



National Report Form for the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Birds of Prey in Africa and Eurasia (Raptors MOU).

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Introduction

Introductory remarks

This is the National Report form for the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Birds of Prey in Africa and Eurasia ([Raptors MOU](#)).

The purpose of the National Report is to provide information on your country's implementation of the Raptors MOU including the Action Plan (Annex 3). The format provided here has been designed to generate information that can be synthesised in a comparable way for each future Meeting of Signatories, to give a meaningful picture of progress and reflect the achievements of Signatories and other stakeholders, but also to be as streamlined as possible to keep the work involved in reporting to a necessary minimum.

The format was tested ahead of the third Meeting of Signatories (MOS3) and formally was approved by MOS3 in 2023. The Coordinating Unit of the Raptors MOU will compile and analyze the National Reports and present a summary on the implementation of the Raptors MOU Action Plan to MOS4.

Reporting period

To enable proper analysis, it is important that all respondents relate their answers (throughout this form) to the same reporting period. On this occasion we are asking you to report on the period between November 2021 and April 2026.

The previous implementation survey covered the period July 2019 - October 2021, the results of which can be found in the Synthesis of national reports submitted by [Signatories and Cooperating Partners on their implementation of the MOU](#).

Instructions

Please answer all questions as fully and as accurately as you can. Wherever possible, please indicate the source of information used to answer the question, particularly if a published reference or report is available. For each relevant question there are icons that can be used to attach a document and/or provide a web link.

When working on the online version of the report, save your information by clicking on the “Save all” button inside each section. An auto-save feature also saves any changed responses every 30 seconds, and whenever you move between sections.

Guidance notes are provided throughout the format to assist you in answering the questions.

Deadline for submission: 30 June 2026

I. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

* Name of Signatory State:

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

* Any territories which are excluded from the application of the MOU:

No

Report Compiler

* Name and title:

Fahad Algethami

* Full name of institution:

National Center for Wildlife

* Telephone:

+966566828694

* Email:

f.alqthami@ncw.gov.sa

Designated Contact Point for the MOU

(if different from Report Compiler)

Name and title of designated Contact Point:

Full name of institution:

Mailing address:

Telephone:

Email:

II. HIGH-LEVEL SUMMARY OF KEY MESSAGES

GUIDANCE:

This section invites you to summarise briefly the most important positive aspects of Raptors MOU/Action Plan implementation in your country and the areas of greatest concern.

Your answers should be based on the information contained in the body of the report: the intention is for this section to distil the technical information in the report into some very brief and simple "high-level" messages for decision-makers and for wider audiences.

Although keeping it brief, please try also to be specific where you can, e.g. "New wildlife legislation enacted in 2020 doubled penalties for poisoning birds of prey" is more informative than "stronger laws"; "50% shortfall in match-funding for GEF project on vultures" is more informative than "lack of funding".

GUIDANCE:

Please limit this specifically to the current reporting period only. For this present round of reporting, the period is from 1 November 2021 to the present.

In your country, in the reporting period, what does this report reveal about:

* The most successful aspects of implementation of the MOU and/or Action Plan? (List up to five items)

- 1- Strengthening the national environmental legislative framework through the development and implementation of hunting regulations. The Executive Hunting Regulations enacted in 2021 regulate hunting activities and prohibit all illegal hunting practices, including a ban on hunting all birds of prey occurring in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Furthermore, the Executive Regulation on Trade in Wildlife Species, their Products and Derivatives dated 2021, controls the illegal trade in birds of prey.
- 2- Expansion of protected areas and strengthening biodiversity conservation efforts under the Saudi Green Initiative, support the protection of migratory flyways, breeding areas, and key bottlenecks for migratory raptors. Protected terrestrial areas reached 18.3% of the Kingdom's terrestrial area, while marine protected areas reached 16.3% of the Kingdom's marine territory with targets to achieve protection of 30% of terrestrial areas and 30% of marine areas by 2030 under the Saudi Vision 2030.
- 3- Conducting national surveys for migratory raptors, including the first nationwide survey for the endangered wintering Steppe Eagle *Aquila nipalensis*, has contributed to improved knowledge of species distribution, population numbers, and threats.
- 4- Mitigating risks from energy infrastructure on raptors by insulating hazardous medium-voltage powerlines at four important bird congregation sites: Ushaqer, King Salman Bin Abdulaziz Royal Reserve, Farasan Islands Protected Area, and Al-Qunfudhah. This led to elimination of electrocution incidents of raptors including Steppe Eagle, Imperial Eagle, and Egyptian Vulture.
- 5- The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, represented by the National Center for Wildlife, received the Champion Plus Award for Migratory Species in CMS/ COP14 and in CMS/COP 15 in recognition of its efforts and support to combat illegal hunting, taking, and trade of migratory species in the Southwest Asia region.
- 6- The Saudi National Center for Falcons under Hadad program for falcons' repatriation, in cooperation with the National Center for Wildlife and other key stakeholders, implemented several release programs for the Saker Falcon and Peregrine Falcon in Kyrgyzstan during 2023, and in Kazakhstan during 2026, to enhance population reinforcement programs for migratory raptors across their natural range. Nationally, Hadad program has rehabilitated over 28 nests of *Falco peregrinus peregrinoides* in 2020 resulting in 60 successful falcons. The numbers increased in 2022 to 162 and reached 223 falcons in 2023. This program has been a success due to strong collaboration with local communities living in and around breeding sites.

* The greatest difficulties in implementing the MOU and/or Action Plan? (List up to five items)

1. Limited systematic monitoring for migratory birds within flyways across the country. Understanding migration patterns and identifying bottleneck sites for migratory raptors in addition to data on raptors population requires robust and sufficient long-term monitoring to understand trends and implement targeted conservation actions for birds of prey.
2. Limited coordination to mainstream raptors conservation into key productive sectors.
3. Lack of specialized national action plan for raptor conservation. While a range of conservation initiatives and measures are being implemented, opportunities remain to further develop and implement species-specific or multi-species action plans for threatened raptors. This is particularly relevant given the importance of the Kingdom as a migration corridor for several globally threatened raptors.
4. Lack data management and sharing frameworks despite existing MEAs at the regional and international levels.

* The main priorities for future implementation of the MOU and/or Action Plan? (List up to five items)

1. The development of a national action plan for the conservation of migratory raptors in the Kingdom, in a manner that strengthens national and regional coordination and aligns with the objectives of the Raptors MOU and its associated Action Plan.
2. Expanding research, monitoring, and data collection programs for migratory raptors, including population assessments, migration bottleneck surveys, and threat assessments along migratory flyways.
3. Enhancing efforts to mitigate threats affecting migratory raptors, in line with international best practices, including preventing and mitigation risks from infrastructure development, and habitat loss.
4. Strengthening national capacity building and developing specialized training programs in cooperation with international organizations, to support the preparation and implementation of national and regional action plans in line with the requirements of the Memorandum of Understanding and its associated Action Plan.
5. Communication of raptor conservation to the broader public and specific stakeholders (e.g. falconers, hunters) to gain support from the society. That will serve both as a public awareness raising, actively or passively involving people in raptor conservation, and as a fundraising activity.

III. RAPTOR CONSERVATION STRATEGIES AND EQUIVALENT DOCUMENTS

GUIDANCE:

A central provision of the MOU (paragraph 12) is for Signatories to prepare national or regional (e.g. EU) strategies or equivalent documents (e.g. Single Species Action Plans) for category 1 and, where appropriate, category 2 species in Table 1 in the Action Plan. The Action Plan itself foresees its listed actions being addressed by these strategies / equivalent documents.

* Does a national and/or regional Raptor Conservation Strategy or equivalent document exist in relation to your country?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ In preparation
- ☐ No

* Please state the title and scope of the strategy or equivalent document, and summarise the current status of its implementation or preparation (as appropriate):

There is no national raptors conservation strategy, however, the equivalent document is the National Biodiversity Framework for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This document has been submitted through the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) online reporting tool. The framework provides a broader national strategic framework for the conservation of biodiversity, migratory species, and their habitats.

Provide a copy of the document(s) concerned:

And/or provide a website link that will give access to the relevant text:

<https://ort.cbd.int/ar/nbsaps/my-country/67BD845D-4E14-E629-7D8F-8F0B5E4A07BF/view>

* Does the strategy or equivalent document address all of the activities listed in Table 2 of the Action Plan?

- ☐ Yes
☒ Partly
☐ No

* Please state the reasons why all of the Table 2 activities are not addressed:

the Framework covers all activities listed in table 2 of the action plan except for some aspects related specifically to systematic monitoring of migratory raptors.

IV. LEGAL PROTECTION OF SPECIES AGAINST KILLING AND UNSUSTAINABLE EXPLOITATION

* Are all species of migratory birds of prey (present in your country) listed in Annex I of the Raptors MOU granted full legal protection from deliberate killing and taking from the wild?

GUIDANCE:

Follow this [link](#) to see the species listed in Annex 1.

If you are answering "yes", please make sure that the statute(s) concerned is/are clearly identified by giving details of title, date, etc.

If you are answering "only partly", please be clear whether this is because legal protection only applies to some aspects, or because only some species are covered (please identify the species) or because only some areas are covered - (or any combination of these types of partial coverage); and give the reasons for this.

- ☒ Yes
☐ Partly
☐ No
☐ Not known

* Please indicate the statute(s) concerned and summarise the provision:

Yes, Of the 94 species currently listed in Annex 1 of the Raptors MOU, 55 species have been recorded in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. All of these species are afforded legal protection under the Environment Law issued by Royal Decree No. (M/165) dated 10 July 2020 and its implementing regulations. These species also benefit from habitat conservation measures implemented through the protected area network and broader national biodiversity conservation frameworks.

This protection is provided through several executive regulations, including:

- a) The Executive Regulation for Hunting of Wild Terrestrial Species (No. 1442/1/312179, dated 17 January 2021), which provides protection for all globally and regionally threatened species and recognizes species listed under relevant international agreements and MoUs as protected species. The regulation also defines permitted hunting species, hunting seasons, and quotas, while prohibiting the hunting of all species of birds of prey.
- b) The Executive Regulation for Trade in Wildlife, Wildlife Products and Derivatives (No. 1442/1/356344, dated 8 February 2021), which implements the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and regulates trade in wildlife, wildlife products, and derivatives, thereby contributing to the protection of endangered species.
- c) The Executive Regulation for Protected Areas (No.1443/45/67867, dated 27 September 2021), which supports the Kingdom's target of protecting 30% of its terrestrial and marine areas by 2030, thereby contributing to the conservation of migratory birds of prey and threatened species, as well as the protection of their habitats, migratory flyways, breeding areas, and distribution ranges.

* Is there legislation in place which bans the use of exposed poison baits and other toxic chemical methods of predator or pest control?

GUIDANCE:

The CMS [Guidelines to prevent the risk of poisoning to migratory birds](#) provide further background on legislative (and other) means of reducing harm to migratory birds (including raptors) from toxic chemicals.

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not known

* Please indicate the statute(s) concerned, and summarise the provision:

Yes, The Environment Law (Royal Decree No. M/165, dated 10 July 2020), together with its implementing regulations and the Executive Regulation of the Pesticides Law issued by Ministerial Decision No. 5240275 dated 2 March 2024, provides a legal framework for regulating hazardous substances and pesticides and reducing risks to wildlife, including migratory birds and birds of prey.

In 2025, the use of Diclofenac without a prescription has been banned. This will reduce its use and promote safer alternatives, which will help to decrease vulture mortalities caused by indirect poisoning.

V. SPECIES POPULATION MANAGEMENT AND RECOVERY PROGRAMMES

Have any Single or Multi-species Action Plans been published for any species of migratory bird of prey in your country?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No
☐ In preparation

* Please state why not:

Dedicated single-species or multi-species action plans for migratory birds of prey have not yet been developed, as conservation actions for these species are currently implemented through equivalent national conservation programs, including the Environment Law, its implementing regulations, protected area management plans, biodiversity conservation programmes, and international conservation initiatives. Future development of species-specific action plans may be considered for priority threatened raptor species as additional scientific information and conservation needs are identified.

* Have any reintroduction or restocking projects been implemented involving migratory birds of prey in accordance with prevailing international guidelines?

GUIDANCE:

One of the most relevant international guidelines documents for this question is the IUCN publication "[Guidelines for reintroductions and other conservation translocations](#)".

- ☒ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not known

* Please give a brief summary, and indicate whether or not captive breeding is involved:

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia started three initiatives: one is restocking of the breeding population of Barbary /Peregrine Falcons *Falco peregrinus peregrinoides* to enhance the native breeding populations. The program started in 2020 in full cooperation with local communities and Falconers.

The second initiative was reinforcement for the Saker Falcon (*Falco cherrug*) within its geographical distribution in the Republic of Kyrgyzstan in 2023 & 2024 and in the Republic of Kazakhstan in 2026, These initiatives aim to support wild populations within their natural range and contribute to the long-term conservation of the species.

The last initiative was to release the confiscated birds of prey after treatment and rehabilitation. Among them one Griffon vulture tagged with satellite transmitter. The vulture migrated north during April reaching Turkey and came back to south of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in October.

* Have any supplementary feeding initiatives been established and maintained for necrophagous birds of prey?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not known

* Please give a brief summary:

VI. CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF HABITATS AND SITES

- * Have any measures been implemented to improve or restore the habitats of species of birds of prey?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not known

- * Please give a brief summary:

GUIDANCE:

Please indicate what habitat type, where, and (broadly) what type of measures were involved. Comments on success (or otherwise) would also be valuable.

Yes, Saudi Arabia has implemented measures to improve and restore habitats important for migratory birds of prey through the expansion of protected areas, habitat restoration, and the protection of key feeding and stopover sites along migratory flyways.

Measures also included the insulation of hazardous medium-voltage power lines at four priority sites (Ushayqer, Al-Qunfudhah, Farasan Islands, and King Salman bin Abdulaziz Royal Reserve), where monitoring conducted during 2023–2026 recorded no bird mortality due to electrocution following the implementation of mitigation measures.

- * Which sites in your country listed in Table 3 of the Action Plan are designated as protected areas, or are otherwise appropriately managed taking into account the conservation requirements of migratory birds of prey?

Please indicate in this online file ([link](#)) for each of the relevant sites listed in Table 3 of Annex 3 of the MOU whether the site is (a) fully designated as a protected area or covered by an instrument ensuring proper management, (b) partially so designated/covered, or (c) not so designated/covered. If you experience any issues accessing the online file, please contact the Raptors MOU Coordinating Unit at umberto.galloorsi@un.org to request a copy as an email attachment.

GUIDANCE:

The list is extracted from the List of internationally important sites for migratory birds of prey in Africa and Eurasia (Table 3 of Annex 3 of the Raptors MOU) as approved by the Third Meeting of Signatories. Please answer this question in relation to the sites that are listed there. Please provide your answers in the online file by following the link above. The file will automatically save your answers.

- ☒ I have added the relevant information for my country's sites
☐ My country does not have sites listed

VII. ASSESSING AND RESPONDING TO THREATS AND PRESSURES

- * Have any assessments been made of the nature, likelihood, severity or potential consequences of threats facing birds of prey, and measures identified to maintain their Favourable Conservation Status?

GUIDANCE:

"Favourable Conservation Status" should be interpreted for this question in accordance with the definition provided in Article I (1) (c) of the Convention on Migratory Species. ([Link to text here](#)).

- ☐ Yes
☒ No
☐ Not known

- * Please state why not:

Due to limited systematic monitoring of migratory birds along flyways across the country, no assessment has been made on identify severity or potential threats facing birds of prey.

- * Based on the assessment referred to above (or if none, on your own knowledge and judgement) please identify (tick) the **three most important** categories of threat affecting birds of prey in your country:

GUIDANCE:

This question asks you to identify the important pressures that are reliably known to be having an actual adverse impact on migratory birds of prey at present. Please avoid including speculative information about pressures that may be of some potential concern but whose impacts have not yet been demonstrated.

Exactly 3 selection(s)

- ☐ Direct killing and taking
☒ Collisions and electrocution
☐ Alien and/or invasive species
☒ Disturbance and disruption
☒ Habitat destruction/degradation
☐ Climate change
☐ Levels of knowledge, awareness, legislation, management etc.
☐ Other (please specify below)

- * Add comments here on any particular actions in response to these threats:

GUIDANCE:

You may find it helpful here to refer to actions assisted by relevant existing response tools and initiatives in the framework of mechanisms such as the CMS. Examples could include the [Intergovernmental Task Force on Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean \(MIKT\)](#), [Intergovernmental Task Force to Address Illegal Hunting, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway \(ITTEA\)](#), [South-West Asia Illegal Taking of Migratory Birds Intergovernmental Task Force \(SWA ITB TF\)](#), the [CMS Energy Task Force](#), and the adopted [Guidelines to Prevent the Risk of Poisoning to Migratory Birds](#).

Saudi Arabia has implemented measures to address the main threats affecting migratory birds of prey, particularly electrocution from energy infrastructure, habitat degradation, and disturbance at important breeding, feeding, and roosting sites. These measures include strengthening legal protection, improving the management of key habitats, insulating hazardous power lines, and conducting monitoring programmes and field surveys to identify threats and support targeted conservation actions.

- * Are requirements in place to ensure that proposals for activities that may have significant effects on birds of prey or their habitats are subject to Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) or Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA)?

GUIDANCE:

Helpful pointers on this subject (and reference to sources of further guidance) are given in [CMS Resolution 7.2 \(Rev.COP14\)](#) on "Impact assessment and migratory species".

Comments on the general standard and quality of EIAs/SEAs that are undertaken would be valuable.

Any use that has been made of "sensitivity mapping" techniques in this context should be mentioned here.

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not known

- * Please give a brief summary of the requirements and their implementation, including the extent to which the results of these assessments are used to inform relevant consent decisions and associated mitigation measures:

Yes. Under the Environment Law (Royal Decree No. M/165 of 10 July 2020) and its implementing regulations, development projects and activities that may have significant environmental impacts are subject to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) requirements as part of the environmental permitting process. Assessment findings are used to inform project approvals and to identify mitigation measures, monitoring requirements, and environmental management actions to avoid, minimize, or compensate for adverse impacts where necessary.

VIII. ACTION / INTEGRATION ACROSS SECTORS

* Is the conservation of migratory birds of prey integrated within the policies of sectors such as agriculture, forestry, energy, transport, waste, tourism and others?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ Partly
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not known

* Please give a brief summary:

Partly, Biodiversity conservation, including migratory birds of prey and their habitats, is integrated into several sectors in Saudi Arabia through environmental legislation, environmental impact assessment requirements, protected area management, power infrastructure mitigation programmes, bird strike risk assessments at airports, and the regulation of hazardous substances and wildlife trade.

* Have any programmes been implemented during the reporting period among government departments (other than the department that has lead responsibility for the Raptors MOU) to inform decision makers of the conservation needs of migratory birds of prey?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not knowm

* Please give a brief summary:

Insulation of hazardous medium voltage powerlines at four sites across the kingdom and MOU signed with Ministry of Energy (Electric Company), and mitigation measures will continue at sites where electrocution is a risk.

IX. RESEARCH, MONITORING AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

* Have any overall assessments been made of the status and trends of any populations of migratory birds of prey in your country, during the reporting period?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not known

* Please give a brief summary, and highlight any particularly significant declines or increases that have been revealed for relevant species:

Yes, Population assessments and monitoring programmes have been conducted for a number of migratory birds of prey in Saudi Arabia during the reporting period. In addition, a preliminary draft of the National Red List assessment has been prepared and is currently under review. The assessment covered 33 species of birds of prey, of which 14 species were assessed as nationally threatened, including the Steppe Eagle (Aquila

nipalensis), Egyptian Vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*), and Saker Falcon (*Falco cherrug*).
Autumn migration monitoring during 2 consecutive years (2024 – 2025), at key bottleneck site showed stable - increasing population trends of key migratory raptors.

Please provide a copy of any relevant documents:

31a179b0-3ec2-4eba-833e-578fb174bd0b/ELECTR_1.PDF

bbba6749-0ef9-4d10-bf15-c81bc36869fe/Khairi_-vulture_news.pdf

And/or provide a website link that will give access to relevant material:

Sooty Falcon: [http://www.ornis.hu/?contents&lang=eng&idd=52&vol=2026_34\(1\)](http://www.ornis.hu/?contents&lang=eng&idd=52&vol=2026_34(1))

<https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/marine-science/articles/10.3389/fmars.2024.1379601/full>

https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Noorah-Al-Sowayan/publication/408252203_Supplementary_Feeding_and_Changes_in_Breeding-Site_Occupancy_of_Griffon_Vultures_Gyps_fulvus_within_the_King_Salman_Bin_Abdulaziz_Royal_Natural_Reserve_Saudi_Arabia/links/6a4603d637be4e7a63c22539/Supplementary-Feeding-and-Changes-in-Breeding-Site-Occupancy-of-Griffon-Vultures-Gyps-fulvus-within-the-King-Salman-Bin-Abdulaziz-Royal-Natural-Reserve-Saudi-Arabia.pdf

https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Noorah-Al-Sowayan/publication/408252203_Supplementary_Feeding_and_Changes_in_Breeding-Site_Occupancy_of_Griffon_Vultures_Gyps_fulvus_within_the_King_Salman_Bin_Abdulaziz_Royal_Natural_Reserve_Saudi_Arabia/links/6a4603d637be4e7a63c22539/Supplementary-Feeding-and-Changes-in-Breeding-Site-Occupancy-of-Griffon-Vultures-Gyps-fulvus-within-the-King-Salman-Bin-Abdulaziz-Royal-Natural-Reserve-Saudi-Arabia.pdf

[https://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?](https://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&profile=ehost&scope=site&authtype=crawler&jrnl=16067479&asa=N&AN=144681610&h=eR3H%2F6GnUwglu9zWs4S8ans9rKBkdK5kQCapzXcmOZPmPQZcehi70U4VaC39XTObNccfsPFHpvu8s%2FIGqTR%2F3A%3D%3D&crl=c)

[direct=true&profile=ehost&scope=site&authtype=crawler&jrnl=16067479&asa=N&AN=144681610&h=eR3H%2F6GnUwglu9zWs4S8ans9rKBkdK5kQCapzXcmOZPmPQZcehi70U4VaC39XTObNccfsPFHpvu8s%2FIGqTR%2F3A%3D%3D&crl=c](https://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&profile=ehost&scope=site&authtype=crawler&jrnl=16067479&asa=N&AN=144681610&h=eR3H%2F6GnUwglu9zWs4S8ans9rKBkdK5kQCapzXcmOZPmPQZcehi70U4VaC39XTObNccfsPFHpvu8s%2FIGqTR%2F3A%3D%3D&crl=c)

* Are any systematic and coordinated monitoring programmes operated in your country in relation to breeding populations, reproductive success or migration counts of birds of prey?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not known

* Please give a brief summary:

Yes, systematic monitoring programmes are implemented in Saudi Arabia for a number of resident and migratory birds of prey. These programmes include monitoring breeding populations of selected species, such as the Barbary Falcon (*Falco peregrinus peregrinoides*) and Sooty falcon (*Falco concolor*) and Griffon vulture (*Gyps fulvus*)

In addition, satellite tracking, field surveys, and targeted monitoring projects are conducted for priority species to improve understanding of their distribution, movements, population status, and conservation requirements. Monitoring programmes also include important migration bottlenecks for soaring birds.

Please provide a copy of any relevant documents:

And/or provide a website link that will give access to relevant material:

* Have any guidelines or protocols been published concerning systematic or coordinated monitoring programmes for migratory birds of prey?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No
☐ Not known

* Please state why not:

No dedicated national guidelines specifically addressing systematic or coordinated monitoring of migratory raptors have been developed. However, monitoring activities are conducted using internationally recognized survey and monitoring methodologies, and the development of standardized national monitoring protocols is being considered as part of ongoing efforts to strengthen raptor monitoring programmes.

* Does any process exist for establishing multi-stakeholder agreement about priorities for research on issues of relevance to the conservation of birds of prey?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not known

* Please give a brief summary:

Yes, Research priorities relevant to birds of prey conservation are identified through coordination among government agencies, research institutions, universities, and conservation partners. Research gaps identified by all key stakeholders include identifying risks of NSAID to raptors and impacts of high voltage powerlines on migratory raptors.

Please provide a copy of any relevant document(s):

And/or provide a website link that will give access to relevant material:

* Are suitable platforms in place in your country to exchange knowledge, experience and information about the conservation of birds of prey?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No
☐ Not known

* Please state why not:

developing national platform is a priority and is under development to serve data collection and management.

X. RAISING AWARENESS

- * Have any public awareness programmes been implemented during the reporting period to promote the importance of birds of prey, their migrations and their conservation needs?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not known

- * Please give a brief summary including comments on the impact and success (or otherwise) of these programmes:

Yes. Public awareness programmes and outreach activities have been implemented during the reporting period to promote the conservation of birds of prey and their habitats. These included awareness campaigns, educational materials, workshops, technical events, and activities linked to international environmental events such as World Migratory Bird Day.

A notable example was the national workshop on the impacts of diclofenac on vultures and the promotion of safer veterinary alternatives, which helped raise awareness among stakeholders about threats affecting scavenging raptors.

- * Have any education programmes or teaching resources been provided during the reporting period to inform young people and students about migratory birds of prey and their conservation needs?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not known

- * Please give a brief summary:

Yes, Educational and awareness activities have been implemented during the reporting period to increase knowledge of biodiversity conservation, including migratory birds and birds of prey. These activities included awareness campaigns, educational materials, public events, exhibitions, and the extensive use of social media platforms to disseminate information about migratory birds, their ecological importance, and conservation needs.

XI. STRENGTHENING CAPACITY

- * Have any training or other support programmes been implemented during the reporting period to strengthen the capacity of agencies responsible for the application of relevant laws and regulations?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not known

- * Please give a brief summary:

Yes, Training and capacity-building programmes have been implemented during the reporting period to strengthen the capabilities of personnel and institutions responsible for implementing environmental legislation and wildlife conservation regulations. These activities included workshops, technical training courses, knowledge-exchange events, and cooperation with national and international partners. For example, in April 2025, the National Center for Wildlife organized a regional workshop entitled “The Kingdom’s Experience in Hunting Regulation”, focusing on sustainable hunting management, enforcement mechanisms, online monitoring systems, and regional cooperation to combat illegal hunting.

* Have any training or other initiatives been implemented during the reporting period to support activities undertaken by local communities or voluntary groups in relation to birds of prey surveys, monitoring, site protection work or related outreach?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not known

* Please give a brief summary:

Yes, During the reporting period, collaborative initiatives involving local conservation organizations and stakeholders were implemented to support monitoring and conservation activities for birds of prey. A notable example was the nationwide Steppe Eagle (*Aquila nipalensis*) census conducted in January 2026 by the National Center for Wildlife in cooperation with the Birds Protection Society and the Royal Reserves. The survey covered key sites across the Kingdom and involved coordinated field teams and volunteers, contributing to improved knowledge of the distribution and population status of Steppe Eagles in Saudi Arabia. Such initiatives also strengthen cooperation among conservation partners and enhance national capacity for monitoring migratory birds of prey. The Barbary/Peregrine Falcon (Hadad) initiative was implemented with local communities and falcons to restock and monitor the populations.

* During the reporting period, has your country *provided* any new financial or other resources for conservation activities specifically benefiting migratory birds of prey?

GUIDANCE:

“Other resources” in this context could include, for example, “in-kind” forms of support such as staff time or administrative infrastructure, loan of equipment, provision of data processing facilities or technology transfer. (Do not include training or mentoring schemes and other initiatives for capacity building however, as these are covered separately in the preceding two questions).

- ☒ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not known

* Please state the beneficiary/ies concerned and the activities supported:

Supporting the role of a coordinator for the Southwest Asia IKB. In addition, a private sector support secured for the the national Steppe Eagle count during the winter of 2025-2026.

- * During the reporting period, has your country *received* any new financial or other resources for conservation activities specifically benefiting migratory birds of prey?

GUIDANCE:

See guidance on interpretation of “other resources” provided in relation to the preceding question.

- ☐ Yes
☒ No
☐ Not known

- * Please state why not:

No, During the reporting period, conservation activities benefiting migratory birds of prey were primarily supported through national resources.

XII. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

- * During the reporting period, has your country participated in any international cooperation activities as provided by paragraph 8 of the MOU?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not known

- * Please give a brief summary:

Yes, Saudi Arabia actively participated in international cooperation activities related to the conservation of migratory birds of prey during the reporting period. These activities included participation in meetings and initiatives under the CMS Raptors MoU, including the Third Meeting of Signatories (MoS3) held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, in 2023, as well as participation in Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meetings, international workshops, and technical consultations.

Saudi Arabia also strengthened international collaboration through Memoranda of Understanding signed with BirdLife International and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), supporting cooperation in biodiversity conservation, research, capacity building, and the exchange of knowledge and expertise.

In January 2024, Saudi Arabia hosted a regional workshop on addressing the increasing illegal taking and trade of wildlife in the Southwest Asia region under the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS).

The National Center for Wildlife convened an international forum on Hima – protected areas forum in 2024, during which a dedicated session of vultures was organized and led by Raptors MoU and AEWA convention.

In May 2025, Saudi Arabia also hosted a regional workshop to strengthen efforts for the protection of migratory species, focusing on regional cooperation, enforcement, monitoring, awareness raising, and the implementation of conservation actions across flyways.

- * During the reporting period, has your country taken any steps to support or encourage any other Range State (s) to sign the Raptors MOU?

- ☒ Yes

- ☐ No
- ☐ Not known

* Please identify the Range State(s) concerned, and the nature of the support or encouragement given:

Yes. Saudi Arabia has encouraged wider participation in the Raptors MoU through regional cooperation activities, workshops, technical meetings, and engagement with Gulf States.

Contact

alexandra.caron-strehlow@un.org