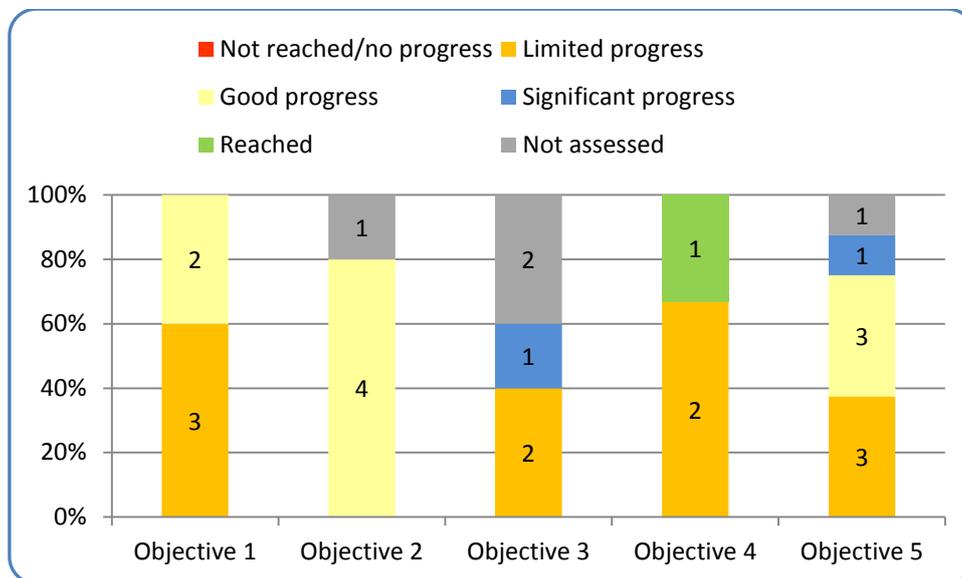


Figure 5. Proportion of the targets of each Strategic Plan objective per category of progress.

Comparing all objectives (see *Figure 5*); none is outstanding in terms of progress towards reaching its associated targets. Somewhat overall more systematic progress has been achieved with Objective 2, although it is still in the average zone with all but one non-assessed indicator showing good progress, while the least progress has been scored with Objective 1 where 60% of the targets are showing limited progress with the remaining 40% having an average rank. The other three objectives are closely placed between these two. In Objective 4 only one target has been reached, while progress towards one target in each of Objective 3 and 5 is significantly advanced. Some targets in Objectives 2, 3 and 5 have not been assessed and in Objective 3 these constitute 40%.

Progress towards achieving Objective 1

Objective 1 aims **to undertake conservation measures so as to improve or maintain conservation status of waterbird species and their populations**. Five targets have been set to achieve this objective. As mentioned above, Objective 1 is the objective showing the least achievement at this stage at this stage with 60% of its five targets showing limited progress and the remaining scoring an average mark. A detailed account is presented in Table 4.

The Contracting Parties should put strong emphasis on ensuring that all Column A-listed species are under full legal protection in their countries (Target 1.1), while at the same time increased funding and other capacity should be made available for advancing the implementation of Single Species Action Plans for globally threatened species and establishing such plans for the full set of globally threatened species listed under the Agreement (Target 1.4). Tackling the threats posed by non-native waterbirds is also insufficient (Target 1.5) and control and eradication measures need to be established or their implementation strengthened.

Good progress has been reported on the application of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)/Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) (Target 1.3), however not all projects with potential impact on AEWA species or habitats/sites on which they depend have been the subject of EIA/SEA, which has to be addressed

in future. The Contracting Parties have been advancing on the identification and designation of their networks of sites (Target 1.2); however the site management still requires more attention. A more elaborated analysis will be made available to MOP6 through the 1st edition of the Site Network Report. The aspect of resilience of the site networks to climate change effects has to be assessed yet.

Progress towards achieving Objective 2

Objective 2 aims **to ensure that any use of waterbirds in the Agreement area is sustainable**. This objective is to be achieved through five targets. While somewhat most systematic progress has been noted towards achieving the targets of Objective 2, it is still average. Four of the indicators (80%) have received a good progress mark, while one has not been assessed (see Table 5).

With 1/4 of Contracting Parties having fully banned the use of lead shot for hunting in wetlands and an additional 16% which introduced partial bans, there has been a positive move towards achieving Target 2.1, but this issue still requires strong attention by the Parties and other stakeholders since the progress has been slow and the previous deadline set in the AEWA Action Plan (year 2000) was not met, which subsequently led to an amendment of the provision in the Action Plan at MOP4 (2008).

While half of the Contracting Parties report harvest data collection systems in place, only 37% describe them as being comprehensive (covering all AEWA species, all harvesting activities and the whole territory of the country). This is beyond the threshold of the indicator, but the essential element of international coordination and synchronisation of the data collection systems is missing, therefore Target 2.2 will require further work to be undertaken with the hunting community in the lead.

There has been good progress on reducing illegal taking of waterbirds with 37% of the Contracting Parties assessing the effectiveness of their measures as of high effectiveness; however the progress towards elimination of the use of poison baits and non-selective methods of taking has not been assessed (Target 2.3).

With the development of the Species Management Plan for the Svalbard population of the Pink-footed Goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus*), which was submitted for adoption to MOP5, and the forthcoming 1st meeting of its international coordination mechanism in mid-2012, there has been progress made towards reaching Target 2.5.

Target 2.4 on enforcing legally binding best practice standards associated with waterbird harvest has not been assessed and it will require data provision from the Contracting Parties.

Progress towards achieving Objective 3

Objective 3 aims at **increasing knowledge about species and their populations, flyways and threats to them, as a basis for conservation action** and five targets have been set to achieve this objective. The progress towards this objective is somewhat mixed with significant progress on one target (20%), but limited on two (40%) and another two targets are lacking assessment (see Table 6).

Advanced progress has been recorded on Target 3.2 where a high proportion of countries report comprehensive or partial year-round waterbird monitoring schemes. A closer analysis of the existing national monitoring schemes will be useful to understand the actual monitoring coverage.

Target 3.1, aiming at long-term resourcing of the international waterbird monitoring processes in order to secure data for status assessments, is essential, but far from being reached. While the production of the International Waterbird Census (IWC) summary reports, the AEWA Conservation Status Report and the global Waterbird Population Estimates has been kept on track, there is still a major financial gap for structural funding support to IWC at international level. Only five Contracting Parties provided support to IWC at international level either through voluntary financial contributions or through funding and bi-lateral or sub-regional collaborative projects, in the last triennium. Nationally, less than half of the Parties have supported IWC. This has resulted in only a 1/10 move towards the targeted increase of numbers of

populations whose international status was assessed on the basis of regular monitoring data. A strengthened strategic approach to the development and maintenance of IWC is urgently needed.

55% of the Contracting Parties provided lists of research activities and results in their national reports, which is half way towards reaching Target 3.5. However, accessibility has to be provided through the development of an analytical tool to the Online Reporting System used for national reporting.

Further criteria needs to be defined for assessing progress towards Target 3.3 on the establishment of new AEWA-linked research programmes and assessment of Target 3.4 has to be undertaken in cooperation with the editors of www.conservationevidence.com.

Progress towards achieving Objective 4

Objective 3 aims **to improve Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) about migratory waterbird species, their flyways, their role in alleviating poverty, threats to them and the measures needed to conserve them and their habitats**. This objective is to be achieved through three targets. It is the only objective where one target has been reached, but the other two have achieved only limited progress (see Table 7).

With 39% of the Contracting Parties reporting that they have established and are implementing programmes for awareness raising on waterbird conservation and AEWA, the threshold of the indicator (25%) of Target 4.3 has been surpassed. However, a more comprehensive analysis should be sponsored to assess the level and type of CEPA activities of the Parties.

With only 10% of the estimated costs the for the implementation of the AEWA Communication Strategy having been provided since it was adopted by MOP3 in 2005, it is still a long way to reach the target of full funding and other supported secured (Target 4.1). The capacity of Contracting Parties and partners has not been assessed; at the same time the human and technical capacity of the Secretariat needs to be brought to adequate level or the tasks need to be adjusted to the available capacity.

The implementation of the Communication Strategy (Target 4.2) is being measured through multiple (9) indicators and their achievement has been estimated to be at various levels of progress. With more than half of the indicators either with limited progress (44%) or no progress at all (11%) the aggregated progress towards the target has been assessed as limited. Only one indicator (11%) has been achieved and another has scored a significant progress, with the remaining two (22%) in the average level. In the first place, the Communication Strategy will need to go through revision and update while funding should be made available to continue the Training of Trainers activities at sub-regional level and follow up delivery of training at national level. More resources will be required to advance work on indicators with limited progress or achieve those where significant or good progress has been recorded. Although accession guidelines have been produced and disseminated with which the indicator has been achieved, this material can benefit from update and reprint.

Progress towards achieving Objective 5

Objective 5 aims **to improve the capacity of Range States and international cooperation and capacity towards the conservation of migratory waterbird species and their flyways** and eight targets have been set to achieve this objective. While progress towards one target (13%) is significantly advanced and another one is not assessed, the remaining 74% are equally split between average and limited progress (see Table 8).

With more than 1/3 reporting, that they have operational national coordination mechanisms for AEWA implementation, there has been significant progress achieved towards Target 5.7. These operational mechanisms shall be strengthened and more Parties shall establish them; experiences shall be shared.

The number of Contracting Parties grew by only five from 61 to 66 since MOP4, which is significantly below the threshold of the indicator of Target 5.1. These new Parties are from Africa and Europe, while

central Asia and the Middle East largely remain white spots yet. The work of the Secretariat to recruit new Parties shall be complemented by additional efforts from the Agreement's Parties.

Training of government staff on the implementation of the Agreement has not been delivered yet, but project funding has been raised and workshops will be conducted in 2013, jointly with the Convention on Migratory Species, which will advance progress on reaching Target 5.6.

There has been a good progress on establishing or reinforcing synergies with other Multilateral Environmental Agreements or other key partners (Target 5.3) and efforts should continue in this direction.

Only half of what has been targeted has been disbursed through the Small Grants Fund (SGF) since MOP4 (Target 5.4). Further voluntary contributions from Contracting Parties will be required in order to maintain the operations of SGF and it shall be also extended to eligible countries beyond the African region.

Submission of national reports to MOP5 reached the highest rate so far, but with nearly 1/3 of the Parties yet to provide reports, some of which have not reported to two, three or four consecutive MOPs, the targeted full reporting by all Parties is yet to be reached (Target 5.5). Report quality and completeness, as well as timely submission are yet to be addressed. Funding permitting, training will be useful to this end.

Assessment on Target 5.8 on the recognition of AEWA by the other biodiversity-related MEAs is still pending and no specific assessment has been made on Target 5.2 related to full funding for the implementation of the Strategic Plan. However, taking into account that progress towards a substantive number of other targets has been limited and that in those cases funding has been restricted or not available, the progress towards the latter has been judged as limited.

Recommendations on advancing the implementation of the Strategic Plan

With 1/3 of the Strategic Plan time span behind us and overall progress of implementation assessed as average to insufficient it is necessary to step up efforts and allocate increased funding and other resources if the Strategic Plan objectives were to be achieved and the goal reached.

While Parties shall strive to achieve all indicators and reach all targets, some specific recommendations on priorities, extracted from the overall list of suggestions shared in this report, to be addressed during the next inter-sessional period till MOP6, can be made to this end:

Target 1.1: All Parties shall, as a matter of importance and urgency, adjust their national legislation so as to provide full protection to all Column A-listed species occurring on their territory;

Target 1.2: All Parties shall address outstanding priority site designation and management issues, including also taking into account the tentative conclusions and recommendations of the *Preliminary Report on the Site Network for Waterbirds in the Agreement Area* (document AEWA/MOP 5.15);

Target 1.3: All Parties shall develop legislation on Environmental Impact Assessment & Strategic Environmental Assessments and shall apply it in all cases when there is risk of impact on AEWA species or habitats/sites on which they depend;

Target 1.4: Parties and other involved stakeholders shall increase funding and other capacity to implement the Single Species Action Plans for globally threatened species and develop such plans for all globally threatened species;

Target 2.1: Learning from the experience of those Parties which have already phased out the use of lead shot for hunting in wetlands, all other Parties shall introduce self-imposed deadlines for such complete bans, inform the Secretariat and other Parties and introduce the bans as soon as possible;

Target 2.2: With the hunting community in the lead, an internationally coordinated system for waterbird harvest data collection shall be established and made operational;

Target 3.1: Parties shall decide on the establishment of a long-term basic structural funding regime for the International Waterbird Census (IWC) and take a strengthened strategic approach to the development and maintenance of IWC.

Target 3.5: Parties shall provide means for complementing the CMS Family Online Reporting System (ORS) with an analytical tool, which will increase accessibility to and operability of research-related information as well as any other information provided through the ORS;

Target 4.2: Revise the Communication Strategy and strengthen its implementation at international and national levels by providing funding and other resources;

Target 5.1: More Parties shall complement Secretariat's efforts for recruiting new Parties to the Agreement;

Target 5.4: Parties shall provide more regularly voluntary contributions to the Small Grants Funds to allow for maintaining its operation and extending it to also other eligible range states outside of the African region;

Target 5.5: Means should be made available for training of National Focal Points and Designated National Respondents in the use of the CMS Family Online Reporting System in order to improve quality and completeness of reports.

To improve the monitoring of implementation of the Strategic Plan and progress towards achieving its objectives, some targets and indicators will still need to be assessed, while others may benefit from review and potentially adjustments:

Targets 2.4, 3.3, 3.4 and 5.8: These targets have not been assessed in the current report and efforts shall be made to provide that for MOP6;

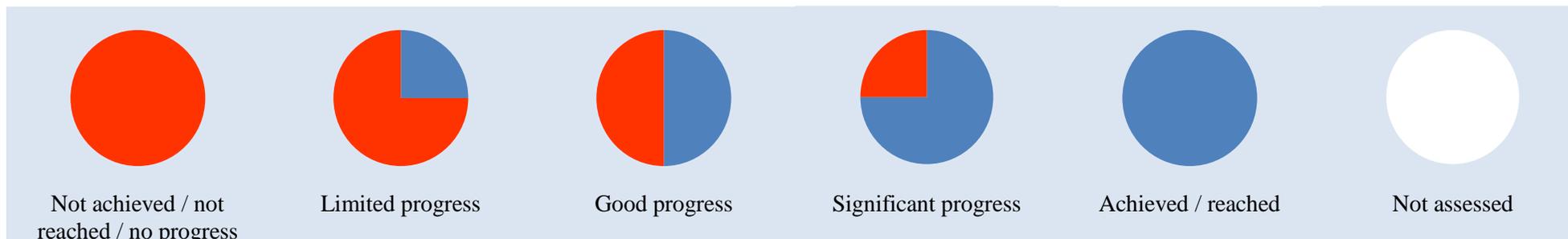
Targets 1.2, 2.3 and 4.4: Certain indicators associated with these targets have not been assessed, which shall be done for MOP6;

Targets 3.2, 4.3 and 5.7: Further data and comprehensive analysis on the advanced progress towards targets 3.2 and 5.7 will be useful, while target 4.3 may benefit from a review of its indicator threshold;

Indicators G8 and G10: Assessment is missing on the G10 indicator and shall be provided for MOP6. Indicator G8 may benefit from a review of its threshold.

The Meeting of the Parties is invited to note this report and take its conclusions and recommendations into account in the decision-making process. The recommendations will require to be addressed through joint planning and action by the Parties, the Agreement's governing bodies, the Secretariat and all other involved stakeholders and partners. Increased synergies and resource and capacity sharing will be essential in order to make necessary progress on the implementation of the AEWA Strategic Plan.

Key to pie charts and color code used in Tables 1-8



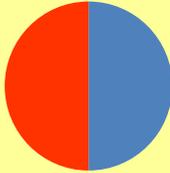
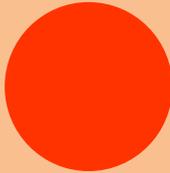
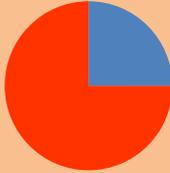
Lacking or insufficient implementation; indicator/target not achieved/reached or distant. Requires initiation of activities or further significant resources and implementation.

Implementation underway; on a good course towards achieving/reaching the indicator/target. Implementation shall continue and be strengthened.

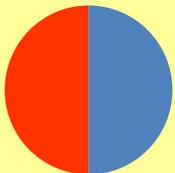
Fully implemented or advanced implementation; indicator/target achieved/reached or closely approached. Review the indicator/target or step up action for full implementation and achieving/reaching the indicator/target.

No assessment available. Shall be provided to next Meeting of the Parties.

Table 3. Goal: To maintain or to restore migratory waterbird species and their populations at a favourable conservation status throughout their flyways

Progress	Indicator (at the Agreement level)	Summary and reference
	<p>G1¹: No AEWA waterbird population has become extinct in the Agreement area</p>	<p>On the basis of the available information and the IUCN Red List 2010, no population has been identified as extinct. However, no sightings of the Critically Endangered Slender-billed Curlew (<i>Numenius tenuirostris</i>) have been confirmed since 1998 and the extensive surveys launched in the end of 2008 did not prove extant birds of the species. There is a risk that the species might be extinct.</p> <p>Reference: 5th edition of the AEWA Conservation Status Report (document AEWA/MOP 5.14)</p>
	<p>G2: All AEWA waterbird populations at a favourable conservation status at the time of MOP4 (September 2008) have retained that status</p>	<p>Twenty populations formerly listed in Categories 1 of Columns B and C (considered as favourable conservation status) have now been classified under other categories describing poorer status) due to significant long-term decline, lower population estimates or small number of sites where the population concentrates.</p> <p>Reference: 5th edition of the AEWA Conservation Status Report (document AEWA/MOP 5.14); Proposals to MOP5 for amendments to Annex 3 (Action Plan and Table 1) of AEWA (document AEWA/MOP 5.20)</p>
	<p>G3: At least 75% of the AEWA waterbird populations show a positive trend (growing or stable)</p>	<p>61% of the populations with known population trend have a positive trend. There is a slight increase of 2% as compared to the previous assessment of 2008, but still significantly below the target.</p> <p>Reference: 5th edition of the AEWA Conservation Status Report (document AEWA/MOP 5.14)</p>

¹ The numbering of the indicators associated with the Strategic Plan Goal from G1 to G12 does not exist in the Strategic Plan, but has been introduced in this report for ease of reference.

Progress	Indicator (at the Agreement level)	Summary and reference
	<p>G4: Overall status of indicator species has improved, as measured by the Waterbird Indicator</p>	<p>The value of the Waterbird Indicator has increased from -0.1363 (N₂₀₀₈ = 396) to -0.1118 (N₂₀₁₁ = 391), which represents some improvement compared to the previous assessment of 2008, however, still more populations are declining than increasing.</p> <p>Reference: 5th edition of the AEWA Conservation Status Report (document AEWA/MOP 5.14)</p>
	<p>G5: Overall extinction risk of waterbirds has reduced, as measured by the Red List Index</p>	<p>The Red List Index for the AEWA species has declined by 1% from 1988 to 2010 compared to 0.48% for all species: they have declined in status proportionately twice as fast over the last two decades. No AEWA-listed species underwent genuine category changes during 2008-2010; however, this may be a consequence of time-lags in information flow. A full re-assessment of the Red List will happen in 2012. <i>(Note: at the time of compilation of this overview it was already known that at least two AEWA seabird species will be newly categorised as Globally Threatened)</i></p> <p>Reference: 5th edition of the AEWA Conservation Status Report (document AEWA/MOP 5.14)</p>
	<p>G6: 20% of threatened and Near Threatened species have been downlisted to lower categories of threat</p>	<p>No AEWA-listed species underwent genuine category changes during 2008-2010; however, this may be a consequence of time-lags in information flow. A full re-assessment of the Red List will happen in 2012. <i>(Note: at the time of compilation of this overview it was already known that at least two AEWA seabird species will be newly categorised as Globally Threatened)</i></p> <p>Reference: 5th edition of the AEWA Conservation Status Report (document AEWA/MOP 5.14)</p>
	<p>G7: Fewer populations to be listed in Category 1 in Column A (20% reduction)</p>	<p>Seven populations less qualify for listing in category 1 of Column A as compared to the assessment of 2008. This represents a 7% reduction.</p> <p>Reference: 5th edition of the AEWA Conservation Status Report (document AEWA/MOP 5.14); Proposals to MOP5 for Amendments to Annex 3 (Action Plan and Table 1) of AEWA (document AEWA/MOP 5.20)</p>

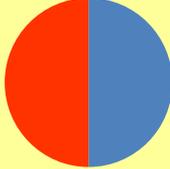
Progress	Indicator (at the Agreement level)	Summary and reference
	G8: Fewer populations to be listed in Column A (5% reduction)	<p>8% fewer populations qualify for Column A as compared to the assessment of 2008, in most cases due to reclassification from Category A2 to B1 (higher population estimate – between 25,000 and 100,000 individuals).</p> <p>Reference: 5th edition of the AEWA Conservation Status Report (document AEWA/MOP 5.14); Proposals to MOP5 for amendments to Annex 3 (Action Plan and Table 1) of AEWA (document AEWA/MOP 5.20)</p>

Progress	Indicator (at the national level)	Summary and reference
	G9: No AEWA waterbird population has gone extinct as a breeding, migrating, or wintering (whichever is applicable) species in any CPs territory	<p>Eight Contracting Parties (CPs) reported extinctions of breeding populations involving 19 species. These extinctions range from 1% to 9% of the species reported as breeding within the respective CPs. Some of these extinctions are however based on population assessments from the early 2000s.</p> <p>Reference: Analysis of AEWA National Reports for the triennium 2009-2011 (document AEWA/MOP 5.12)</p>

	G10: Current favourable status of AEWA waterbirds, as breeding, migrating or wintering species, within any CPs has been retained	<p>Not assessed.</p>
---	---	----------------------

Progress	Indicator (at the national level)	Summary and reference
	<p>G11: At least 75% of AEWA waterbird species occurring in any CP have a positive trend (stable or growing)</p>	<p>Only four Contracting Parties (CPs) (7% of the CPs) reported 75% or more of their breeding populations having positive trend with another 12 CPs (19% of the CPs) approaching the target (50-75%). In 21 CPs (34% of the CPs) the proportion is below 50% and for the rest of the parties no information is available.</p> <p>Reference: Analysis of AEWA National Reports for the triennium 2009-2011 (document AEWA/MOP 5.12)</p>
	<p>G12: 20% of threatened and Near Threatened species have been downlisted to lower categories of threat in each CP</p>	<p>Only one Contracting Party (CP) reported downlisting more than 20% of their threatened and Near Threatened species to lower categories with two more CPs approaching the target. However, some of the downlisting reported by the CP could have resulted from change in the method used in the different assessments.</p> <p>Reference: Analysis of AEWA National Reports for the triennium 2009-2011 (document AEWA/MOP 5.12)</p>

Table 4. Objective 1: To undertake conservation measures so as to improve or maintain conservation status of waterbird species and their populations

Progress	Target	Indicator	Summary and reference
	<p>1.1: Full legal protection is provided to all Column A species</p>	<p>All CPs have adopted national legislation protecting all Column A species</p>	<p>Only 10 Contracting Parties (CPs) (16% of the CPs) reported full protection of all Column A species occurring in their respective territories with additional 15 CPs providing protection to 76-99% of their Column A species. Considering that legal status is a fundamental prerequisite for effective conservation this progress is not sufficient.</p> <p>Reference: Analysis of AEWA National Reports for the triennium 2009-2011 (document AEWA/MOP 5.12)</p>
	<p>1.2: A comprehensive and coherent flyway network of protected and managed sites, and other adequately managed sites, of international and national importance for waterbirds is established and maintained, while taking into account the existing networks and climate change</p>	<p>All CPs are in place and maintain comprehensive national networks of sustainably-managed, protected, and other managed areas, that form a coherent flyway site network, which aims to be resilient to the effects of climate change</p>	<p>65% of the Contracting Parties (CPs) have indicated that they have fully or partially identified their networks of sites. Information provided by up to 1/3 of CPs on their nationally or internationally important sites (or both) shows very high proportion of sites protected (>99% and 89% respectively) and of those protected sites 67% of nationally important sites have management plans in place while much lower proportion of internationally important sites are managed (37%). Resilience to climate change effects has not been assessed.</p> <p>Reference: Analysis of AEWA National Reports for the triennium 2009-2011 (document AEWA/MOP 5.12)</p>
	<p>1.3: Environmental Impact Assessment & Strategic Environmental Assessments are used to reduce the impact of new development on waterbird</p>	<p>All CPs use EIA/SEA to reduce the impact on waterbirds</p>	<p>58% of the Contracting Parties (CPs) reported EIA/SEA legislation in place and in 50% of the CPs EIA/SEA has been used for all relevant projects to assess their impact on AEWA species or habitats/sites on which they depend.</p> <p>Reference: Analysis of AEWA National Reports for the</p>

Progress	Target	Indicator	Summary and reference
	species and populations		triennium 2009-2011 (document AEWA/MOP 5.12)
	<p>1.4: Single Species Action Plans (SSAPs) are developed and implemented for most threatened species listed in category 1 and categories 2 and 3, marked with an asterisk on column A of Table 1</p>	<p>SSAPs are in place and being effectively implemented for all globally threatened species and species marked with an asterisk</p>	<p>Of the 24 AEWA species classified as globally threatened in 2010, AEWA SSAPs have been adopted or developed for eight and for the development of two more funding has been secured. Of these, international mechanisms for coordination of implementation have been established for six SSAPs, however not all of them are fully operational. For an additional four species SSAPs exist under other frameworks than AEWA and/or require update and revision. No SSAPs have been developed for species marked with an asterisk. For the species with adopted SSAPs national action plans have been developed and implemented by few Contracting Parties.</p> <p>Reference: 5th edition of the AEWA Conservation Status Report (document AEWA/MOP 5.14); Analysis of AEWA National Reports for the triennium 2009-2011 (document AEWA/MOP 5.12); Summary of Current State of Single Species Action Plan (SSAP) and Species Management Plan (SMP) Production and Coordination (document AEWA/MOP 5.24)</p>
	<p>1.5: Waterbirds are considered thoroughly in the context of the delivery of National Action Plans on non-native species by other international fora, such as CBD, Bern Convention, and GISP</p>	<p>CPs have incorporated, as part of National Action Plans on non-native species, specific measures for invasive non-native species of waterbirds and are implementing them in order to ensure their control or eradication</p>	<p>Only 8% of the Contracting Parties have in place National Action Plans on non-native species. Of the 18 CPs confirming breeding non-native species on their territories, involving 35 different species, only eight CPs are implementing or developing control/eradication programmes on five species.</p> <p>Reference: Analysis of AEWA National Reports for the triennium 2009-2011 (document AEWA/MOP 5.12)</p>

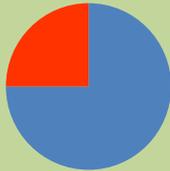
Table 5. Objective 2: To ensure that any use of waterbirds in the Agreement area is sustainable

Progress	Target	Indicator	Summary and reference
	<p>2.1: The use of lead shot for hunting in wetlands is phased out in all CPs</p>	<p>All CPs have adopted national legislation prohibiting the use of lead shot (in wetlands)</p> <p>No authenticated report of continued use of lead shot for hunting in wetlands in the Agreement area is received by the Secretariat</p>	<p>24% of the Contracting Parties have fully phased out the use of lead shot with additional 16% having introduced partial ban.</p> <p>Reference: Analysis of AEWA National Reports for the triennium 2009-2011 (document AEWA/MOP 5.12)</p>
	<p>2.2: Internationally coordinated collection of harvest data is developed and implemented</p>	<p>Internationally coordinated harvest data collection in place involving at least 25% of the CPs</p>	<p>50% of the Contracting Parties (CPs) have confirmed harvest data collection systems in place and for 31% of the CPs these systems cover all AEWA species, the whole territory of the country and all harvesting activities. However, the international coordination and synchronization of these national schemes is still lacking.</p> <p>Reference: Analysis of AEWA National Reports for the triennium 2009-2011 (document AEWA/MOP 5.12)</p>
	<p>2.3: Measures to reduce, and as far as possible eliminate, illegal taking of waterbirds, the use of poison baits and non-selective methods of taking are developed and implemented</p>	<p>All CPs have pertinent legislation in place which is being fully enforced</p>	<p>61% of the Contracting Parties (CPs) confirmed that measures are in place to reduce/eliminate illegal taking of waterbirds within their country, while only 37% of the CPs consider the effectiveness of these measures to be high. Progress towards the elimination of the use of poison baits and non-selective methods of taking has not been assessed.</p>

Progress	Target	Indicator	Summary and reference
			<p>Reference: Analysis of AEWA National Reports for the triennium 2009-2011 (document AEWA/MOP 5.12)</p>
	<p>2.4: Best practice codes and standards, such as bird identification, are developed and prompted, in order to achieve proper enforcement of legally binding provisions</p>	<p>50% of CPs are effectively enforcing legally binding best practice standards</p>	<p>Not assessed.</p>
	<p>2.5: Adaptive harvest management of quarry populations is ensured at international scale</p>	<p>International harvest management plans (IHMP) for two quarry populations developed and implemented</p>	<p>The Species Management Plan for the Svalbard population of the Pink-footed Goose (<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>) developed and submitted for adoption to MOP5 represents the first step towards reaching Target 2.5. Its implementation is scheduled to start upon its formal adoption and the first meeting of its international coordination mechanism is planned for mid-2012.</p> <p>Reference: Draft International Species Management Plan for the Svalbard population of the Pink-footed Goose (document AEWA/MOP 5.30); Summary of current state of Single Species Action Plan and Species Management Plan production and coordination (document AEWA/MOP 5.24)</p>

Table 6. Objective 3: To increase knowledge about species and their populations, flyways and threats to them, as a basis for conservation action

Progress	Target	Indicator	Summary and reference
	<p>3.1: Necessary resources are in place to support, on a long-term basis, the international processes for gathering monitoring data for status assessment.</p>	<p>Timely production of annual IWC summary report and the AEWA CSR and global <i>Waterbird Population Estimates</i></p> <p>50% increase of species/ populations whose international status is being assessed with regular monitoring data</p>	<p>Annual International Waterbird Census (IWC) summary reports (national totals) have been published in 2011 and 2012 covering the period 2003-2011. The 5th edition of the AEWA Conservation Status Report (CSR) was produced in 2011 and submitted to MOP5. The 5th edition of the Waterbird Population Estimates (WPE) will be launched at the Ramsar COP11 (July 2012) as an online database to be updated for every subsequent Ramsar COP.</p> <p>Reference: 5th edition of the AEWA Conservation Status Report (document AEWA/MOP 5.14); Communication from Wetlands International to the AEWA Secretariat; IWC annual national totals</p> <p>The number of populations whose international status was assessed on the basis of regular monitoring data increased from 102 to 107, i.e. by 5%, which is significantly lower than the target.</p> <p>Reference: 5th edition of the AEWA Conservation Status Report (document AEWA/MOP 5.14)</p> <p>Annual recurring costs of IWC international coordination and development in the AEWA area are estimated at minimum 353,000 Euros of which 100,000 Euros have been pledged by Wetland International own funds, 130,000 Euros are sought as support from the AEWA Contracting Parties (CPs) and the remaining 123,000 Euros are to be raised on project basis. Additional triennial costs for some special counts and IWC-related outputs, such as CSR and WPE, as well as the Critical Site Network Tool updates, are estimated at 290,000 Euros, of which 55,000 Euros have been secured through the AEWA core budget. These figures outline still a major financial gap for structural funding</p>

Progress	Target	Indicator	Summary and reference
			<p>support to IWC at international level. Only five CPs have reported funding support provided to the international coordinator Wetlands International (voluntary contributions) or funding and collaborative projects on bi-lateral basis with other CPs/Range States or sub-regional basis.</p> <p>Reference: Strategic development of the waterbird monitoring in the African-Eurasian flyways (document AEWA/MOP 5.42); Analysis of AEWA National Reports for the triennium 2009-2011 (document AEWA/MOP 5.12)</p> <p>Nationally, 44% of the CPs have funded or logistically supported IWC activities.</p> <p>Reference: Analysis of AEWA National Reports for the triennium 2009-2011 (document AEWA/MOP 5.12)</p>
	<p>3.2: Capacity of national monitoring systems to assess the status of the waterbirds is established, maintained and further developed</p>	<p>Half of CPs have year-round (as appropriate) monitoring systems in place</p>	<p>66% of the Contracting Parties (CPs) confirmed that waterbird monitoring schemes for AEWA species are in place in their countries, but only 11% reported full coverage of all three periods (breeding, passage/migration and non-breeding/wintering). The proportion of CPs reporting either full or partial coverage of all three periods is significantly higher (52%). Further details and closer analysis of national monitoring schemes will be useful.</p> <p>Reference: Analysis of AEWA National Reports for the triennium 2009-2011 (document AEWA/MOP 5.12)</p>

Progress	Target	Indicator	Summary and reference
	<p>3.3: Nationally responsible state agencies, academic and other wildlife-related research institutions are encouraged to establish research programmes to support implementation of waterbird conservation priorities</p>	<p>Ten new AEWA-linked research programmes are established</p>	<p>55% of the Contracting Parties (CPs) reported that research-related to waterbirds and their conservation had been undertaken over the past triennium. A large number of projects was listed, although not all of them were initiated in the last triennium and they also have different levels of research objectives. Further criteria need to be defined for assessing progress towards this target.</p> <p>Reference: Analysis of AEWA National Reports for the triennium 2009-2011 (document AEWA/MOP 5.12)</p>
	<p>3.4: Best practices, including traditional knowledge, for waterbird conservation programmes are collated and incorporated</p>	<p>50 best practices collated and published at www.conservationevidence.com</p>	<p>Not assessed.</p>
	<p>3.5: Sharing and accessibility of relevant data and information are enhanced so as to underpin relevant conservation decision- making</p>	<p>Web-based list of research related to waterbirds and their conservation in each CP per triennium</p>	<p>A large number of projects was listed by 55% the Contracting Parties reporting to MOP5. However, this list is still not readily accessible and searchable, which can be addressed through the development of an analytical tool to the CMS Family Online Reporting System.</p> <p>Reference: Analysis of AEWA National Reports for the triennium 2009-2011 (document AEWA/MOP 5.12)</p>

Table 7. Objective 4: To improve Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) about migratory waterbird species, their flyways, their role in alleviating poverty, threats to them and the measures needed to conserve them and their habitats

Progress	Target	Indicator	Summary and reference
	<p>4.1: Support for the implementation of the Communication Strategy (CS) is secured</p>	<p>100% funding and other support, as appropriate (e.g. expertise, network, skills and resources), is secured for the Communication Strategy implementation</p>	<p>Only 10% of the estimated costs (502.250 Euros) for the implementation of the CS have been provided since it was adopted by MOP3 in 2005. Capacity of the Secretariat (human resource and technical expertise) need to be brought to an adequate level against the implementation tasks foreseen in the CS or the tasks need to be adjusted to the available capacity. Capacity of Contracting Parties and partners has not been assessed.</p> <p>Reference: Report on the implementation and revision of the communication strategy (document AEWA/MOP 5.18)</p>
	<p>4.2: The AEWA Communication Strategy is implemented</p>	<p>The Communication Strategy has been monitored annually and reviewed and updated on a tri-annual basis</p>	<p>Detailed reports on the implementation of the CS were presented to MOP4 (September 2008), 6th meeting of the Standing Committee (StC) (June 2010) and StC7 (November 2011). No reviews and updates of the CS have been undertaken yet. A coordinated revision and update process for the CS is being proposed by the Secretariat for after MOP5.</p> <p>Reference: Report on the implementation and revision of the communication strategy (document AEWA/MOP 5.18)</p>

Progress	Target	Indicator	Summary and reference
		<p>At least one Training of Trainers workshop for CEPA has been held in each AEWA region (CS 3.1)²</p>	<p>Three Training of Trainers (ToT) workshops using the WOW Flyway Training Kit (FTK) have taken place in the framework of the Wings over Wetlands (WOW) project for four sub-regions (West Africa and Central Africa (Cameroon), the Middle East (Jordan) and Central Asia & Caucasus (Kazakhstan) since MOP4.</p> <p>Two ToT courses using the WOW FTK will take place in 2013 for anglophone countries in Southern and Eastern Africa and Portuguese-speaking countries in Africa (funded through the capacity building project implemented by UNEP/CMS and UNEP/AEWA Secretariats in the framework of the ENRTP Strategic Cooperation Agreement between the European Commission - Directorate General for the Environment and UNEP to be run in collaboration with the on-going BirdLife/MAVA CMB project and Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative capacity building project).</p> <p>The focus of these ToT's has not been on CEPA per se, although the workshops do include CEPA related topics.</p> <p>Reference: Report on the Implementation and Revision of the Communication Strategy (document AEWA/MOP 5.18); Report on the Implementation of the African Initiative for the Period 2009-2012 (document AEWA/MOP 5.32)</p>

⁶ Between brackets and, where appropriate, the targets are linked to the Communication Strategy (CS), the number given reflects the respective activity in the Communication Strategy

Progress	Target	Indicator	Summary and reference
		<p>In at least three AEWA regions, follow-up trainings for CEPA at the national level have been conducted by the people trained under target 3.3 (CS 3.2)</p>	<p>Since MOP4 two national workshops (Mozambique and South Sudan) were organized in the framework of the Wings over Wetlands (WOW) project. However, training was not provided by trainers who received training through regional ToT workshops under target 3.1.</p> <p>Reference: Wings over Wetland (WOW) project reports</p>
		<p>Regional Centres for the exchange of information on AEWA have been established in all regions (CS 2.2)</p>	<p>The four regional centers established in the framework of Wings over Wetlands (WOW) project in Dakar, Almaty & Moscow, Nairobi and Amman, in many ways, function as <i>de facto</i> information exchange and capacity building centres on AEWA over the course of WOW project implementation (2006-2010). After the closure of the project the level of activity of these centres has significantly reduced and further funding will be required to resume their operation as AEWA exchange centres.</p> <p>Reference: Report on the implementation and revision of the communication strategy (document AEWA/MOP 5.18)</p>
		<p>The AEWA website has been improved and maintained, and in particular made more interactive (CS 4.1)</p>	<p>The current AEWA website is being maintained and regularly updated with information and news. However, the last re-design of the website was carried out in 2005, so it is becoming technologically outdated. The current AEWA website is purely HTML-based and has no underlying database or web-content management system. It also does not make use of many new interactive features which have become in recent years.</p> <p>The Secretariat is actively involved in a project to develop a new CMS Family Website which will be more interactive than the existing AEWA website and will be powered by a web-content management system.</p>

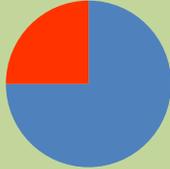
Progress	Target	Indicator	Summary and reference
			<p>Additional funding will need to be secured to enable the full implementation of this project.</p> <p>Reference: Report on the implementation and revision of the communication strategy (document AEWA/MOP 5.18); AEWA Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Overview (document AEWA/MOP5.10)</p>
		<p>The AEWA newsletter is being published regularly, and twice yearly in hard copy supported by monthly electronic updates (CS 4.2)</p>	<p>The AEWA E-Newsletter has evolved to become one of the primary communication tools of the Secretariat to reach out to the currently 4000+ contacts on bi-monthly basis. A total of 31 E-Newsletters have been sent out since the availability of the tool in 2006 (14 E-Newsletters since MOP4).</p> <p>The last hard copy Newsletter was produced in-house in January 2008 and funds will be required to resume the regular production and dissemination of hard copy Newsletters to compliment the E-Newsletter.</p> <p>Reference: Report on the implementation and revision of the communication strategy (document AEWA/MOP 5.18)</p>
		<p>The infrastructure for e-discussions is in place and the discussions facilitated (CS 4.3)</p>	<p>Not implemented.</p> <p>Reference: Report on the implementation and revision of the communication strategy (document AEWA/MOP 5.18)</p>

Progress	Target	Indicator	Summary and reference
		<p>Guidelines for Accession have been updated and distributed to all non-CPs (CS 4.4)</p>	<p>Accession guidelines have been produced by the Secretariat in English, French, Arabic and Russian languages and widely distributed to non-Contracting Parties. They can benefit from a new update and reprint.</p> <p>Reference: Report on the implementation and revision of the communication strategy (document AEWA/MOP 5.18)</p>
		<p>A flexible toolkit is produced, and distributed, providing a set of resource materials for awareness raising at the national level (CS 4.5)</p>	<p>Work is ongoing to develop an AEWA Toolkit. Many of the materials to be included in this toolkit, in digital or hard copy form, are now available. In addition, the WOW Flyway Training Kit published in May 2010 will likely become a primary resource for also raising awareness on AEWA.</p> <p>Reference: Report on the implementation and revision of the communication strategy (document AEWA/MOP 5.18)</p>
	<p>4.3: Awareness and understanding of waterbird conservation issues in general and of AEWA in particular are increased at all levels within the CPs</p>	<p>At least 25% of CPs have developed and are implementing programmes for raising awareness and understanding on waterbird conservation and AEWA</p>	<p>39% of the Contracting Parties (CPs) reported that they have in place and are implementing programmes for awareness raising on waterbird conservation and AEWA. A further 2% are developing such programmes. A more comprehensive analysis should be made, funding permitting, to assess the level and type of CEPA activities in the CPs.</p> <p>Reference: Analysis of AEWA National Reports for the triennium 2009-2011 (document AEWA/MOP 5.12)</p>

Table 8. Objective 5: To improve the capacity of Range States and international cooperation and capacity towards the conservation of migratory waterbird species and their flyways

Progress	Target	Indicator	Summary and reference
	<p>5.1: The membership of the Agreement is expanded</p>	<p>AEWA Membership has increased to 75 Parties by MOP5, to 85 Parties by MOP6, and to 90 Parties by MOP 7, with particular focus on Central Asia and the Middle East</p>	<p>The number of Contracting Parties (CPs) increased by five from 61 at MOP4 (as of 1 September 2008) to 66 at MOP5 (as of 1 June 2012) with three new CPs from Africa and two from Europe. Only five CPs reported approaching non-CPs to encourage them to accede to the Agreement.</p> <p>Reference: Report of the Depositary (document AEWA/MOP 5.8); Analysis of AEWA National reports for the triennium 2009-2012 (document AEWA/MOP 5.12)</p>
	<p>5.2: Sufficient funding for the implementation of the SP is raised from different sources</p>	<p>Full funding is raised</p>	<p>While no specific assessment of the progress towards the achievement of this target has been made, considering that progress towards a substantive number of other targets has been limited and that in those cases funding has been restricted or not available, it will be justified to assess the progress towards target 5.2 as limited.</p>
	<p>5.3: Cooperation with other MEAs and key partners is enhanced</p>	<p>At least 5 new MoU/MoC between AEWA and other MEA's and key partners are established</p>	<p>At the AEWA 15th Anniversary Symposium in June 2010, a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) was signed with the Ramsar Convention, BirdLife International and Wetlands International to continue the joint work and partnership established during the Wing over Wetlands (WOW) project (post-WOW partnership).</p> <p>An MoC with Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF) is in preparation and will be signed at the Ramsar Convention COP11 in July 2012.</p> <p>An MoC will be signed at MOP5 between the Ramsar Convention and</p>

Progress	Target	Indicator	Summary and reference
			<p>the CMS (also on behalf of its instruments, including AEWA) under which a Joint Work Plan of 2004 between AEWA and Ramsar will be renewed.</p> <p>Reference: Report of the Secretariat (document AEWA/MOP 5.9)</p>
	<p>5.4: The Small Grants Fund (SGF) is activated</p>	<p>At least 100,000 EUR annually is disbursed to developing countries for implementation of AEWA</p>	<p>The first AEWA SGF cycle was launched in 2010 and 93.071 Euros were granted to five projects. The second cycle in 2011 disbursed 43.400 Euros to two projects. The third cycle was launched in April 2012, but the amount of available funds is only 20.000 Euros. The total funds made available through these three cycles are 156.471 Euros (52% of the target) of which 80.000 Euros have been allocated in the AEWA core budget under implementation of the African Initiative. Voluntary contributions were provided by France (56.500 Euros) and Switzerland (27.398 Euros) (including 13% UNEP PSC), both specifically for projects in Africa.</p> <p>All the three cycles have been limited only to the African region due to geographic restrictions of the available funding.</p> <p>Reference: Report on the implementation of the African Initiative for the period 2009-2012 (document AEWA/MOP 5.32)</p>
	<p>5.5: The rate of submission of National Reports is increased</p>	<p>All Contracting Parties regularly provide complete national reports</p>	<p>Submission rate of national reports to MOP5 is 69%, which is an increase compared to MOP4 (64%) and highest achieved so far in any reporting cycle. There are however Parties which have not submitted reports to two, three or four consecutive MOPs. Although more than 2/3 of the Contracting Parties submitted reports, their quality and completeness, as well as timely submission are yet to be addressed.</p>

Progress	Target	Indicator	Summary and reference
			<p>Reference: Analysis of AEWA National reports for the triennium 2009-2012 (document AEWA/MOP 5.12)</p>
	<p>5.6: Capacity of national staff to implement the Agreement is increased through proper training mechanisms</p>	<p>At least 30 governmental staff members have been trained in at least 20 countries</p>	<p>Not implemented yet. In the framework of the ENRTP Strategic Cooperation Agreement between the European Commission - Directorate General for the Environment and UNEP a three-year capacity building project was launched earlier in 2012 to be implemented by UNEP/CMS and UNEP/AEWA Secretariats. Specific training modules for National Focal Points (NFPs), as well as outline of a corresponding online training module will be developed. Using this module, three training workshops for NFPs will be conducted in 2013.</p> <p>Reference: Report on the implementation of the African Initiative for the period 2009-2012 (document AEWA/MOP 5.32)</p>
	<p>5.7: Appropriate national coordination mechanism for implementation of AEWA linking to national coordination mechanisms for other biodiversity MEAs are established</p>	<p>In at least 50% of the Contracting Parties AEWA national coordination mechanisms have been established and are operational on regular basis</p>	<p>34% of the Contracting Parties reported that they have such national coordination mechanism and they are operating regularly. Some more countries reported non-operational mechanisms, mechanisms in preparation or described other system for national coordination of the Agreement.</p> <p>Reference: Analysis of AEWA National Reports for the triennium 2009-2011 (document AEWA/MOP 5.12)</p>

Progress	Target	Indicator	Summary and reference
	<p>5.8: AEWA is recognized by other biodiversity MEAs as an MEA whose effectiveness in protecting waterbirds can be used as an indicator for sustaining biodiversity on a global level</p>	<p>All global biodiversity MEAs are referring to the effectiveness of AEWA as an indicator for sustaining biodiversity on a global level</p>	<p>Not assessed.</p>