



Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)

Roadmap towards eliminating illegal killing, trapping, and trade of birds

Intergovernmental Task Force on Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean

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Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)

- UN Environment treaty
- Only global legal instrument for conservation of migratory species of wild animals
- >1000 species of avian, aquatic and terrestrial fauna
- Species that cyclically and predictably cross one or more national jurisdictional boundaries

Convention on Migratory Species

Appendix I

- Species threatened with extinction
- Strict protection

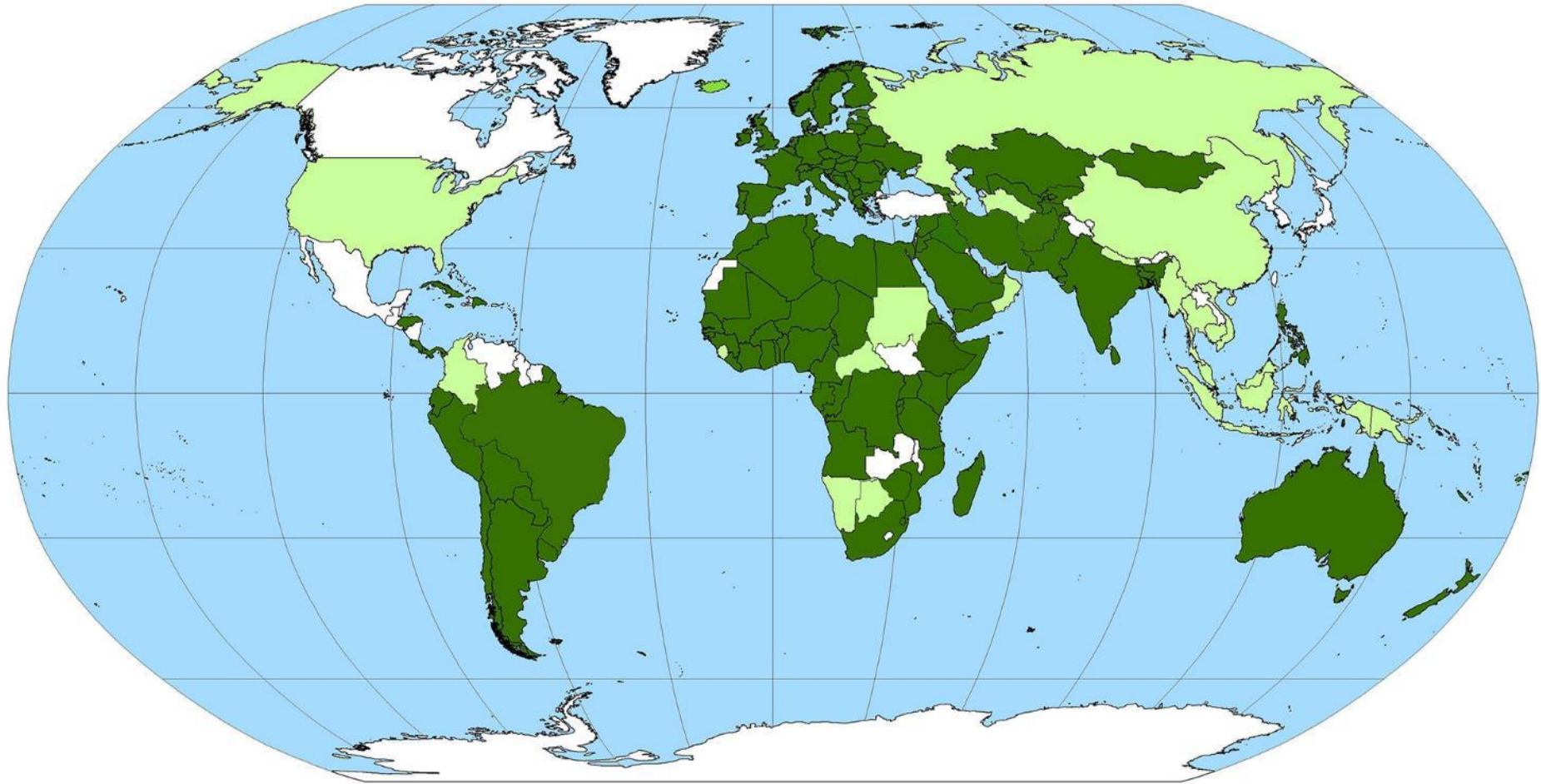


Appendix II

- Benefit from international cooperation
- Unfavourable conservation status

Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

Map of 126 Parties (as of 1 December 2017)






2000 0 2000 KM



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

The final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined.

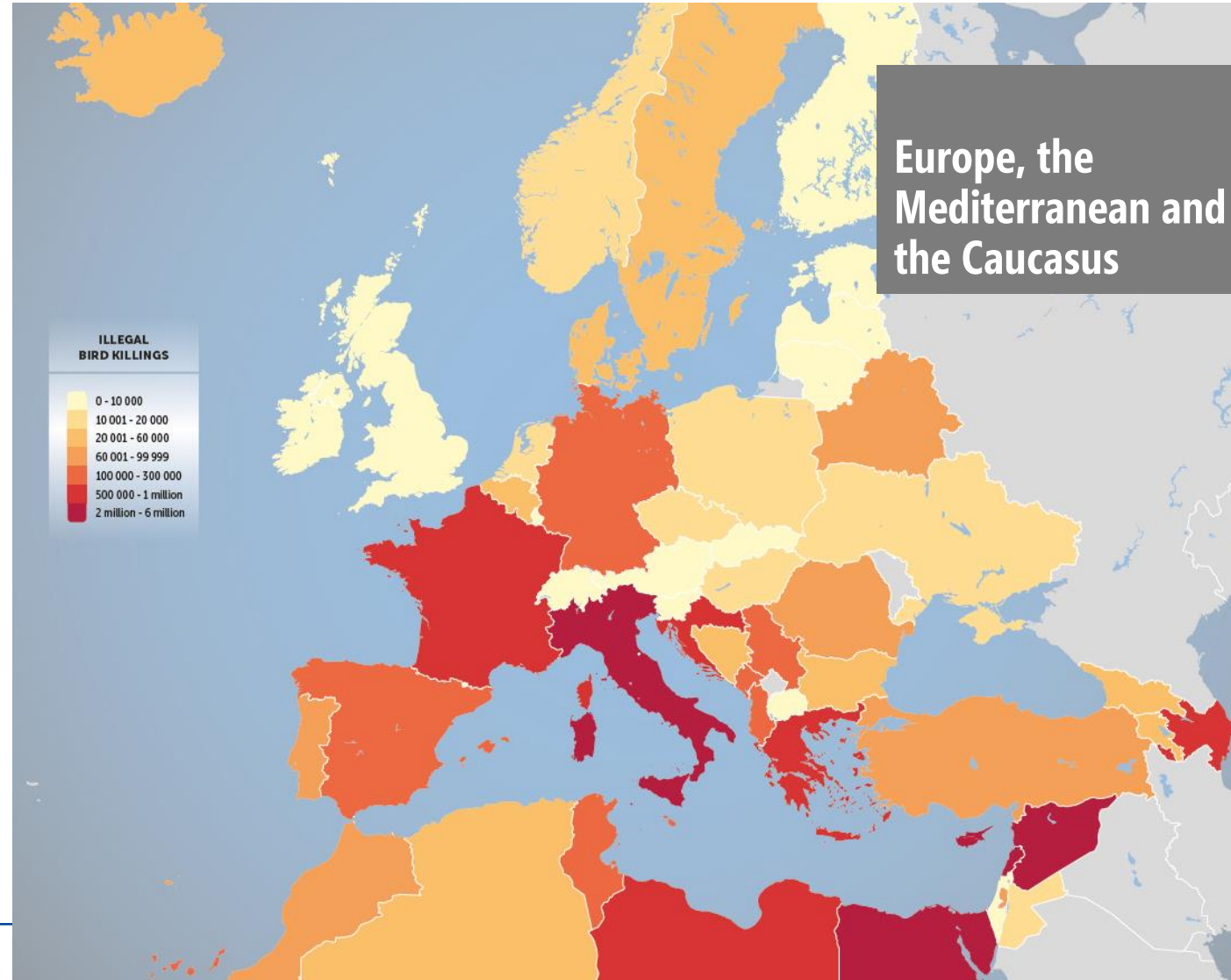
-  CMS Party
-  Non-Party participating in Agreement or MOU
-  No CMS Family involvement



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25 million
birds illegally
killed per year



Illegal Killing of Birds (IKB)

*Overexploitation, including **illegal killing, taking and trade**, is one of the main drivers of bird extinctions globally, and is the **second most significant threat** (after habitat loss) to migratory birds.*



@Birdlife



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@Nabu



CYPRUS



FRANCE



LEBANON



ITALY

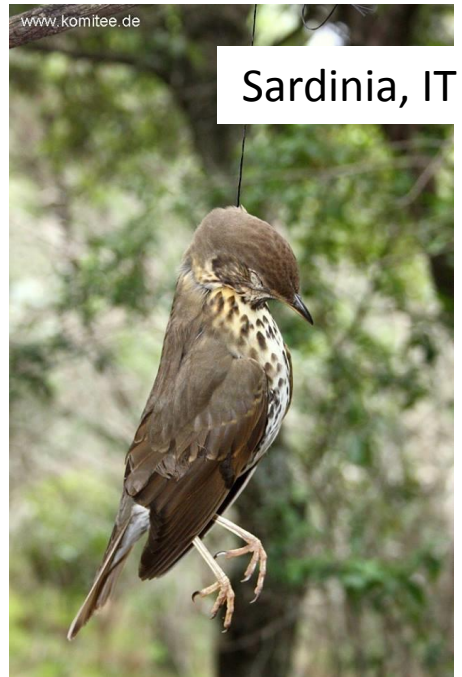
Scale and scope of IKB Mediterranean region



EGYPT



MALTA



Sardinia, IT

The Prevention of Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds

Clear need of enhanced international cooperation and support to countries towards effective law enforcement responses

Bonn Convention text:

- *Parties that are Range States of a migratory species listed in Appendix I shall **prohibit the taking of animals** belonging to such species. Exceptions might be made and reported to the Secretariat.*
- *Each Agreement should prepare for procedures for coordinating **action to suppress illegal taking***

CMS Resolution 11.16 (Rev. COP 12)

“**Illegal killing, taking and trade of migratory birds** still represent important factors against the achievement and maintenance of the favourable **conservation status** of bird populations in all major flyways, negatively affecting conservation actions undertaken by States and resulting in **adverse impacts** on the conservation, legal hunting, agriculture and tourism sectors”





Task Force: MIKT



- Resolution 11.16 calls on the Secretariat to convene an **Intergovernmental Force to Address Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade in the Mediterranean (MIKT)** in conjunction with Secretariats of AEWA, the Raptors MoU, the African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds Action Plan and the Bern Convention.



- Funds provided by EU Commission - GPGC programme.



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MIKT

20 MEMBERS - Government officials of CMS contracting Parties.

37 OBSERVERS:

- Non CMS Parties and other interested countries.
- Other stakeholders include Secretariats of the participating MEAs, UN Environment, UNODC and other UN organizations, INTERPOL, Europol, EUFJE, ENPE, IMPEL, the hunting community and NGOs.



European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law



United Nations Environment Programme



Mediterranean Action Plan Barcelona Convention



INTERPOL



TRAFFIC



MIKT's role

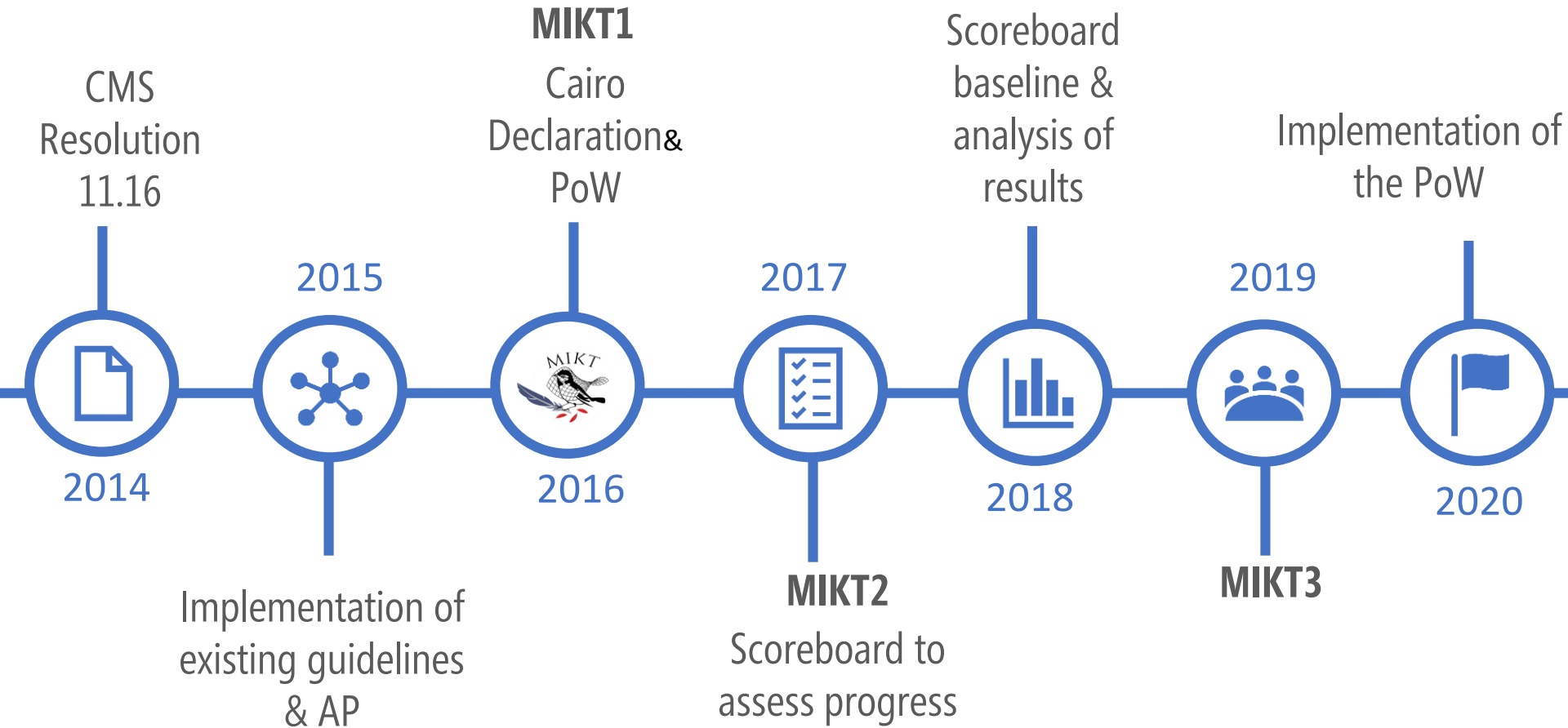
- facilitate **concerted efforts and procedures** to combat illegal killing, taking and trade of migratory birds in the Mediterranean Region;
- facilitate the **implementation** of the existing guidelines and action plans in particular the Tunis Action Plan 2013-2020 for the Eradication of Illegal Killing, Trapping and Trade of Wild Birds;
- consider whether any new guidelines, action plans or other recommendations to **respond to specific problems** are necessary.





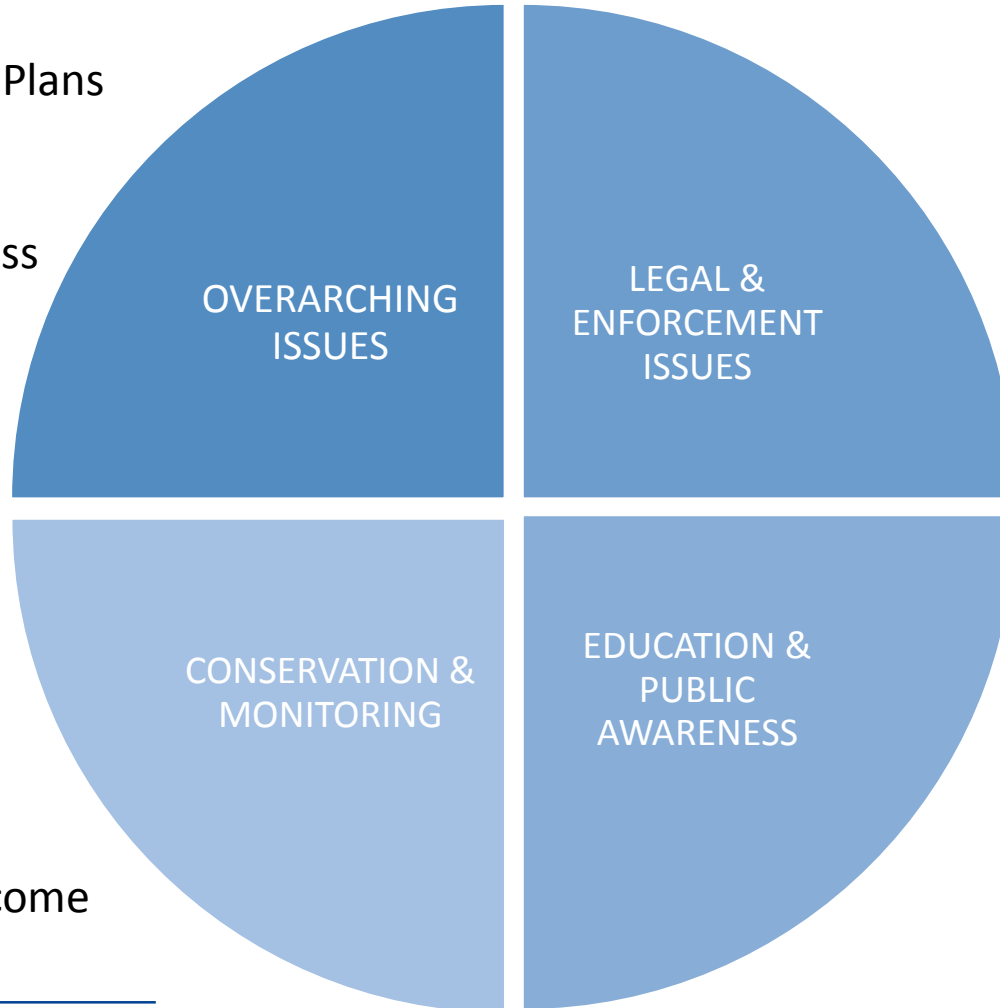
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MIKT Programme of Work 2016 - 2020

- National Action Plans
- Reporting
- IKB hotspots
- Measure progress



- National legislation
- Judiciary sector
- Enforcement
- Cooperation across law chain
- Capacity building

- Monitoring
- Research
- Knowledge management
- Alternative income

- Hunter trainings
- Community awareness
- Public awareness
- National communication strategies

To measure and allow benchmarking of concrete **progress on eradication of IKB** at national level, a tool was adopted in 2017 as part of the MIKT Programme of Work:

Scoreboard to assess the progress in combating illegal killing, taking and trade of wild birds (IKB)

A self-assessment framework for national use

- provides national governments with a tool to provide an objective, fact-based national self-assessment of the current status of illegal killing of birds at national level

Type of data: Critical areas and Indicators

- A. National monitoring of IKB** – 4 indicators
- B. Comprehensiveness of national legislation** - 9 indicators
- C. Enforcement response** - 6 indicators
- D. Prosecution and sentencing** – 4 indicators
- E. Prevention** – 5 indicators



Assessments: 2018 (receiving responses) – 2020 – 2023

Geographic scope: Mediterranean region and Europe
CMS MIKT and Bern Convention
Network of SFP

Workshop for Government Prosecutors on the Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade (IKB) of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean Region.



- In cooperation with the European Network of Prosecutors for Environment (ENPE)
- Sharing legal systems in place in each country
- Exchange of best practices
- Training package for officers working on legislation enforcement at the national level



Report of the Workshop – some key messages

- **Specialist prosecutors** greatly enhance the fight against IKB
- **Specialized police forces**, adequately trained/equipped and work on the ground, greatly increases success
- **National commitment** by the relevant governmental ministries and departments, with underpinning of modern and effective legislation
- **International cooperation**
- Intensification of international cooperation **beyond** the European network
- MIKT can play a **vital role** as a platform for international cooperation

Working to eradicate IKB

- in catalyzing action and political will on IKB in a number of countries, helping to transform former hotspots and problem areas into areas that are now safer.
- problem that is not confined to a single region or country, but is one that requires complex and multi-faced solutions at all levels, including through international cooperation





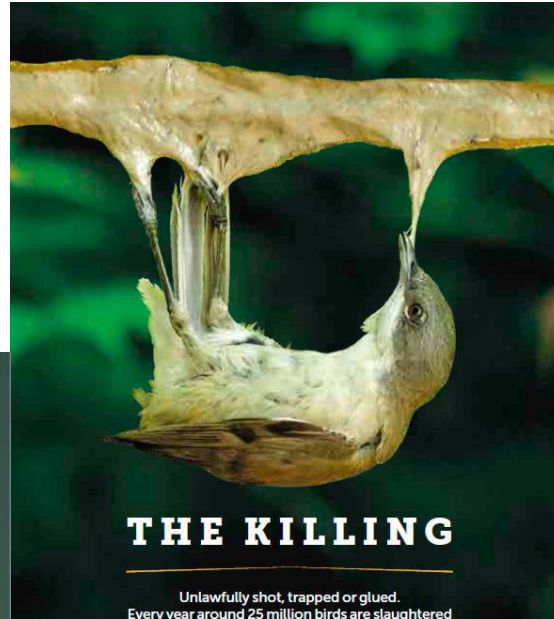
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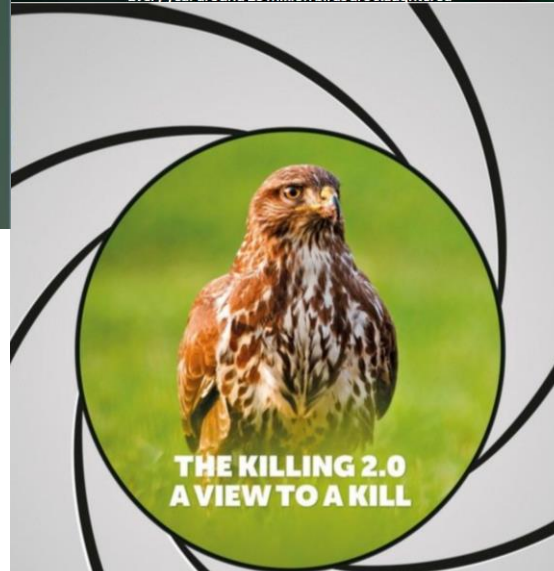
Thank you !



Drivers



The Killing 1.0:
Mediterranean
2015



The Killing 2.0:
Northern Europe,
Central Europe and the
Caucasus
2017

Important decisions

- On **21st June 2018**, the European Court of Justice (ECJ) delivered a judgement concluding that Malta was found **guilty of infringing the European Birds Directive** when it allowed finch trapping to reopen in 2014.
- The ECJ clearly stated that by adopting a derogation allowing the trapping of seven species of wild finch, Malta has **failed to fulfill its obligations under EU law**.

