

ANNEX 7: ACTION PLAN FOR PRIORITY AREA 6: STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIPS FOR VULTURE PROTECTION

Strategic Objective 1: Establish a regional framework for cross-border vulture conservation that coordinates efforts across nations, enhances collaborative actions, strengthens global agreements, fosters knowledge exchange, secures funding, builds regional networks, harmonizes conservation policies, and advocates for vulture conservation by 2027

Strategies	Activities	Outcomes	Indicators	Targets	Means of Verification	Timeline											Responsible	Other Actors	Level of Implementation
						'25	'26	'27	'28	'29	'30	'31	'32	'33	'34	'35			
Strategy 1: Enhance transboundary collaboration and strengthen international partnerships for vulture protection among regional member states	Activity 1: Establish a transboundary framework and leveraging Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCAs) to promote joint data sharing and collaborative conservation efforts across borders.	Regional coordination and collaboration in conservation efforts improved and protection of nomadic vulture habitats enhanced.	Number of countries participating in the regional framework and actively involved in conservation activities	All the SADC Vulture Range States	Documentation of participation, implementation reports, stakeholder feedback												SADCS, RMS		National, Regional
		Ecological health and protection of vulture habitats improved	Number of joint data sharing initiatives and collaborative conservation projects established between nations within TFCAs	A comprehensive data-sharing agreement is in place between participating nations in each TFCA	Signed data-sharing agreements and reports outlining collaborative initiatives between participating nations, Regular progress reports												SADCS, RMS		National, Regional
	Activity 2: Partner with international research institutions and local experts to conduct collaborative research and exchange programs aimed at enhancing knowledge, skills, and technologies relevant to vulture conservation.	Innovative conservation strategies tailored to specific regional contexts	Number of collaborative research projects initiated and completed involving international research institutions and local experts	At least 3 significant research projects completed by the end of Year 3) At least five peer-reviewed research papers in years 4 and 5	Documentation of partnerships between international research institutions and local experts, Comprehensive reports from each research project, A list of peer-reviewed articles published												SADCS, RMS, International institutions	NGOs	Local, National, Regional
		Capacities enhanced and practices improved among conservation practitioners	Number of exchange programs conducted, including participant feedback and documented outcomes	2 exchange programs facilitated per year starting in years 2	Records of each exchange program, Pre- and Post-Program Surveys, Summaries of feedback collected from participants and host organizations												SADCS, RMS, International institutions	NGOs	Local, National, Regional
	Activity 3: Organizing joint training workshops for conservation professionals and law enforcement personnel from various regional countries to enhance skills and sharing best practices through documentation and dissemination of knowledge.	See Annex 3, Strategy 1, Activity 1															SADCS, RMS	Partner NGOs	
	Activity 4: Identify and collaborate with international partners to develop standardized guidelines, protocols, and standards for vulture conservation and infrastructure development, use of pesticides and rodenticides, sustainable use of vultures, research, monitoring of vultures and data analysis, data sharing, capturing of birds and fitting tracking devices and other aspects mentioned in this that can be adopted regionally.	Standardized guidelines and protocols for vulture conservation, infrastructure development, pesticide and rodenticide use, sustainable vulture practices, and monitoring methodologies developed and adopted	Number of national and regional standardized sets of guidelines and protocols developed and endorsed by international partners within the first 2 years	One set of standardized guidelines and protocols for the region and one set for each Range Member State	Published copies of the standardized guidelines and protocols available to stakeholders												SADCS, RMS, International Organizations	Partner NGOs	National, Regional

Strategies	Activities	Outcomes	Indicators	Targets	Means of Verification	Timeline '25 '26 '27 '28 '29 '30 '31 '32 '33 '34 '35											Responsible	Other Actors	Level of Implementation
	Activity 5: Participate in international forums to advocate for vulture conservation by building strategic partnerships and collaborating with organizations like IUCN and CMS (in particular the Raptor MoU) to strengthen global agreements and strategies for their protection.	Global awareness and commitment to vulture conservation increased	Number of international forums attended, and partnerships established	Secure commitments from at least three international organizations or coalitions	Documentation of attendance at international forums, Copies of Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) or partnership agreements, Summaries of key networking events, meetings, and discussions held												SADCS, RMS	International Institutions	Regional
		International commitment and resources directed towards vulture conservation efforts increased. increased	Number of new or revised global agreements and strategies related to vulture conservation	At least three international agreements; At least three international workshops or conferences held, resulting in a comprehensive action plan for vulture conservation, specific policy recommendations and or conservation guidelines adopted by participating countries.	Copies of signed agreements and action plans developed along with documentation of the consultation process, international workshop reports, national or regional policy adoption records												SADCS, RMS		Regional
	Activity 6: Facilitate the alignment and harmonization of conservation policies and regulations across countries to create a cohesive approach to vulture conservation.	Collaboration and coherence in conservation policies and regulations across countries enhanced	Number of policy harmonization initiatives developed and implemented, as well as the adoption of aligned regulations	Drafting and adoption of at least one regional vulture conservation policy or framework endorsed by all participating countries, with an emphasis on common threats and shared goals.	Copies of harmonized policy documents, agreements, and strategies, Minutes and reports from policy workshops, conferences, or meetings, Documentation of changes or updates to national laws or regulations that reflect harmonized policies												SADCS, RMS		Regional