

# Raptors MOU National Report Form

This is the National Report form for the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Birds of Prey in Africa and Eurasia (Raptors MOU).

The purpose of the National Report is to provide information on your country's implementation of the Raptors MOU including the Action Plan (Annex 3). The MOU's Technical Advisory Group (TAG) was tasked with developing a suitable format for reports, covering implementation of the MOU and its Action Plan as a whole. The proposed format provided here has been designed to generate information that can be synthesised in a comparable way for each future Meeting of Signatories; to give a meaningful picture of progress and reflect the achievements of Signatories and other stakeholders, but also to be as streamlined as possible to keep the work involved in reporting to a necessary minimum.

A formal proposal to adopt the format will be considered by the third Meeting of Signatories (MOS3) in 2022. In the meantime we are taking the opportunity to launch it in its provisional form, so that up to date information on national implementation can be available for MOS3. The Coordinating Unit of the Raptors MOU will compile and analyse the reports for this purpose.

## Reporting period

To enable proper analysis, it is important that all respondents relate their answers (throughout this form) to the same reporting period. On this occasion we are asking you to report on the period between **July 2019 and the present**. (July 2019 was the date of the previous implementation survey, the results of which can be found in the first Review of the Action Plan). Future reporting cycles are likely to cover periods between one Meeting of Signatories and the next.

## Instructions

Please answer all questions as fully and as accurately as you can. Wherever possible, please indicate the source of information used to answer the question, particularly if a published reference or report is available. For each question there are blue icons that can be used to attach a document and/or provide a weblink.

When working on the online version of the report, save your information by clicking on the "Save all" button inside each section. An auto-save feature also saves any changed responses every 30 seconds, and whenever you move between sections.

Guidance notes are provided throughout the format to assist you in answering the questions.

**Please Note:** Before clicking on any hyperlink contained within this form, please press and hold the Ctrl button on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

**Deadline for submission: 31 October 2021**

## I. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Name of Signatory State:

> United Arab Emirates

Date of entry into effect of the MOU in your country (DD/MM/YY):

> 22.10.2008

Any territories which are excluded from the application of the MOU:

> No

## Report Compiler

Name and title:

> Obaid Ali Alshamsi

Full name of institution:

> Ministry of Climate Change and Environment

Telephone:

> +971 4 2148 396

Email:

> oaalshamsi@moccae.gov.ae

## **Designated Contact Point for the MOU**

Name and title of designated Contact Point:

> Obaid Ali Alshamsi

Full name of institution

> Ministry of Climate Change and Environment

Mailing address:

> Address: Dubai Al Ruwayyah 2 Area Beside Zayed University , Dubai – AlAin Road, Dubai  
P.O.Box: 1509

Telephone:

> +971 4 2148 396

Email:

> oaalshamsi@moccae.gov.ae

## II. HIGH-LEVEL SUMMARY OF KEY MESSAGES

This section invites you to summarise briefly the most important positive aspects of Raptors MOU/Action Plan implementation in your country and the areas of greatest concern.

Your answers should be based on the information contained in the body of the report: the intention is for this section to distil the technical information in the report into some very brief and simple “high level” messages for decision-makers and for wider audiences.

Although keeping it brief, please try also to be specific where you can, e.g. “New wildlife legislation enacted in 2020 doubled penalties for poisoning birds of prey” is more informative than “stronger laws”; “50% shortfall in match-funding for GEF project on vultures” is more informative than “lack of funding”. Please limit this specifically to the current reporting period only. For this present round of reporting, the period is from **July 2019 to the present**.

### **In your country, in the reporting period, what does this report reveal about: The most successful aspects of implementation of the MOU and/or Action Plan?**

(List up to five items)

- > • Undertaking EIAs for all the projects with potential impacts on birds of prey especially within and in the surroundings of the IBAs and protected areas.
- The UAE Monitors raptors populations, which includes important resident and migratory species as well as undertaken satellite tracking of important raptor species i.e. Spotted Eagle and Osprey during the reporting period and has developed an advanced data capture and tracking system to track migratory birds including migratory raptors.
- The UAE, through The Mohamed Bin Zayed Raptor Conservation Fund, has been able to successfully tackle the problems of electrocution of raptors by power lines and conserve their habitats in Mongolia and other countries.
- The UAE, through The Mohamed Bin Zayed Raptor Conservation Fund, has supported the saker falcon reintroduction programme in Bulgaria where the species was considered extinct. Launched in 2015, the programme has resulted in 80 falcons being released into the wild.
- The UAE, through The Mohamed Bin Zayed Raptor Conservation Fund, carried a project on the genetic management of captive bred falcons. The study aims to ensure a genetically healthy and representative founding stock of falcons for release.

### **The greatest difficulties in implementing the MOU and/or Action Plan?**

(List up to five items)

- > • The need for specialists to carry out field surveys in the different sectors which can have direct relation with birds of prey i.e. agriculture, energy, waste-etc.
- Lack of capacity and other resources

### **The main priorities for future implementation of the MOU and/or Action Plan?**

(List up to five items)

- > • Develop a national action plan for the conservation of birds of prey
- Strengthen communication and collaboration between different sectors which impact raptors.
- Strengthen capacity to monitor migratory and resident raptors and develop a national database
- The regional and international collaboration to better conserve raptors and their pathways

### III. RAPTOR CONSERVATION STRATEGIES AND EQUIVALENT DOCUMENTS

A central provision of the MOU (paragraph 12) is for Signatories to prepare national or regional (e.g. EU) strategies or equivalent documents (e.g. Single Species Action Plans) for category 1 and, where appropriate, category 2 species in Table 1 in the Action Plan. The Action Plan itself foresees its listed actions being addressed by these strategies / equivalent documents.

#### **Does a national and/or regional Raptor Conservation Strategy or equivalent document exist in relation to your country?**

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- In preparation
- No

Please state the title and scope of the strategy or equivalent document, and summarise the current status of its implementation:

Please use the icons below to provide a copy of the document(s) concerned, and/or provide a website link that will give access to the relevant text.

>

Does the strategy or equivalent document address all of the activities listed in Table 2 of the Action Plan?

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- Partly
- No

Please state the reasons why all of the Table 2 activities are not addressed:

>

Please state the reasons why all of the Table 2 activities are not addressed:

>

Please state the title and scope of the strategy or equivalent document, and summarise the current status of its preparation:

> The title is the National Action Plan for The Conservation of Birds of Prey. The action plan is in the process of being develop in cooperation with competent authorities and relevant experts; with an aim of adopting and publishing it by 2022.

Does the strategy or equivalent document address all of the activities listed in Table 2 of the Action Plan?

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- Partly
- No

Please state the reasons why all of the Table 2 activities are not addressed:

>

Please state the reasons why all of the Table 2 activities are not addressed:

>

Please state the reasons why a national and/or regional Raptor Conservation Strategy or equivalent document has not been developed:

>

## IV. LEGAL PROTECTION OF SPECIES AGAINST KILLING AND UNSUSTAINABLE EXPLOITATION

### Are all species of migratory birds of prey (present in your country) listed in Annex I of the Raptors MOU granted full legal protection from deliberate killing and taking from the wild?

Follow this link to see the species listed in Annex 1.

If you are answering "yes, please make sure the statute(s) concerned is/are clearly identified by giving details of title, date, etc.

If you are answering "only partly", please be clear whether this is because legal protection only applies to some aspects, or because only some species are covered (please identify the species) or because only some areas are covered - (or any combination of these types of partial coverage); and give the reasons for this.

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- Partly
- No
- Not known

Please indicate the statute(s) concerned, and summarise the provision:

> All species are granted full legal protection under Federal Law no. 24 of the year 1999 concerning the protection of the Environment and its development.

It is prohibited to hunt, kill or capture wild raptors. It is also prohibited to possess, transport, roam with, sell or offer for sale such birds, whether dead or alive, without obtaining a license from the competent authorities. It is also prohibited to damage the nests of said birds or destroy their eggs.

Please state why all species are not (yet) fully covered:

>

Please state why all species are not (yet) fully covered:

>

### Is there legislation in place which bans the use of exposed poison baits and other toxic chemical methods of predator or pest control?

The CMS Guidelines to prevent the risk of poisoning to migratory birds provide further background on legislative (and other) means of reducing harm to migratory birds (including raptors) from toxic chemicals.

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- No
- Not known

Please indicate the statute(s) concerned, and summarise the provision:

> All species are granted full legal protection under Federal Law no. 24 of the year 1999 concerning the protection of the Environment and its development.

It is prohibited to hunt, kill or capture wild raptors. It is also prohibited to possess, transport, roam with, sell or offer for sale such birds, whether dead or alive, without obtaining a license from the competent authorities. It is also prohibited to damage the nests of said birds or destroy their eggs.

Please state why not:

>

## V. SPECIES POPULATION MANAGEMENT AND RECOVERY PROGRAMMES

### Have any Single or Multi-species Action Plans been published for any species of migratory bird of prey in your country?

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 In preparation  
 No  
 Not known

Please list the species involved and the status of each Plan:

Please use the icons below to provide a copy of the document(s) concerned, and/or provide a website link that will give access to the relevant text.

>

Please list the species involved and the status of each Plan:

Please use the icons below to provide a copy of the document(s) concerned, and/or provide a website link that will give access to the relevant text.

>

Please state why not:

> The UAE is developing a national action plan for raptors, in cooperation with competent authorities and relevant experts; with an aim of adopting and publishing it by 2022.

### Have any reintroduction or restocking projects been implemented involving migratory birds of prey in accordance with prevailing international guidelines?

One of the most relevant international guidelines documents for this question is the IUCN publication "Guidelines for reintroductions and other conservation translocations".

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No  
 Not known

Please give a brief summary, and indicate whether or not captive breeding is involved:

> There are no local re-introduction programs in the country. However, the Sheikh Zayed Falcon Release Program returns wild peregrine falcons (*Falco peregrinus*) and saker falcons (*Falco cherrug*) to their original habitat to increase the wild falcon population. In this great conservational effort falcons have been released in locations like Pakistan, Iran or Kazakhstan. Every year during spring time, the falcons are taken from UAE to the release locations situated on the natural migration routes of wild falcons. The final release areas are carefully chosen in unpopulated regions and depend on the availability of food like small birds and water e.g. rivers and lakes. Several falcons are fitted with satellite transmitters to monitor the flight paths and provide data about the survival rates of the released falcons

Please state why not:

>

### Have any supplementary feeding initiatives been established and maintained for necrophagous birds of prey?

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No  
 Not known

Please give a brief summary:

> The Emirate of Dubai implements a supplementary feeding initiative. Within the protected areas, carcasses of Oryx and gazelles during the migration season are left in open desert or dumped in specific sites for birds of prey especially in reserves that host considerable number of necrophagous species. Mainly in Dubai Desert Conservation Reserve and Almaroum Desert Conservation Reserve where both hosting similar numbers of Lappet-faced Vultures (25-30 individuals).

Please state why not:

>

## VI. CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF HABITATS AND SITES

### Have any measures been implemented to improve or restore the habitats of species of birds of prey?

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No  
 Not known

Please give a brief summary:

Please indicate what habitat type, where, and (broadly) what type of measures were involved. Comments on success (or otherwise) would also be valuable.

> Different initiatives have been implemented nationally to restore the habitats of species of birds of prey. Abu Dhabi Emirate, through Environment agency Abu Dhabi, have expanded the area of Yasat MPA to include important breeding sites for breeding Sooty falcon. EAD also expanded the Houbara Protected Area, which is important for migratory raptors in order to protect important sites for raptors. Furthermore, in Dubai thousands of local native trees were planted in the Dubai desert with artificial lakes to support the wildlife including birds of prey. These habitats provide suitable breeding, resting, feeding and drinking as per the annual increase of birds of prey in these sites. Nationally, the UAE have identified 30 internationally important bird areas, most of which are considered protected areas. Under federal law, Wild birds using the protected areas as a resting, hatching or habitation location shall be protected.

Please state why not:

>

### Which sites in your country listed in Table 3 of the Action Plan are designated as protected areas, or are otherwise appropriately managed taking into account the conservation requirements of migratory birds of prey?

Please indicate in **this online excel file (link)** for each of the relevant sites listed in Table 3 of Annex 3 of the MOU whether the site is (a) fully designated as a protected area or covered by an instrument ensuring proper management, (b) partially so designated/covered, or (c) not so designated/covered.

**NOTE:** It is acknowledged that Table 3 is currently incomplete. A revised Table 3, following the inputs received at the 2nd Meeting of Signatories, is being finalised, and following comments by the Technical Advisory Group it will be circulated alongside the 'Form to propose internationally important sites for addition to Table 3 of the Raptors MoU'. Signatories will be asked to comment on the list and invited to propose new sites of international importance. The list, including any comments received as per the Rules of Procedure, will be reviewed by the Technical Advisory Group and circulated for the 3rd Meeting of Signatories to consider.

In the meantime, if your country is covered in the current Table, please answer this question in relation to the sites that are listed there. Please provide your answers in the excel file on google drive by following the link above. The file will automatically save your answers.

*Please select only one option*

- I have added the relevant information for my country's sites

>

- My country does not have sites listed

>

## VII. ASSESSING AND RESPONDING TO THREATS AND PRESSURES

### Have any assessments been made of the nature, likelihood, severity or potential consequences of threats facing birds of prey, and measures identified to maintain their Favourable Conservation Status?

“Favourable Conservation Status” should be interpreted for this question in accordance with the definition provided in Article I (1) (c) of the Convention on Migratory Species. (Link to text here).

Please select only one option

- Yes  
 No  
 Not known

Please give a brief summary:

> Through the national important bird areas project, all 30 of the IBAs have been assessed for the state of their trigger populations (or the habitats that these species depend on), as well as the negative pressures that are affecting these populations, and the positive community responses to address (reduce) these pressures and conserve these populations.

Please state why not:

>

Based on the assessment referred to above (or if none, on your own knowledge and judgement) please identify (tick) the **three most important** categories of threat affecting birds of prey in your country:

This question asks you to identify the important pressures that are reliably known to be having an actual adverse impact on migratory birds of prey at present. Please avoid including speculative information about pressures that may be of some potential concern but whose impacts have not yet been demonstrated.

- Direct killing and taking  
 Collisions and electrocution  
 Other mortality  
 Alien and/or invasive species  
 Disturbance and disruption  
 Habitat destruction/degradation  
 Climate change  
 Levels of knowledge, awareness, legislation, management etc.  
 Other (please specify)

>

Add comments here on any particular actions in response to these threats:

You may find it helpful here to refer to actions assisted by relevant existing response tools and initiatives in the framework of mechanisms such as the CMS. Examples could include the Intergovernmental Task Force on Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean (MIKT), the CMS Energy Task Force, and the adopted Guidelines to Prevent the Risk of Poisoning to Migratory Birds.

>

### Are requirements in place to ensure that proposals for activities that may have significant effects on birds of prey or their habitats are subject to Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) or Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA)?

Helpful pointers on this subject (and reference to sources of further guidance) are given in CMS Resolution 7.2 (Rev.COP12) on “Impact assessment and migratory species”. Comments on the general standard and quality of EIAs/SEAs that are undertaken would be valuable. Any use that has been made of “sensitivity mapping” techniques in this context should be mentioned here.

Please select only one option

- Yes  
 No  
 Not known

Please give a brief summary of the requirements and their implementation, including the extent to which the results of these assessments are used to inform relevant consent decisions and associated mitigation measures:

> Under Federal law 24 for the year of 1999, all new projects or activates need to implement and submit an SEAs/EIAs to ensures that no activities which have adverse impact on birds and biodiversity are undertaken and any incompatible development is avoided in areas of strategic importance for resident and migratory species

Please state why not:

>

## VIII. ACTION / INTEGRATION ACROSS SECTORS

**Is the conservation of migratory birds of prey integrated within the policies of sectors such as agriculture, forestry, energy, transport, waste, tourism and others?**

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 Partly  
 No  
 Not known

Please give a brief summary:

> Conservation of biodiversity is integrated within plans and policies of key sectors which directly and indirectly supports protection of migratory birds of prey. Furthermore, in 2020 the UAE adopted the UAE Environment Policy which serves as a comprehensive framework and reference point for all federal and local environmental policies, strategies and decisions. The policy adopts 8 priorities which include:

- limiting the impacts of climate change
- accelerating the efforts to conserve natural resources
- boosting air quality
- ensuring safety of food products.

The policy includes more than 100 initiatives and 36 indicators to set out main objectives that serve as a national guide to ensure the conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity and ecosystems and to utilize water and natural resources.

Please state why not:

>

Please give a brief summary:

>

**Have any programmes been implemented during the reporting period among government departments (other than the department that has lead responsibility for the Raptors MOU) to inform decision makers of the conservation needs of migratory birds of prey?**

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No  
 Not known

Please give a brief summary:

> Local environmental competent authorities in each Emirate lead the conversation locally to ensure that biodiversity values are reflected in the emirate's development plans which directly and indirectly supports protection of migratory birds of prey. Furthermore, through the Emirates Council for Climate Change and Environment, which includes among its members the Minister of Climate Change and Environment, heads of relevant authorities, and private sector representatives, ensure that knowledge and implementation of relative programs and policies are coherent, accountable, transparent, participatory, equitable and inclusive.

Please state why not:

>

## IX. RESEARCH, MONITORING AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Please use the icons below each question to provide a copy of any relevant documents, and/or provide a website link that will give access to relevant material.

### **Have any overall assessments been made of the status and trends of any populations of migratory birds of prey in your country, during the reporting period?**

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No  
 Not known

Please give a brief summary, and highlight any particularly significant declines or increases that have been revealed for relevant species:

> The United Arab Emirates National Red List of Birds which was concluded in 2020, provides the most up-to-date information on the conservation status and distribution of birds in the UAE. The project studied in depth the status and trends of populations of migratory birds of prey. Furthermore, regular monitoring and assessment of breeding Sooty falcons and Ospreys are undertaken in Abu Dhabi.

Please state why no such assessments have been made:

>

### **Are any systematic and coordinated monitoring programmes operated in your country in relation to breeding populations, reproductive success or migration counts of birds of prey?**

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No  
 Not known

Please give a brief summary:

> Relevant authorities in the UAE carries regular systematic and coordinated monitoring programmes for birds of prey. The results of these surveys are used to advise the decision making process in the country. In Abu Dhabi Emirate, regular surveys are taken for breeding birds of prey, while migratory birds of prey are covered under the regular bird monitoring at key sites in the Emirate. Long-term satellite tracking of important bird of prey species such as Spotted Eagle, Egyptian Vulture and Ospreys have been undertaken during the reporting period. Along with Abu Dhabi's efforts, the Emirate of Dubai carry out conservation research to identify flyways for Greater spotted Eagle and Oriental Honey Buzzard using satellite tracking tools. In addition, Fujairah operates a systematic and coordinated monitoring program in the emirate in relation to breeding populations, reproductive success and migration counts of birds of prey. A dedicated team monitors the bird of prey and their habitat and mitigate any steps that can have adverse effect on the species conservation

Please state why not:

>

### **Have any guidelines or protocols been published concerning systematic or coordinated monitoring programmes for migratory birds of prey?**

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No  
 Not known

Please give the source reference(s) and a brief summary:

> Internal guidelines and protocols have been developed by and for the use of local relevant authorities to be used in carrying out their regular surveys

Please state why not:

>

### **Does any process exist for establishing multi-stakeholder agreement about priorities for research on issues of relevance to the conservation of birds of prey?**

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No  
 Not known

Please give a brief summary:

> The Emirates Council for Climate Change and Environment, which includes among its members the Minister of Climate Change and Environment, heads of relevant authorities, and private sector representatives, ensure that knowledge and implementation of relative programs and policies are implemented and that research priorities and needs in the country identified and carried out accordingly.

Please state why not:

>

**Are suitable platforms in place in your country to exchange knowledge, experience and information about the conservation of birds of prey?**

*Please select only one option*

Yes

No

Not known

Please identify the relevant platform(s) and summarise its/their scope and function:

> The Environment & Protected Areas Authority in Sharjah hosts the Sharjah International Conservation Forum for Arabian Biodiversity on an annual basis. The ultimate goal of the forum is to contribute to the development of conservation strategies and action plans for Arabia's threatened taxa including birds of prey. Moreover, The International Fund for Houbara Conservation hosts a regional summit on birds every few years to facilitate the exchange knowledge, experience and information on birds of prey. Furthermore, Dubai Natural History Group carries out regular monthly seminar which occasionally covers birds of prey. Additionally, experts in the UAE exchange knowledge, experience and information in local journals such as Tribulus

Please state why not:

>

## X. RAISING AWARENESS

### **Have any public awareness programmes been implemented during the reporting period to promote the importance of birds of prey, their migrations and their conservation needs?**

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No  
 Not known

Please give a brief summary including comments on the impact and success (or otherwise) of these programmes:

> Regular awareness campaigns are carried out within the country targeting the public on issues related to biodiversity and migratory species. The UAE continue to celebrates world migratory day by developing programs and celebration on migratory birds through events, press releases and social media posts. For example, Dubai Municipality celebrates the World Migratory Bird Day by organizing several events to raise the awareness on migratory birds including birds of prey through seminars, field visits, exhibitions and media publications.

Please state why not:

>

### **Have any education programmes or teaching resources been provided during the reporting period to inform young people and students about migratory birds of prey and their conservation needs?**

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No  
 Not known

Please give a brief summary:

> The national awareness committee which includes among its members' representative of all competent authorities have developed education programs and teaching resources for schools and children. These publications cover issues related to environment and biodiversity including migratory birds of prey. Furthermore, Environment Agency Abu Dhabi implement the Sustainable Schools Initiative which was launched in 2009 in partnership with the Department of Education and Knowledge (ADEK), this initiative allows youth to explore the environment and learn ways to reduce their ecological footprint, while creating a sense of ownership and responsibility towards the future. As well as Connect with Nature Programme which is jointly implemented by Environment Agency Abu Dhabi, International Fund for Houbara Conservation and Emirates Nature. The program encourages youth to get outdoors and discover the UAE's hidden treasures. While visiting the sites, you can use an app to take up challenges such as hiking and climbing.

Please state why not:

>

## XI. STRENGTHENING CAPACITY

**Have any training or other support programmes been implemented during the reporting period to strengthen the capacity of agencies responsible for the application of relevant laws and regulations?**

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No  
 Not known

Please give a brief summary:

> National capacity building workshops are carried out annually in different areas related to biodiversity workshops, some of which are the red listing process to develop a national red list for birds. Moreover, representatives of these agencies participate in international biodiversity conferences in order to build their capacities whether by being involved in the negotiation process or taking part in side events or workshops, for example the recent participation in the IUCN Congress 2021.

Please state why not:

>

**Have any training or other initiatives been implemented during the reporting period to support activities undertaken by local communities or voluntary groups in relation to birds of prey surveys, monitoring, site protection work or related outreach?**

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No  
 Not known

Please give a brief summary:

> National capacity building workshops are carried out annually in different areas related to biodiversity workshops, some of which are the red listing process to develop a national red list for birds, identification of important bird areas, and many others.

Please state why not:

>

**During the reporting period, has your country provided any new financial or other resources for conservation activities specifically benefiting migratory birds of prey?**

“Other resources” in this context could include, for example, “in-kind” forms of support such as staff time or administrative infrastructure, loan of equipment, provision of data processing facilities or technology transfer. (Do not include training or mentoring schemes and other initiatives for capacity building however, as these are covered separately in the preceding two questions).

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No  
 Not known

Please state the beneficiary/ies concerned and the activities supported:

> The Environment Agency Abu Dhabi, on behalf of the UAE government, renewed its support to the CMS Raptor MoU in 2020 by signing the new funding agreement to support the implementation of the Action Plan. Furthermore, the UAE Establishment of the Mohamed Bin Zayed Raptor Conservation Fund to support the conservation and restoration of raptors worldwide. Through the fund the UAE supported the Saker Falcon project in Bulgaria.

Please state why not:

>

**During the reporting period, has your country received any new financial or other resources for conservation activities specifically benefiting migratory birds of prey?**

See guidance on interpretation of “other resources” provided in relation to the preceding question.

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No  
 Not known

Please state the source(s) concerned and the activities supported:

>

Please state why not:

> It wasn't required during the reporting period.

## **XII. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

**During the reporting period, has your country participated in any international cooperation activities as provided by paragraph 8 of the MOU?**

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- No
- Not known

Please give a brief summary:

- > • The UAE, through The Mohamed Bin Zayed Raptor Conservation Fund, has been able to successfully tackle the problems of electrocution of raptors by power lines and conserve their habitats in Mongolia and other countries.
- The UAE, through The Mohamed Bin Zayed Raptor Conservation Fund, has supported the saker falcon reintroduction programme in Bulgaria where the species was considered extinct. Launched in 2015, the programme has resulted in 80 falcons being released into the wild.
- The UAE, through The Mohamed Bin Zayed Raptor Conservation Fund, carried a project on the genetic management of captive bred falcons. The study aims to ensure a genetically healthy and representative founding stock of falcons for release.

Please state why not:

>

**During the reporting period, has your country taken any steps to support or encourage any other Range State(s) to sign the Raptors MOU?**

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- No
- Not known

Please identify the Range State(s) concerned, and the nature of the support or encouragement given:

- > The UAE as a member of the Gulf Cooperation Council encourages the council members to join the CMS and its instruments including the raptors MoU.

Please state why not:

>