



Convention on Migratory Species
United Nations Environment Programme



Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals



Dr. Donna Kwan
Officer-In-Charge
UNEP/CMS Office - Abu Dhabi
“Regional Workshop for the Middle East and North
Africa on Updating National Biodiversity Strategies
and Action Plans: Focus on examination of
associated indicators”
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Muscat, Sultanate of Oman

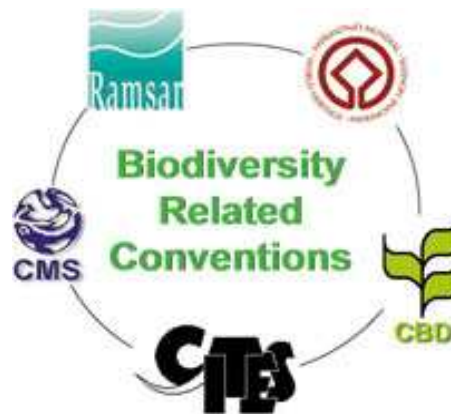


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CMS Family Overview (1)



- The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals = CMS or Bonn Convention
- **Umbrella Convention - CMS:**
 - 1 Biodiversity treaty, in force since 1983
 - 117 Parties
 - 7 Regional Agreements
 - 19 Memoranda of Understanding
- **Overall Aim: Conservation of Migratory Species**



What is a Migratory Species under CMS?

CMS definition



Significant proportion of a population of any species or lower taxon that “cyclically and predictably” cross one or more national jurisdictional boundaries

- Excludes migration within the territory or a state
- Includes species that cross boundaries e.g. Marine turtles, birds of prey, sharks.

The Convention and its Instruments act as a framework to identify and promote cooperative conservation among species’ Range States.



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CMS Species Coverage



6 Primary Species Groups:



Migratory Birds



Terrestrial Mammals



Marine Mammals



Marine Turtles



Fish



Insects



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CMS Family Overview (2)



- **Head Office** in Bonn, Germany
- **Other offices** in Abu Dhabi (UAE), Bangkok (Thailand), Washington (USA) and Apia (SAMOA)
- **Abu Dhabi Office:**
 - Services the Secretariat of the **Dugongs MOU** & the Interim Coordinating Unit (ICU) of the **Raptors MOU** (African-Eurasian migratory birds of prey) since June 2009
 - Regionally important migratory species
 - Funded by the Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi (EAD), on behalf of the Government of the United Arab Emirates

Why do we need CMS?



- Migratory Species are:
 - ✓ *Common biological resources (shared by all Range States)*
 - ✓ *Vulnerable (subject to different threats in different states)*
- Animal migrants can only survive when their entire territories are included in conservation measures and each threat is tackled jointly
- CMS coordinates the conservation of migratory species through creating a framework for cooperation across the migratory range
- CBD decision VI/20 recognizes CMS as the lead partner in conserving and sustainably using migratory species over their entire range

MOU Meetings



- Indian Ocean South East Asia Marine Turtle MOU
- Shark MOU: 1st Meeting of Signatory States, 24-27 September 2012, Bonn Germany
- Dugong MOU: 2nd meeting of the Signatory States, 4-5 December 2012, Manila Philippines
- Raptors MOU: 1st Meeting of Signatories: 9–11 December 2012, Abu Dhabi UAE



Dugongs



Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation and Management of Dugongs (*Dugong dugon*) and their Habitats throughout their Range

- Became effective in October 2007
- Over 40 Range States (incl. **Bahrain**, **Comoros**, Djibouti, Iraq, Kuwait, Mauritius, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, **UAE**, **Yemen**)
- 21 Signatory States
- ✓ Regional activities for 2012/13: Addressing Net Fishery Bycatch in the Gulf – assessing impact, providing solutions
- ✓ Proposed scope: Dugongs, turtles, inshore cetaceans, elasmobranchs in Bahrain, Iran, Kuwait, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, UAE
- ✓ Second Signatory State Meeting: 4 – 5 December 2012 in Manila

Photographs courtesy of Mandy Etpison



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Raptors MOU



Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Birds of Prey in Africa and Eurasia (Raptors MOU)

- Became effective on 1 November 2008
- 130 Range States (incl. Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, UAE, Yemen)
- Currently 40 Signatories (August 2012)
- ✓ 2012: The ICU of the Raptors MoU published Guidelines for Signatories to standardize formats of National/Regional Raptors Conservation and Management Strategies
- ✓ Overall aim of Guidelines: To promote raptor conservation strategic planning and implementation at both national and international levels.



Raptors MOU



Projects relevant to the region:

- Sooty Falcon Project
 - Potential international Sooty Falcon Project – aim to better understand the species' ecology (esp. during migration and winter) with a view to developing an international Species Action Plan.
 - Geographic range to include countries along the species' flyway from the Middle East and the east coast of Africa to SE Africa and Madagascar.
- Saker Falcon Task Force
 - Mission is to develop an international Single Species Action Plan protocol for the Saker Falcon
 - Led by the ICU for the UNEP/CMS Raptors MOU (Abu Dhabi)



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

For more information,
please visit
Contact:
donna.kwan@cms.int
www.cms.int



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