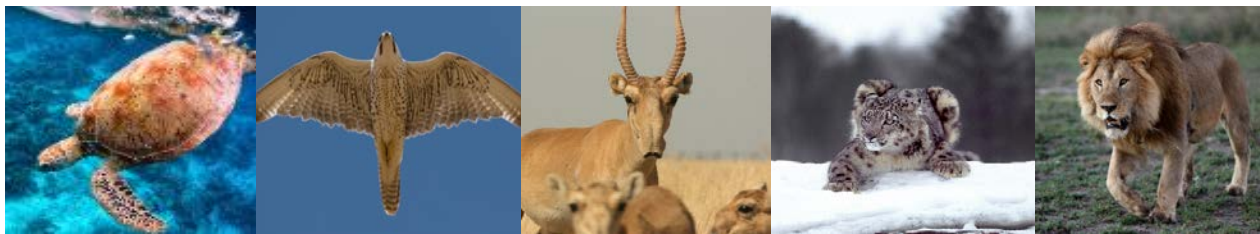


## CMS Task Force on IKB of Migratory Birds: International cooperation to tackle IKB

Laura Aguado

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

UN Environment/CMS Secretariat



## 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

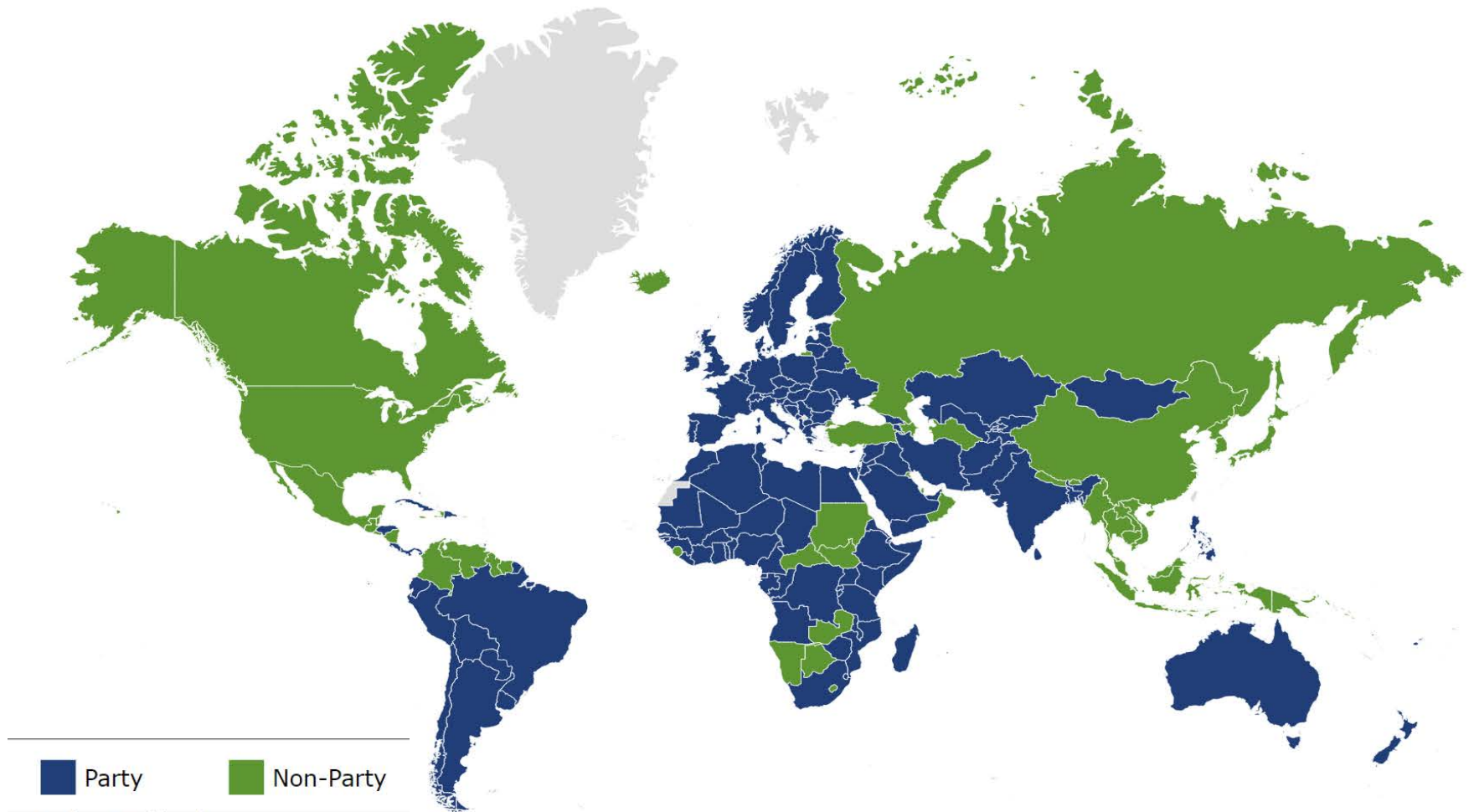
### Appendix I

- Species threatened with extinction
- Strict protection



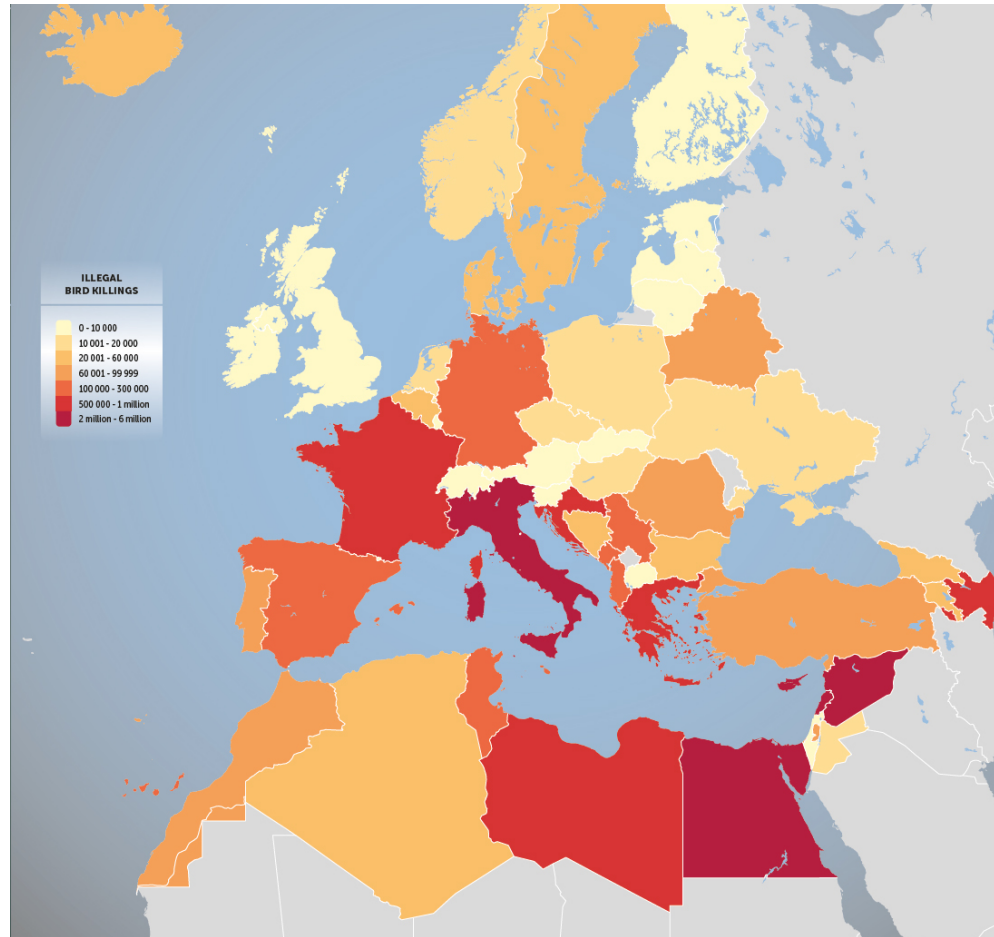
### Appendix II

- Benefit from international cooperation
- Unfavourable conservation status



As of 1 September 2019 the Convention on  
Migratory Species has 129 Parties.

## The Threat



**25 million**  
birds  
illegally  
killed per  
year

Europe, the  
Mediterranean  
and the  
Caucasus



## The Threat



## The Task Force: MIKT



- 2014: CMS Resolution 11.16 calls on the Secretariat to convene an **Intergovernmental Task 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.



# Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)

ENPE & EUROJUST Conference on  
environmental crime

## MIKT

**21 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



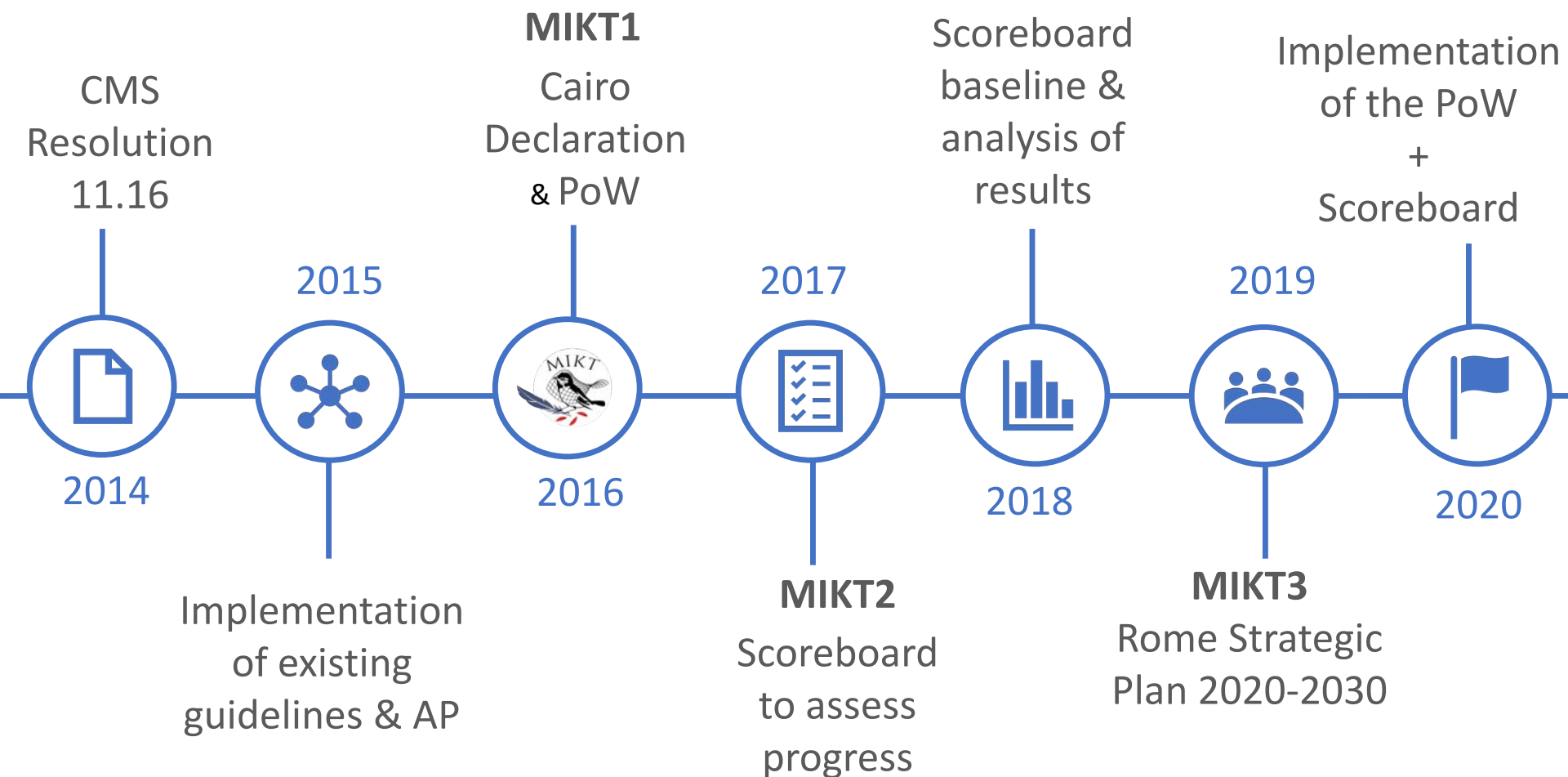
INTERPOL



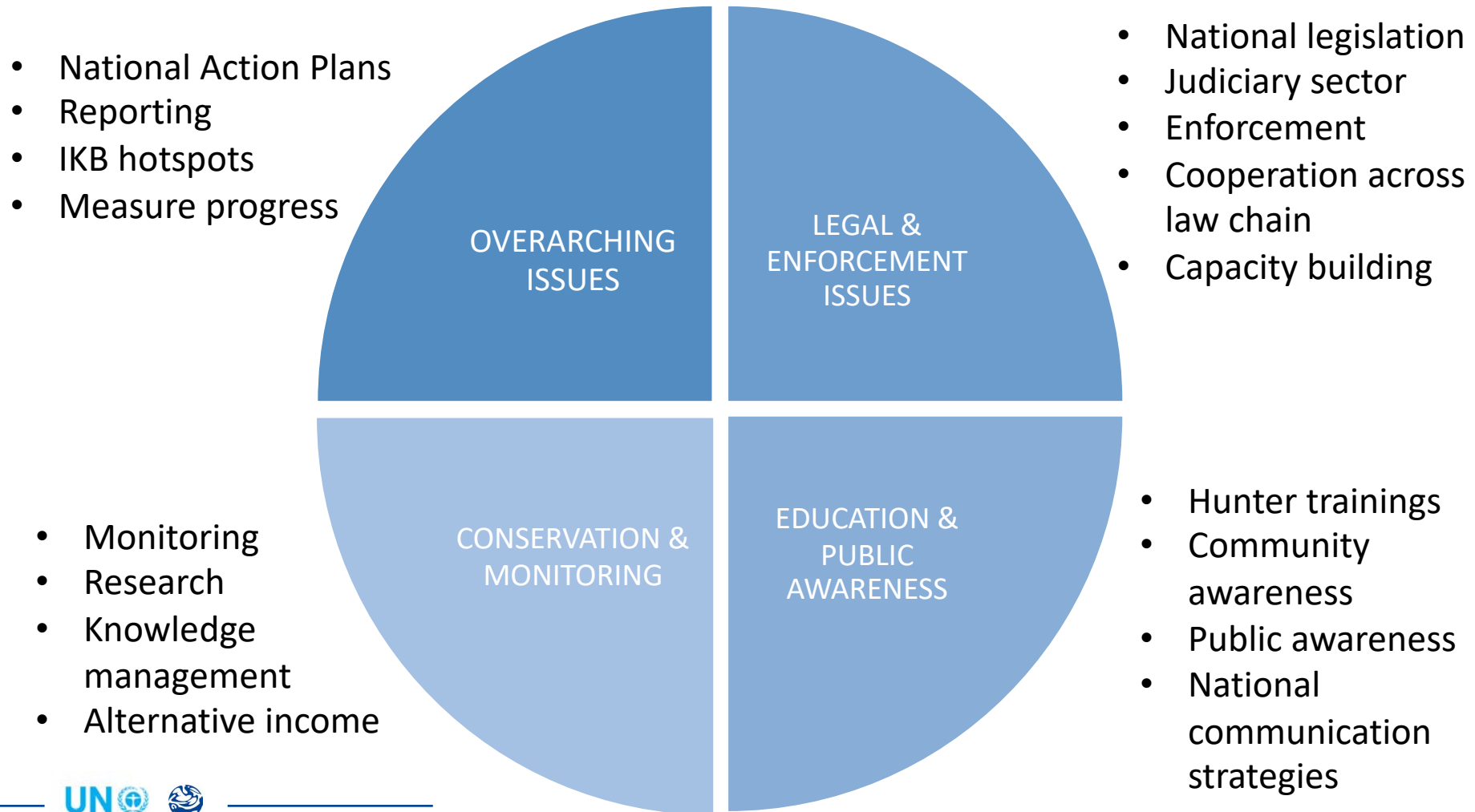
**TRAFFIC**







## Current MIKT Programme of Work 2016 - 2020



To measure and allow benchmarking of **concrete progress on eradication of IKB** at national level, a tool was adopted in 2017 , in close cooperation with the **Bern Convention** Network of Special Focal Points on Eradication of IKB in Wild Birds

## 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 self-assessment of the current status of illegal killing of birds at national level



## Type of data: 5 Critical areas and 28 Indicators

### A. National monitoring of IKB – 4 indicators

(including number, distribution and trend of illegally traded birds)

### B. Comprehensiveness of national legislation - 9 indicators

### C. Enforcement response - 6 indicators

### D. Prosecution and sentencing – 4 indicators

### E. Prevention – 5 indicators

**After 2020:** Assessments will take place every 3 years  
synchronized with CMS COP

#### **Geographic scope:**

Mediterranean region and Europe: CMS MIKT and Bern  
Convention Network of SFP on Eradication of IKB in Wild Birds

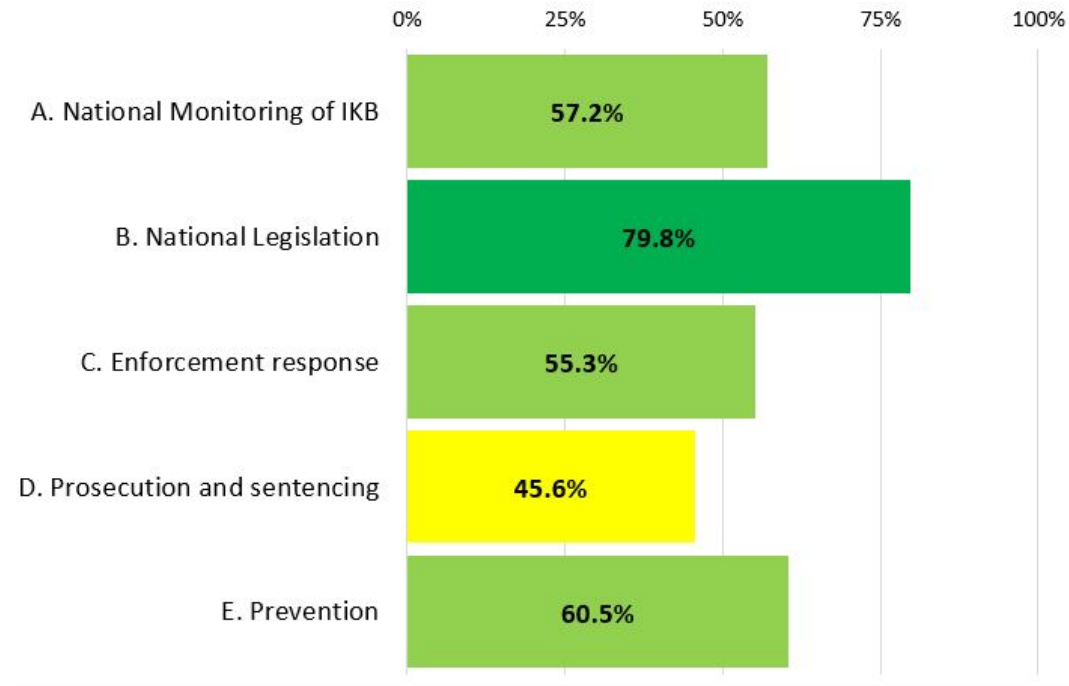


Birdlife – Red-Footed Falcon



## First Assessment of the Scoreboard - 2018

- Sent to 53 countries
- 30 replies received
- Presented at the Joint Meeting in May 2019
- Some responses were partial
- Not all information was available for every country
- Additional information was shared by some countries



**Average score (percentage of maximum possible score) for each indicators' group**

## First Assessment of the Scoreboard - 2018

### Some important outcomes:

- Collecting of data was **complex and challenging** for countries
- Responses based on **partial information** in many cases
- Collaboration with **NGOs** was important to complete data
- **Prosecuted cases** often provided as all collected data
- Missing **taxonomic** information
- Specific **databases** in place/under development only for some countries



## Current Frameworks guiding action on illegal trade: Concluding in 2020

- MIKT Programme of Work
- Bern Convention Tunis Action Plan

## New joint framework 2020-2030

- Rome Strategic Plan
  - Eradicating Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade in Wild Birds in Europe and the Mediterranean region





## Rome Strategic Plan on IKB 2020-2030

Joint Meeting of the Bern Convention Network of SFP and the CMS MIKT  
*Rome, Italy 8-10 May 2019*



### Vision

**By 2030, reduction in the scale of IKB by 50%** within their national territories (Europe and particularly the Mediterranean region), over the 2020 baseline, aiming ultimately at the **eradication of IKB**.

### Objectives

1. To **understand** the extent of and **motivations** behind illegal killing of birds
2. To ensure that the illegal killing of birds is incorporated effectively and efficiently in **national legislation**
3. To ensure that effective and efficient **enforcement** of relevant legislation is undertaken
4. To ensure effective and efficient **justice** for IKB-related offences
5. To **prevent** the illegal killing of birds



## 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 the 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





## The Workshop – goals and content

- To deliver **specialized training** on wildlife crime to prosecutors
- extent of the **problem** in the region, on the international profile of the problem and on international obligations in relation to the problem
- **motives and techniques** used by offenders
- profiling the intelligence and information web **networks available** to regional enforcement personnel
- specific discussion sessions on **enforcement** and reports on **enforcement structures**
- Facilitated **discussions** on penalties and sanctions and working with NGOs

## Case studies of successful prosecutions

- Resources available
- Investigation methodologies
- Field control
- Forensic analysis





## Outcomes of the Workshop

- **Individual and concerted efforts** at strategic level are needed to address the issue
- **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** is vital
- Addressing wildlife crime requires **specific training**
- Intensification of international cooperation **beyond** the European network
- **Legislation** requires improvement in some countries

## MIKT's role



To facilitate **concerted efforts and procedures** to combat illegal killing, taking and trade of migratory birds in the Mediterranean Region;

## Working to eradicate IKB



Illegal killing, taking and trade of migratory birds is a serious threat not confined to a single region or country, it is **globally widespread**.



Working in isolation is not enough, **international cooperation** based on recognized common strategic goals is needed.



@Birdlife





Thank you !

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