



BUSTARDS WITHOUT BORDERS

Program of Work
2026-2028

| Target 1 | | Collision mitigation | | | | |
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| Result (3 years) | Global priority actions | Priority species / regions | Expected output | Regional POWs | MsAP results | Key Partners, Contacts & Resources |
| Collision risk is reduced in priority bustard areas | Assess existing data, and identify global collision-risk hotspots in bustard habitats and along migratory routes, flyways, and key movement corridors and dispersal areas | All species | Global hotspot map (prioritized) | Identification of priority sites for mitigation at regional level | 2.1, 2.2, 2.3; 9.3 | Data sources: research community (telemetry, knowledge of key habitats), consultancies & utilities & land managers (mortality data), grid manager (maps of existing lines) |
| Engagement of and collaboration with energy and infrastructure sectors is improved | Engage energy and infrastructure stakeholders to promote mitigation, enhance national policies and practices, and encourage mitigation of existing lines | Key Range States within each region, e.g. India, South Africa, Spain, Uzbekistan | Info materials, policy summaries | Review of existing national standards for mitigation, engagement with authorities and utilities | 2.1 | Ministries of Energy, utilities, national conservation NGOs |
| Conservation of bustards is considered at early stages of new energy infrastructure planning | Identify upcoming projects with the potential to impact bustard populations, focusing on infrastructure endangering movement through important movement corridors as well as at critical habitat; engage with ESIA process | Key Range States within each region | Timely meetings, written input and responses to ESIA reports, mitigation & offset plans | Identification of projects planned in key areas, engagement with project development teams | 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 | Development banks, Ministries of Energy, ESIA consultancies, IUCN SSC Bustard Specialist Group |
| Target 2 | | Reducing impacts of agricultural intensification | | | | |
| Result (3 years) | Global priority actions | Priority species / regions | Expected output | Regional POWs | MsAP results | Key Partners, Contacts & Resources |
| Bustard-friendly measures are integrated into agricultural policies | Review existing agriculture-environmental (AE) schemes and develop global or regional guidance, as possible | Regions where national or supra-national agri-environmental programs exist | Global or regional guidance on bustard-friendly agriculture | Adaptation to regional policies, e.g. CAP; development of regional AE schemes | 1.1, 1.2 | Ministries of Agriculture, Rural Development offices, agricultural sector, FAO |

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| Bustard-friendly conservation measures are implemented using non-policy mechanisms | Facilitate pilot AE schemes in key bustard areas | A key site within each region | AE schemes, and case studies describing learnings | Identify a site in each region where changes to agricultural practice could provide a large benefit to bustards; with engagement of stakeholders develop mechanisms to reduce threats | 1.2 | Conservation NGO partner, agricultural sector, FAO |
| Enhanced stakeholder engagement | Expand awareness of farmers and rural development actors of benefits of bustard-friendly agricultural practices | Sites of conflict between bustards and agriculture | Communication materials | Region- / country-specific strategies | 1.2 | Conservation NGO partner, farmers |
| Target 3 | Halting illegal and unsustainable take | | | | | |
| Result (3 years) | Global priority actions | Priority species / regions | Expected output | Regional POWs | MsAP results | Key Partners, Contacts & Resources |
| Understanding of the impacts of unsustainable take is improved | Synthesize regional materials to develop global assessment of impact of legal take | Africa, Asia, Australia | Global map of hunting territories and estimate of total take | Within each range state where legal or organized hunting occurs, map hunting concessions or territories & estimated take | 4.2 | SWAITB TF; national and local wildlife offices |
| Understanding of the impacts of illegal take and trade is improved | Systematically monitor social media; synthesize regional materials to develop global assessment of impact of illegal take and trade; develop recommendations | Africa, Asia | Standards for social media monitoring; global assessment of illegal take and trade, report identifying drivers and channels of trade, and potential mitigation methods | Develop local research partner to implement monitoring program, characterize scale, sources, and motivations for illegal take and trade | 4.3 | National research partners; NGOs including IFAW, TRAFFIC |

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| Stronger legal frameworks | Support review of national legislation and global / regional frameworks | Key Range States; Range States party to global & regional frameworks | Policy guidance | Adapt and promote policy guidance at regional and national levels, including through regional coordination mechanisms | 4.1, 4.3, 4.4 | CMS/CITES national legislation review; national wildlife agencies |
| Enhanced enforcement | Facilitate training and collaboration of enforcement actors, including along migratory routes, transboundary areas, and international borders | Key Range States | Training materials | Regional training of enforcement actors | 4.4 | National enforcement agencies; NGOs including IFAW, TRAFFIC |
| Demand is reduced through public awareness | Develop materials to raise awareness; awareness campaigns including in collaboration with partner NGOs | Regions where trade is a driver of take | Awareness toolkits | Regional toolkits and campaigns | 4.1, 4.3 | National conservation NGOs; international NGOs including IFAW, TRAFFIC |

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| Target 4 | Addressing knowledge gaps | | | | | |
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| Result (3 years) | Global priority actions | Priority species / regions | Expected output | Regional POWs | MsAP results | Key Partners, Contacts & Resources |
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| Prioritization of knowledge gaps | Compile and prioritize data gaps for species and regions. Cultivate donors and funding mechanisms to support needed research | CR species, species with insufficient data; Africa, Asia | Prioritized global assessment of knowledge gaps | Regional research priorities | 9.1 | Conservation NGOs, independent experts, researchers, OECM/ PA management and staff, conservation research donors; IUCN SSC Bustard Specialist Group |
| Establishment of standardized monitoring including capacity building where needed | Develop guidance and establish criteria and minimum standards; coordinate implementation with appropriate actors, including training activities where needed | CR species, species with insufficient data; Africa, Asia | Global monitoring guidelines & framework; training materials | National monitoring programmes | 3.5, 9.1, 9.2 | |
| Knowledge and understanding of bustard migration patterns and population connectivity is improved | Collect movement data via telemetry studies; develop telemetry data-sharing mechanism; promote flyway-scale analyses to support coordinated international conservation planning | Migratory & nomadic species | Global database and map of seasonal movements and migratory routes | Regional and national movement data collection, mapping | 9.1, 9.2, 9.4 | |

| Target 5 | | Key habitats are protected | | | | |
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| Result (3 years) | Global priority actions | Priority species / regions | Expected output | Regional POWs | MsAP results | Key Partners, Contacts & Resources |
| High value habitats are recognized to incentivize protection and provide models for other sites | Develop criteria for Global Bustard Sanctuaries (GBS); evaluate site applications; publicize program and seek funding opportunities for sites | One or more GBS per region, and per threatened species | Launch of GBS program, public recognition of first cohort of GBS sites | Identify sites meeting GBS criteria, coach stakeholder in program benefits and application | 3.1 | Site stakeholders, conservation NGOs |
| Important sites for bustards are identified within each range state, including seasonal habitats and key stopover sites along migratory routes | Collate a global map | All species and regions | A global map of important sites | Through analysis of existing data, interviews with key informants, collate important areas for bustards within each range state, identify threats at these habitats, identify relevant land managers and stakeholders | 3.1 | Conservation NGOs, independent experts, researchers, OECM/PA management and staff, IUCN SSC Bustard Specialist Group |
| Target 6 | | No extinctions! | | | | |
| Result (3 years) | Global priority actions | Priority species / regions | Expected output | Regional POWs | MsAP results | Key Partners, Contacts & Resources |
| Urgent threats to the survival of bustard species and populations are addressed | Support conservation actors in identifying resources and contacts needed to address threats; raise the profile of critical threats and mobilize resources | All regions, species/ populations of concern | Progress towards addressing the most urgent threats; extirpations are avoided | Identify a key threat to a species or population of bustards within the region; discussions with stakeholders and allies regarding approaches that could be undertaken to ameliorate the problem | Will vary | Will vary |

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| The breeding stock and genetic resources held within captive breeding centers are ascertained and regularly updated | Collate and analyse regional data | All regions | A database of centers holding bustards in captivity | Identify institutions holding bustards in captivity; develop a key contact in each institution; gather information about holdings | 7.3 | Zoos, private breeding centers, IUCN SSC Bustard Specialist Group |
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Target 7 **Enhancing CEPA activities**

| Result (3 years) | Global priority actions | Priority species / regions | Expected output | Regional POWs | MsAP results | Key Partners, Contacts & Resources |
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| Communication and education on bustard conservation are intensified | Share information through digital platforms; develop and disseminate communication and educational products (leaflets, leporellos, posters, multimedia content) and thematic products, and launch media campaigns to reach diverse audiences; develop an educational toolkit and training materials; organize webinars and workshops | All regions | Available and accessible communication and educational materials on the MsAP and bustard conservation; increased visibility and transparency; enhanced participation of stakeholders and local communities; strengthened capacity building and knowledge exchange. | Participate in the global activities; disseminate communication and educational materials among partners in each range state; facilitate regional knowledge exchange; tailor the products and programmes to regional priorities, species, and socio-cultural contexts | 10.1, 10.2, 10.3 | CMS Secretariat, CMS Parties, national and international NGOs and initiatives, educational and research organizations, local governments, authorities, and communities, OECM/PA managers and staff |
| Public awareness and participation are enhanced | Promote awareness of initiatives and events, such as Bustard Awareness Day; promote citizen science; promote awareness of migratory connectivity and shared responsibility among range states | | | Participate in the global activities; engage local communities, and cultural and religious leaders | | |
| Partnerships and collaboration for CEPA are strengthened | Foster collaboration among governments, NGOs, international organizations, and educational institutions; promote integration of bustard conservation into biodiversity and land-use frameworks | | | Participate in the global activities; identify and reach out to potential partners and stakeholders | | |