



Report on the implementation of AEWA for the period 2012-2014

The format for reports on the implementation of the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA) for the period 2012-2014 was approved at the 9th meeting of the Standing Committee (18-19 September 2013, Trondheim, Norway) by Doc StC 9.11. This format has been constructed following the AEWA Action Plan, the AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017 and resolutions of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP).

In accordance with Article V.1(c) of the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds, each Party shall prepare to each ordinary session of the MOP a National Report on its implementation of the Agreement and submit that report to the Agreement Secretariat not later than 120 days before the session of the MOP. The 6th Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP6) is taking place on 9-14 November 2015 in Bonn, Germany; therefore the deadline for submission of National Reports is 12 May 2015.

The AEWA National Reports 2012-2014 will be compiled and submitted through the CMS Family Online Reporting Facility, which is an online reporting tool for the whole CMS Family. The CMS Family Online Reporting System was developed in 2010-2011 by the UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) in close collaboration with and under the guidance of the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat.

To contact the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat please send your inquiries to aewa_national_reporting@unep.de

1. General Information

Name of reporting Contracting Party

> GHANA

Date of entry into force of AEWA in the Contracting Party

> 01 October 2005

List any reservations that the Contracting Party has made (if any) upon deposition of its instruments of accession on provisions of the Agreement or its Action Plan in accordance with Article XV of AEWA

> None

2. Institutional Information

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

Designated National AEWA Administrative Authority

Full name of the institution

> WILDLIFE DIVISION OF THE FORESTRY COMMISSION

Name and title of the head of institution

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Designated National Respondent (DNR) in charge of the compilation and submission of the AEWA National Report 2012-2014

Please select from the list below as appropriate.

The National Focal Point for AEWA Technical Committee (NFPTC) matters has been designated as the National Respondent

Other contributors to the AEWA National Report 2012-2014

Please list the names and affiliations (institution, organisation) of the other contributors to this report

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UNIVERSITY OF GHANA, LEGON, ACCRA GHANA

Status

3. Non-native Waterbird Species Status

Are there non-native waterbird species occurring in your country?

If you respond **negatively** to this question, please skip this chapter and proceed to chapter 4. Species Conservation. If you respond **positively** to this question, please select from the drop-down list below only the **non-native** species that occur in your country and fill out the required information.

No

AEWA Species - *Egretta ardesiaca* / Black Heron

English Common name(s):

Black Heron

French Common name(s):

Aigrette ardoisée



Confirmation of species occurrence

Please confirm the occurrence of the species in the country

The species occurs in the country

Native or non-native species

Please confirm whether the species is non-native to your country

Non-native

Species Status

Please select whether status will be reported for breeding or non-breeding/wintering population

Both options can be selected

Non-breeding/wintering

Species Status - Non-breeding/wintering

Latest population estimate

No information

No information

Previous population estimate

No information

No information

Legal Status

AEWA Species - *Pluvialis squatarola* / Grey Plover

English Common name(s):

Black-bellied Plover, Grey Plover

French Common name(s):

Pluvier argenté



Confirmation of species occurrence

Please confirm the occurrence of the species in the country

The species occurs in the country

Native or non-native species

Please confirm whether the species is non-native to your country

Non-native

Species Status

Please select whether status will be reported for breeding or non-breeding/wintering population

Both options can be selected

Non-breeding/wintering

Species Status - Non-breeding/wintering

Latest population estimate

No information

No information

Previous population estimate

No information

No information

Population trend

No information

No information

Legal Status

Does the species have any legal status?

No

National Red List Status

Does the species have any National Red List Status?

No

Pressures and Responses

4. Species Conservation

4.1 Legal Measures

1. Please indicate which modes of taking are prohibited in your country (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.2(b))

Please select from the list below.

- Snares
- Limes
- Hooks
- Live birds which are blind or mutilated used as decoys
- Tape recorders and other electronic devices
- Electrocuting devices
- Artificial light sources
- Mirrors and other dazzling devices
- Devices for illuminating targets
- Sighting devices for night shooting comprising an electronic image magnifier or image converter
- Explosives
- Nets
- Poison
- Poisoned or anesthetic baits
- Semi-automatic or automatic weapons with a magazine capable of holding more than two rounds of ammunition
- Hunting from aircraft, motor vehicles, or boats driven at a speed exceeding 5 km p/h (18 km p/h on the open sea)

Please provide further details, including the relevant legislation

> Wildlife conservation regulation LI 685 . No soft copy immediately available for upload.

2. Has your country granted exemptions from any of the above prohibitions in order to accommodate livelihoods uses? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.2(b))

- No

3. Were any exemptions granted to the prohibitions laid down in paragraphs 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 of the AEWA Action Plan? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.3)

- No

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

> No further information

4.2 Single Species Action Plans

4. Please report on the progress of turning the International Single Species Action Plans (ISSAP), for species whose populations are listed on Column A of Table 1, developed under or recognised by AEWA, into National Single Species Action Plans (NSSAP). (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.2)

Please report on each relevant ISSAP for Ghana

National Single Species Action Plan for Gallinago media

(Great Snipe)

- No NSSAP

Please explain the reasons

> No record of Great Snipe population in Ghana

Field for additional information (optional)

> No further information

National Single Species Action Plan for Limosa limosa

(Black-tailed Godwit)

- No NSSAP

Please explain the reasons

> Not enough information to develop Action Plan

Field for additional information (optional)

> No further information

National Single Species Action Plan for *Glareola nordmanni*

(Black-winged Pratincole)

No NSSAP

Please explain the reasons

> No record of Black-winged Pratincole population in Ghana

Field for additional information (optional)

> No further information

5. Does your country have in place or is your country developing a National Single Species Action Plan for any species/population for which an AEWA ISSAP has not been developed? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.2.2)

No

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

No

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

> We are yet consider preparing NSSAP

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

> No further information

4.3 Emergency Measures

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

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

No emergency situation has occurred

8. Are there any other emergency measures, different from the ones reported above, but were developed and are in place in your country?

No

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

Not applicable

Please explain

> No emergency situation has occurred

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 4.3. Emergency Measures

> No further information

4.4 Re-establishments

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

No

Please explain the reasons

> No such project has taken place

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

No

Please explain the reasons

> there is no re-establishment plan of species

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

No

13. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines on the translocation of waterbirds for conservation Purposes?

No

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

> No trans-location of waterbirds has taken place in Ghana

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

> No further information

4.5 Introductions

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

No

Please explain the reasons

> Not a single legislation for introduction of animal and plant species that may be detrimental to waterbirds.

Field for additional information (optional)

> No further information

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

Yes, and being enforced

Please provide the following details: title of the document, year of adoption, institution that adopted it, institution that enforces it

> No specific law but there is administrative directives that seeks to avoid accidental escape of captive animals.

Field for additional information (optional)

> No further information

16. Does your country have in place a National Action Plan for Invasive Species (NAPIS) (in the framework of other MEAs, such as CBD, Bern Convention, and GISP (Global Invasive Species Programme) (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 1, Target 5)?

Being developed

Please provide starting date and expected finalisation date of the process

> Started in June 2014; expected to be adopted in June 2015.

Field for additional information (optional)

> Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is leading the development of the NAPIS.

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

No

Please explain the reasons

> Not really a noticeable issue of concern in the country.

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

No

Please explain the reasons

> Non-native aquatic weeds is a problem but there is not much information to develop any programme to deal with the situation.

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

No

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

> introductions of non-native waterbird species not a problem

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 4.5. Introductions

> No further information

Pressures and Responses

5. Habitat Conservation

5.1 Habitat Inventories

20. Has your country identified the network of all sites of international and national importance for the migratory waterbird species/populations listed on Table 1? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 3.1.2)

Partially

Please describe the progress

> Some major network of sites of international importance have been identified in the coastal areas of Ghana. Some potential sites still remain to be identified particularly in the inland areas of the country.

Field for additional information (optional)

> A number of sites important for migratory waterbirds have been identified but have not been listed under any national or international guidance.

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

No

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

> Most of the sites identified were done many years before Ghana ratified the AEWA. However, some other criteria of international value were applied, e.g. IUCN.

Field for additional information (optional)

> No further information

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

> No further information

5.2. Conservation of Areas

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

For one or more single sites

No

For the national protected area network

No

23. Which sites that were identified as important, either internationally or nationally, for Table 1 migratory waterbird species/populations have been designated as protected areas under the national legislation and have management plans that are being implemented, including with the aim to increase resilience to the effects of climate change? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 3.2.1, AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 1, Target 1.2)

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

Reporting on designation and management of internationally important sites

All sites of international importance

Total number

> 36

Total area (ha)

> 1470764

Out of the above total: number of protected sites

> 36

Out of the above total: protected area (ha)
> 1470764

Number of protected sites with management plans in place which are being implemented
> 36

Area under protection (in ha) covered by management plans which are being implemented
> 36

Examples of best practice (optional)

If any site, in your opinion, represents an outstanding process of management planning or implementation, please highlight it as an example of best practice (alternatively provide a web link or attach a file)
> No further information

24. Has your country developed a national action plans for filling gaps in designation and/or management of internationally and nationally important sites? (Resolution 5.2)

Yes

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

> For Ramsar Sites only. Ministry of Lands, Forestry and Mines, 2007. Managing Ghana's Wetlands: A National Wetlands Conservation Strategy and Action Plan (2007-2016).

25. Has your country developed a strategic plan (independently or as part of your country's overarching biodiversity or protected area policy document) to maintain or increase the resilience of the ecological network (for waterbirds), including resilience to climate change, and to conserve range and ecological variability of habitats and species? (Resolution 5.2, AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 1, Target 1.2)

No

Please explain the reasons

> No data

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

No

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

> IUCN and Ramsar Convention Guidelines on wetlands conservation.

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

No

Please explain the reasons

> no data

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

> All the sites of international importance have management plans and are being implemented. However, most of them have their management plans being very old and have to be revised.

Pressures and Responses

6. Management of Human Activities

6.1. Hunting

28. Does your country have an established system for the collection of harvest data, which covers the species listed in Table 1? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.3)

No

Please explain the reasons

> Harvest activities are controlled under various regulations which fall under different national institutions.

Field for additional information (optional)

> No further information

29. Has your country phased out the use of lead shot for hunting in wetlands? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.4)

No

Please explain the reasons and barriers to introduction of legislation

> There is no statutory ban on the use of lead shot for hunting in the country. Hunting is allowed with the use of lead shot with permit from the Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission. There are legal measures, in respect of "importation of arms and ammunition" and on "hunting of wild animals" though there is weak monitoring and capacity to enforce these regulatory measures.

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

No

Please explain the reasons

> No sufficient data to inform decision to ban fully the use of lead shot for hunting in wetlands.

Field for additional information (optional)

> No further information

30. Are there measures in your country to reduce/eliminate illegal taking? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.6)

Yes

How would you rate the effectiveness of the measures?

Low

Please provide details

> There are laws to control illegal taking in Protected Areas (national or international) and off-reserves though there is insufficient logistics and low capacity on the part of the law enforcement agencies to enforce these regulatory measures.

Field for additional information (optional)

> No further information

31. Are legally binding best practice codes and standards for hunting (e.g. bird identification) considered a priority or appropriate for your country? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 2, Target 2.4)

No

Please explain the reasons

> Not applicable

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

No

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

> Ghana uses CITES regulations

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 6.1. Hunting

> No further information

6.2. Other human activities

33. Have restrictions on use of lead fishing weights been introduced in your country? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.3.12)

No

If appropriate, please provide further details.

> No idea

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

Yes and being implemented

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

Yes

Please provide details

> No data for upload

Do the SEA/EIA processes include public participation?

Yes

Please provide details

> no data for upload

Field for additional information (optional)

> No further information

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

Yes, all proposed projects

Please provide information on the outstanding cases

> This is strictly used under the EPA regulations.

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

Partially

Please describe the measures put in place

> No further information

Field for additional information (optional)

> No further information

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

No

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

> Use of EPA's guidelines that takes into consideration of migratory species including waterbirds

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

37.1. Are relevant stakeholders, including government agencies, scientific bodies, nongovernmental organisations and the energy sector, being regularly consulted in order to monitor jointly the impacts of

power lines on waterbirds and to agree on a common policy of action?

Yes

Please provide details

> No data for upload

37.2. Have a baseline of waterbird distribution, population sizes, migrations and movements (including those between breeding, resting and feeding areas) been established as early as possible in the planning of any power line project, over a period of at least five years, and with particular emphasis on those species known to be vulnerable to electrocution or collision; and, if such studies identify any risks, has every effort been made to ensure these are avoided?

Yes

Please provide details

> EIA scoping reports but no copies for upload now

37.3. Have the location, route and direction of new power lines been designated on the basis of national zoning maps; and has, wherever possible, the construction of power lines along major migration flyways and in habitats of conservation importance* been avoided, where such construction is likely to have significant effects on waterbirds?

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

Yes

Please provide details

> Included as EIA mitigation measures but copies are not readily available for upload

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

Yes

Please provide details

> Included as EIA mitigation measures but copies are not readily available for upload

37.5. Have those sections of existing power lines that are causing relatively high levels of waterbird injury and/or mortality due to electrocution and/or collision been identified and modified as a matter of priority?

Yes

Please provide details

> Included as EIA mitigation measures but copies are not readily available for upload

37.6. Is there in your country regular monitoring and evaluation of the impact of power lines on waterbird populations at the national scale, as well as of the effectiveness of mitigation measures put in place to minimise the impact of power lines on waterbird populations?

No

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

> No such system in place

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

No

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

> will be considered in the next review of our NBSAP

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

Yes

Please provide details

> Used in the EIA preparations

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

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

No

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

> Inadequate resources to developed this mapping

39.2. Please describe what international environmental guidelines, recommendations and criteria are being followed in your country for renewable energy developments impact assessment and the utilization of renewable energy sources.

> Not known

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

Yes

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

No

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

No

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

> Lack of funds

39.5. Please indicate whether any of the following measures have been put in place to reduce the potential negative impact of terrestrial and marine windfarms on migratory waterbirds:

Other - Please specify

> None of the above applies in Ghana.

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

No

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

> Not applicable in Ghana now

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

No

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

> To be considered in the next review of our NBSAP

40. Is by-catch of waterbirds in fishing gear taking place in your country? (Resolution 3.8)

No

Please provide details

> Not known to be a problem in Ghana

Field for additional information (optional)

> No further information

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

No

Please explain the reasons

> Not known to be an issue of concern now

Field for additional information (optional)

> No further information

42. Please report on the implementation of Resolution 5.12 on Adverse Effects of Agrochemicals on Migratory Waterbirds in Africa (this question is applicable only to Contracting Parties in Africa).

42.1. Have relevant government authorities developed and implemented regulations on the trade and application of agrochemicals known to have a direct or indirect adverse effect on waterbirds?

Yes and being implemented

Please provide details

> There is a ban on some agrochemicals like DDT

42.2. Is the use of such agrochemicals regulated in the vicinity of nationally and internationally important sites for migratory waterbirds, particularly in wetlands, also taking into account run-offs from agriculture affecting aquatic ecosystems?

Yes

Please provide details

> EPA , WRC, WRI conducts water quality assement at some designated sites/points

42.3. Are there any steps undertaken to control or reduce the use of avicides in areas frequented by populations listed in Table 1 of the Agreement?

No

Please explain the reasons

> Not known

42.4. Have education and training activities been implemented for relevant target groups on the proper use of agrochemicals that may have possible adverse effect on waterbirds?

Yes

Please provide details

> Selected training conducted by Ministry of Agriculture and EPA though not adequate

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 6.2. Other Human Activities

> No further information

Pressures and Responses

7. Research and Monitoring

43. Does your country have waterbird monitoring schemes for the AEWA species in place? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 3.2)

Yes

Covering the breeding period

Partially

Please provide details

> There is no national waterbird monitoring scheme. Some waterbird monitoring is carried out by a national NGO - the Ghana Wildlife Society, which is limited to some key coastal and inland wetland areas. The Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission also undertakes some waterbird monitoring in the five coastal Ramsar Sites for management purposes.

Covering the passage/migration period

Partially

Please provide details

> There is no national waterbird monitoring scheme. Some waterbird monitoring is carried out by a local NGO - the Ghana Wildlife Society, which is limited to some key coastal and inland wetland areas. The Wildlife Division of the Forestry

Covering the non-breeding/wintering period

No monitoring schemes in place

Please explain the reasons

> inadequate resources

Field for additional information (optional)

> No further information

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

No

Please explain the reasons

> There is limited technical and financial resources to share with other Parties or Range States. Ghana has however participated in some capacity building training in waterbird data collection.

45. Has your country used the AEWA Guidelines for a waterbird monitoring protocol?

Yes

Please provide details

> The guideline was used in the waterbird counts in Ghana for January 2014 and 2015 coordinated by Wetlands International in partnership with Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative (WSFI) and with the Birdlife International under the 'Conservation of migratory birds (CMB) project.

46. Have any research programmes been established in your country in the last 5 years to address waterbird conservation priorities in accordance with the AEWA strategies and plans? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 3.3)

Yes

Please list those programmes and indicate which AEWA priorities they are addressing

> A priority setting and conservation of migratory waterbird species at key coastal wetland sites in Ghana as input for designating more coastal wetlands as Ramsar Site was started by the Centre for African Wetlands, Ghana, for which a proposal was supported under the AEWA Small Grant Fund.

47. List (or provide links to lists) of research related to waterbirds and their conservation that has been undertaken or results published in the past triennium (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 3.5)

> Yaa Ntiamao-Baidu, 2014. Priority setting and conservation of migratory waterbird species at key coastal wetland sites in Ghana, Centre for African Wetlands, AEWA Small Grants Fund No 2012-13.

Field for additional information (optional)

> No further information

48. Has your government provided over the past triennium funds and/or logistical support for the International Waterbird Census at international or national level? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 3.1)

No

Please explain the reasons

> No official request was made to the government for consideration during the period.

Field for additional information (optional)

> No further information

49. Has the impact of lead fishing weights on waterbirds been investigated in your country? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.3.12)

No

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

No

Please provide reason(s)

> This will be considered in the next triennium.

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

> No further information

Pressures and Responses

8. Education and Information

8.1. Communication, Education and Public Awareness

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

Yes, being implemented

Please describe the awareness programmes which have been developed. Please upload any relevant sample materials which have been developed and add contact details of a contact person for each programme.

> Brochures and posters on protected waterbirds in Ghana

Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission

P. O. Box MB 239

Ministries Post Office

Accra

Tel: +233 289115499 / +233 24401210

E-mail: info@fcghana.com

Contact person: THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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

No

Field for additional information (optional)

> The programme has a broad areas targeting the conservation and wise use of wetlands resources including waterbirds, marine turtles, fisheries, mangroves, general wildlife, etc.

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

Yes

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

Government

Has the AEWA CEPA Focal Point begun coordinating national implementation of the Communication Strategy and/or supported the revision process for the Communication Strategy?

No

Please explain reasons

> Yet to start

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

They are the same person

Field for additional information (optional)

> The same person double up for AEWA and Ramsar

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

Yes

Please indicate which measures have been taken:

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

Yes

How can the effectiveness of the measures be rated?

Moderate

Please provide details

> Number of schools/communities visited

Field for additional information (optional)

> 200 schools visited within Ramsar sites, 150 fringe communities visited in Ramsar sites

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

Yes

How can the effectiveness of the measures be rated?

Low

Other

> Training materials developed nationally

Field for additional information (optional)

> No further information

Please provide details

> No further information

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

No

Please explain the reasons

> Not done due to resource constraints

Field for additional information (optional)

> No further information

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

No

Please explain the reasons

> Inadequate resource for awareness resources

Field for additional information (optional)

> No further information

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

Yes

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

> School outreach programmes, Bird watching, Tree planting, School quiz competition, etc.

54. Has your country provided funding and/or other support, as appropriate (e.g. expertise, network, skills and resources) towards the implementation of the AEWA Communication Strategy? Please consider both national and international funding and different types of support provided. (Strategic Plan 2009- 2017, Objective 4, Target 4.1 and Resolution 3.10, Resolution 5.5)

No

Please explain the reasons

> Apart from payment of annual contribution no funding have been provided.

Field for additional information (optional)

> No further information

55. In Resolution 3.10 the Meeting of the Parties encouraged Contracting Parties to host AEWA Exchange Centres for their respective regions. Has your country considered/shown interest in

hosting a Regional AEWA Exchange Centre? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 3, Target 2 and Resolution 3.10)

Not considered yet

Please provide details on the answer given above

> Not considered but may be necessary to discuss with the sector Ministry for consideration.

Field for additional information (optional)

> No further information

56. Training for CEPA (Communication, Education and Public Awareness) at national level is supposed to be conducted by staff who have been trained in the framework of an AEWA Training of Trainers programme. Have staff who were trained as part of a Training of Trainers workshop conducted national CEPA training in your country in the past triennium? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 4, Target 4.2)

Applicable only for countries in regions where Training of Trainers programme has taken place (for Eastern and Southern African countries in Naivasha, Kenya, May 2013, and for Lusophone African countries in Luanda, Angola, January 2014)

No

Please explain the reasons

> not applicable to Ghana

Field for additional information (optional)

> No further information

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 8.1. AEWA Communication Strategy

> No further information

Pressures and Responses

9. Implementation

57. Has your country approached non-contracting parties to encourage them to ratify the Agreement? (Resolution 3.10)

Report only on activities over the past triennium

No

Please explain the reasons

> No opportunity for trans boundary waterbirds project that could encourage or facilitate such approach.

Field for additional information (optional)

> Language barrier is limits our communication with our neighboring countries

58. Has your country supported/developed international co-operation projects for the implementation of the Agreement, according to the priorities outlined in the AEWA International Implementation Tasks (IIT) for the current triennium? (Resolution 5.3)

No

Please explain the reasons

> There has not been an opportunity for the support or development of international cooperation project such as trans boundary waterbirds in the country.

Field for additional information (optional)

> No further information

59. Has your country donated funds to the AEWA Small Grants Fund over the past triennium? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 5, Target 5.4)

No

Please explain the reasons

> Ghana has not made any contribution specifically to the AEWA Small Grants Fund but hope to consider making such contribution in the coming when funds permit.

Field for additional information (optional)

> No further information

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

Yes

Please provide details, including amount of funds donated

> Made voluntary contribution to support the activities of the AEWA Secretariat

Field for additional information (optional)

> No further information

61. Does your country have in place a national coordination mechanism for implementation of AEWA, possibly linking to national coordination mechanisms for other biodiversity Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs)? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 5, Target 5.7)

Yes, it is operational on a regular basis

Please provide details

> There is a functional International Convention Coordinating Authority under the Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI) that coordinates the activities of all biodiversity MEAs to which Ghana is a signatory. There is also the National Technical Coordinating Committee (NTCC) on Avian Influenza coordinated by the office of the National Disaster Management Organization (NADMO).

Field for additional information (optional)

> No further information

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

No

Please explain the reasons

> There is very limited information to facilitate site twinning schemes with other countries

63. Are those officers in your country's government responsible for AEWA implementation co-ordinated and engaged with national processes to implement and to assess delivery of the CBD Strategic Plan 2011 - 2020 including the Aichi targets?

Yes

Please provide details

> There is a functional International Convention Coordinating Authority under the Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI) that coordinates the activities of all biodiversity MEAs to which Ghana is a signatory. There is also the National Technical Coordinating Committee (NTCC) on Avian Influenza coordinated by the office of the National Disaster Management Organization (NADMO), Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission, National Security, University of Ghana and the National Disaster Management Organization.

64. How would your country suggest promoting further links between the biodiversity MEAs to which your country is a Contracting Party, so as to make your work more efficient and effective?

> Through regular consultative meetings of of parties, cooperation between MEAs and identification synergies and common reporting mechanisms/format

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 9. Implementation

> No further information

Pressures and Responses

10. Climate Change

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

a. Research and studies of climate change impacts on waterbirds

Planned

Please provide details

> There has been some research on climate impacts but may not specifically on waterbirds.

b. Assessment of the potential vulnerability to climate change of key habitats used by waterbird species (including those outside protected area networks) (Please note that the question asks about habitats, rather than sites. Question 22 in Section 5, sub-section 5.2 investigates vulnerability of sites to climate change)

No relevant activities

Please explain the reasons

> Lack resources and technical staff to undertake such habitat assessment

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

No relevant activities

Please explain the reasons

> Lack resources and technical staff to undertake such habitat assessment

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

No relevant activities

Please explain the reasons

> Current policies on wetland including waterbirds and climate are yet to be reviewed

e. National Action Plan for helping waterbirds adapt to climate change (as a separate implementation process or as part of a larger national framework for biodiversity adaptation to climate change. Please note that Question 23 in Section 5, sub-section 5.2 investigates national measures for increasing resilience of the ecological network for waterbirds to climate change).

No relevant activities

Please explain the reasons

> Ghana has no specific national action plan to help waterbirds to adapt to climate change

f. Other undertaken or planned relevant activities.

No

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

No

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

> We will the referred guidelines when we develop our national action plan for waterbirds adaptation to climate change

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 9. Implementation

> No additional information for now

Pressures and Responses

11. Avian Influenza

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

67.1 List challenges

- > - Inadequate information of AI
- Insufficient educational material and logistics to reach targeted areas of the country
- Weak inter-ministerial or institutional collaboration
- Lack of laboratory facilities - samples have to be taken abroad for analysis
- Inadequate human capacity

67.2 List required further guidance or information

> Upon the advice of the NATIONAL TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE (NTCC) ON AVIAN INFLUENZA relevant institutions has been advised to increase surveillance measures at the following key areas:

1. Entry points (Borders)
2. Live bird markets
3. Designated Ramsar Sites and other wetland areas

67.3 Field for additional information (optional)

> There is a NATIONAL TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE (NTCC) ON AVIAN INFLUENZA in place that is currently addressing the challenges listed above. Membership of the committee include the Wildlife Division of Ghana (AEWA Administrative Authority)

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 10. Avian Influenza

> Currently there is a temporary ban on importation of birds from neighboring Burkina Faso to Ghana due to outbreak of AI in in that country. The decision was taken upon the advise of the NATIONAL TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE (NTCC) ON AVIAN INFLUENZA.

12. Confirmation

Confirmation of information verification and approval for submission

Please confirm:

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

I declare that the information provided in the Report on the implementation of AEWA for the period 2012-2014 has been verified and the report has been approved for submission by the appropriate state institution in the country.

Date of submission

> 11th May 2015