



RAPTORS  
MOU

# MOS 3

A large, stylized graphic of a bird in flight, rendered in shades of blue and green, positioned between the letters 'M' and 'S' of the 'MOS 3' title.

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**Coming together for the  
conservation of birds of prey**



# Principal bird habitats in the wider environment: a joint AEWA-CMS-Raptors MoU project

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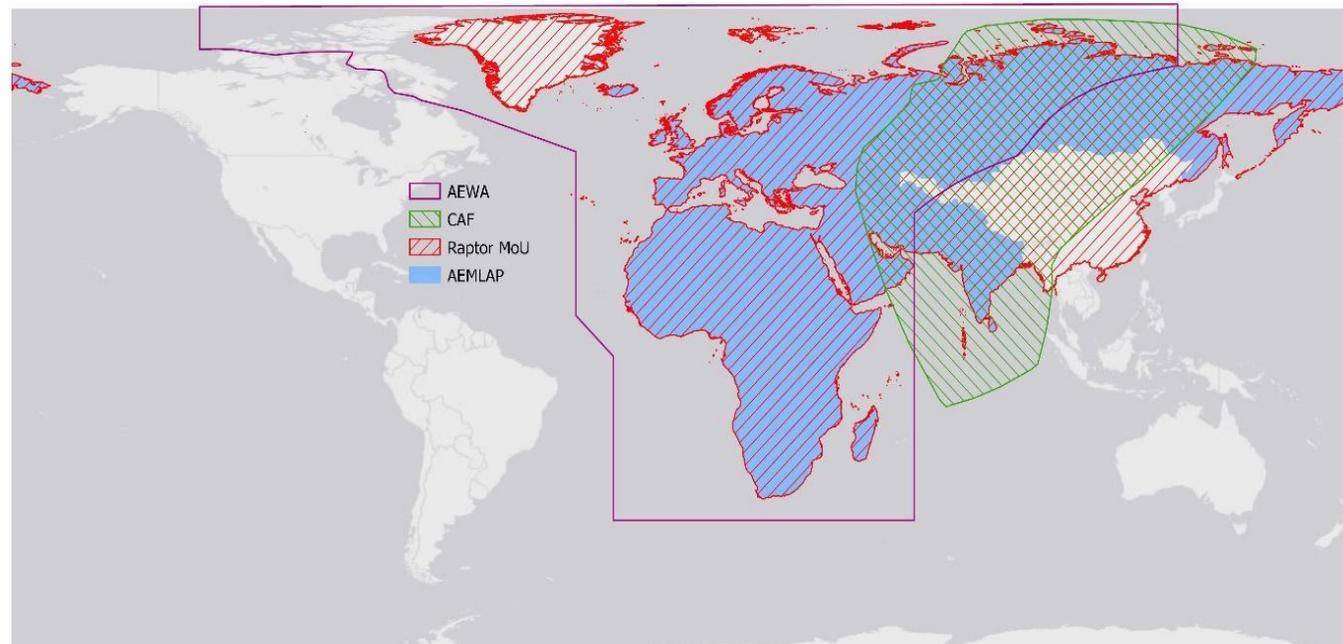


# Project trigger

- AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Objective 4
  - To ensure there is **sufficient quantity and quality of habitat in the wider environment** for achieving and maintaining favourable conservation status for migratory waterbird populations
- Target 4.1: identify habitat conservation priorities at Agreement level and implementation corresponding actions
  - conduct Agreement-level **assessment of the status of principal waterbird habitats**
  - develop an **action plan**

# Expanding to CMS and Raptors MoU

- AEWA Technical Committee compiled a concept for the task in 2019-2020
  - Invited CMS (landbirds/CAF) and Raptors MoU (birds of prey) to join and expanded the scope taxonomically



# Project development

- AEWA Secretariat commissioned in 2021 to BirdLife International compilation of a costed project proposal (UK financial support)
- Since 2022 joint and coordinated fundraising effort by AEWA-CMS-Raptors MoU



# Project relevance for Raptors MoU

- Para 8a (general measures)
  - identify important habitats, significant routes and congregatory sites for birds of prey occurring within their territory and encourage their protection, and/or appropriate management, assessment, rehabilitation and/or restoration
- Para 8b (general measures)
  - coordinate their efforts to ensure that a network of suitable habitats is maintained or, where appropriate, established inter alia where such habitats extend over the territory of more than one Signatory
- Para 8c (general measures)
  - investigate problems that are posed or are likely to be posed by human activities or from other causes and will endeavour to implement remedial and preventative measures, including inter alia habitat rehabilitation and habitat restoration, and compensatory measures for loss of habitat

# Project relevance for Raptors MoU (2)

- Action Plan, Activity 3: Habitat conservation and sustainable management
  - 3.1. Survey, maintain and restore natural vegetation cover in former habitats (especially grasslands) in the range of globally threatened species
  - 3.4. Taking into account the needs of bird of prey conservation in sectors and related policies such as agriculture, forestry, fisheries, industries, tourism, energy, chemicals and pesticides

# The Project in a nutshell

- Duration: 26 months
- Guided by a Steering Committee
- Expert groups: 2
  - Habitat
  - Policy
- Project staff: 6
- Budget: €1.1 million



# Project structure

- **Objective 1:** Identify principal bird habitats for migratory birds
- **Objective 2:** Assess priority habitats for migratory species to identify priority areas for conservation, management and restoration
- **Objective 3:** Identify and quantify threats to the priority habitats for migratory species
- **Objective 4:** Carry out an analysis of policy management tools and mechanisms as well as opportunities to maintain or enhance the state of priority habitats
- **Objective 5:** Develop Habitat Action Plans
- **Objective 6:** Facilitate the implementation of Habitat Action Plans

# Project outputs

- **Objective 1:** Identify principal bird habitats for migratory birds
  - Classification of all bird species according to the principal habitats they use
  - Prioritised principal habitats and arranged by instrument – 11 habitat types of level 1 and 65 habitat types of level 2 (IUCN Red List Habitat Classification Scheme)
- **Objective 2:** Assess priority habitats for migratory species to identify priority areas for conservation, management and restoration
  - Habitat needs of priority species
  - Past trends of the extent of priority habitat types
  - Habitat quality of priority habitats and restoration potential
  - Potential future trends in priority habitats due to likely land use and climate change
  - Priority areas for habitat conservation, management and restoration

## Project outputs (2)

- **Objective 3:** Identify and quantify threats to the priority habitats for migratory species
  - Compiled data on threats to priority level habitats
  - Ranking of threats by likely impact on bird populations within priority habitats
- **Objective 4:** Carry out an analysis of policy management tools and mechanisms as well as opportunities to maintain or enhance the state of priority habitats
  - Relevant international legislation, policy mechanisms and initiatives and possible synergies
  - Gaps in current international legislation and policies
  - International policy recommendations mainstreaming into national policies
  - Recommendations on collaboration, new developments, and mainstreaming

# Project outputs (3)

- **Objective 5:** Develop Habitat Action Plans
  - Habitat action plans based on relevant outputs from Objectives 2-4 and according to an agreed format and structure
- **Objective 6:** Facilitate the implementation of Habitat Action Plans
  - Tools and structure for HAPs implementation
  - Reporting framework
  - Pilot projects to mainstream HAPs recommendations into national policy

# Summary

- Benefits all migratory birds in the African-Eurasian flyways
- Well-planned and structured project, clear objectives and deliverables
- Addresses an issue that has been largely untackled to date
- Has a potential for a strong and large-scale impact
- Provides the blueprint for a long-term implementation process
- The most important unfunded bird conservation project at present in the African-Eurasian flyways

# Your support is needed

- Many countries are Parties/Signatories to all the three instruments



**Parties/Signatories are invited to join resources**