

The WHMSI MIGRATORY BIRD ACTION PLAN 2014-2020

1. Given the enabled environment for the Flyways of the Americas, a cooperative framework for conservation of migratory birds in the Americas, WHMSI will advance its development and implementation

- 1.1. Evaluate a joint action plan for implementation to avoid overlapping and duplication of activities
- 1.2. Develop a web-enabled forum to disseminate actions
- 1.3. Develop a follow-up and monitoring body to further the goals of the Flyways of the Americas Framework. Use WHMSI or another entity as a thematic organization to help organize the follow-up, evaluation and continuing direction of activities to advance the Framework's goals.

2. WHMSI will promote the identification of leadership and/or leaders to support the integration, enhance efficiencies of current flyway initiatives and other partners.

- 2.1. Identify voluntary "champions/leaders" for migratory bird species in the Americas support for integration among groups or individual partners working on the identified species, habitats, or threats.
- 2.2. Link to available databases of migratory bird species in the Americas for updates on information on their natural history, conservation status, and individuals/institutions working locally, sub or supra-nationally on their biology and conservation.
- 2.3. Develop a strategy(s) to reach target constituencies for the conservation of a prioritized list of migratory bird species in the Americas.
- 2.4. Encourage and support the development of Conservation Business Plans to orchestrate life-cycle conservation for bird populations dependent upon shared and linked habitats.

3. Assist in the identification of priorities and needs, including capacity building, to address threats to migratory bird species

- 3.1. Work with existing priority setting efforts (IUCN Redlist, WatchList, AZE, and governmental priority lists) to develop (or endorse) a common list of priority species, networks of sites for those species, and potential funding sources.
- 3.2. Conduct an assessment of, and map out, existing involvement in migratory bird and flyways initiatives in the Americas (to identify strengths, opportunities and existing capacity).
- 3.3. Identify north-south and south-south potential interactions for mutual benefits in capacity building to address needs for conservation of migratory bird species.

4. Create a forum to discuss common issues in the flyways countries

- 4.1. Capitalize on existing parties' knowledge and experience working with other flyways/migratory bird initiatives in the Americas.
- 4.2. Develop a web-enabled forum for discussion of flyways conservation in the Americas

- 4.3. Facilitate in national, regional or hemispheric/global events (conferences, seminars, workshops, etc.) awareness raising and actions that promote the conservation of migratory bird species.

5. Work with WHMSI's governmental and NGO participants, to reach out to governments, multilaterals and the donor community about conservation needs and actions for migratory bird species; and work to develop increased and new funding mechanisms and support for migratory birds.

- 5.1. Develop a conceptual framework of state-of-the-art conservation practices of migratory bird species in the Americas
- 5.2. Produce a 5+ year strategy with the priorities to market the financial and technical needs for the conservation of migratory species.
- 5.3. Print brochures (proposals) and outreach and promotional materials to fundraise and create alliances to advance the conservation of migratory species in the Americas.

6. Identify potential sources of funding to support hemispheric, regional and country initiatives

- 6.1. Develop short concepts for projects focused on priority species and addressing priority issues, which build on existing partner expertise/capacity and existing migratory bird initiatives.
- 6.2. Conduct a gap analysis and prioritize conservation actions for migratory bird species to facilitate financial flows to advance range-wide conservation for flyways species.
- 6.3. Develop alliances or joint ventures with the Academia and Science and Technology Councils in countries to advance research needed for the conservation of migratory bird species.
- 6.4. Identify public figures who could "champion" the conservation initiatives for the Americas in each region/sub regions through outreach messages.
- 6.5. Facilitate flyway-scale, multi-partner funding applications.

7. Engage decision-makers and identify strategies to work with land-owners. Engage and also develop strategies to engage large corporations and commodity purchasers to promote sustainable land use and beneficial working landscapes.

- 7.1 Develop common priority issues/threats (landscape barriers to migration) and the governments (central, sub-nationals, etc.) involved and responsible for addressing those issues.
- 7.2 Involve hemispheric (e.g., OAS) and regional (e.g., NAFTA, MERCOSUR, UNASUR, etc.) and take advantage of political meetings to communicate and involve decision-makers in the needs of flyways conservation.
- 7.3 Involve corporations in the flyways to contribute within their social and environmental responsibility initiatives (e.g., Rio Tinto's partnership with Birdlife International) to advance the flyways agenda.
- 7.4 Promote work with unions of producers at the national levels and when feasible with supra-national unions of producers to conserve species, sites and the productive landscape.

8. Provide tools to strengthen NGO capacity and opportunities

- 8.1. Build on and unite existing projects that are being developed and implemented by organizations in the flyway.
- 8.2. Disseminate existing tools to promote their use and avoid duplication of mechanisms and tools.
- 8.3. Develop manuals and guidelines of “good practices” to approach decision-makers and advocate for the conservation of migratory bird species.

9. Help identify the key sites for migratory bird species in the hemisphere and their protection status.

- 9.1. Develop projects which help strengthen existing flyways/migratory bird initiatives, and especially the members’ role within them (and which avoid duplication of effort).
- 9.2. While many organizations in the Americas have a strong focus on migratory birds, few have been developed (as yet) at the flyway level. The approach taken to date has been “linking sites, linking people,” which can be summarized as:
 - Identifying comprehensive, flyway-scale, networks of IBAs and others priority habitats for priority migratory bird species in the Americas.
 - Developing sustainable initiatives to advance the conservation of migratory species at networked sites through the linking of local communities and conservation approaches.
 - Documenting these networks of connected sites and people, both on the web and in written media, as a means of promoting their conservation.
 - Facilitating the establishment of regular monitoring systems for these networks.

10. Encourage public outreach, education and communication

- 10.1. Develop educational materials (e.g., video) to motivate all audiences, especially children, on the importance of the conservation of the “Americas’ Flyways” and disseminate the material as broadly as possible to reach the largest number of people in the Americas “linking species, sites and people.”
- 10.2. Promote Americas’ Flyways success stories.

11. Coordinate bird monitoring to ensure population trends and site quality are monitored.

Appendix – The Convention on Biological Diversity’s Aichi Biodiversity Goals 2011-2020

Strategic Goal A: Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society

Strategic Goal B: Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use

Strategic Goal C: To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity

Strategic Goal D: Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services

Strategic Goal E: Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building

Strategic Goal A: Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society



Target 1

By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.



Target 2

By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems.



Target 3

By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socio economic conditions.



Target 4

By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits.

Strategic Goal B: Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use



Target 5

By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.



Target 6

By 2020 all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.



Target 7

By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.



Target 8

By 2020, pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity.

**Target 9**

By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.

**Target 10**

By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning.

Strategic Goal C: To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity**Target 11**

By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.

**Target 12**

By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.

**Target 13**

By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity.

Strategic Goal D: Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services**Target 14**

By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.

**Target 15**

By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.

**Target 16**

By 2015, the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization is in force and operational, consistent with national legislation.

Strategic Goal E: Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building**Target 17**

By 2015 each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan.

**Target 18**

By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels.



Target 19

By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied.



Target 20

By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 from all sources, and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization, should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resource needs assessments to be developed and reported by Parties.