

# AEWA International Species Action and Management Plans

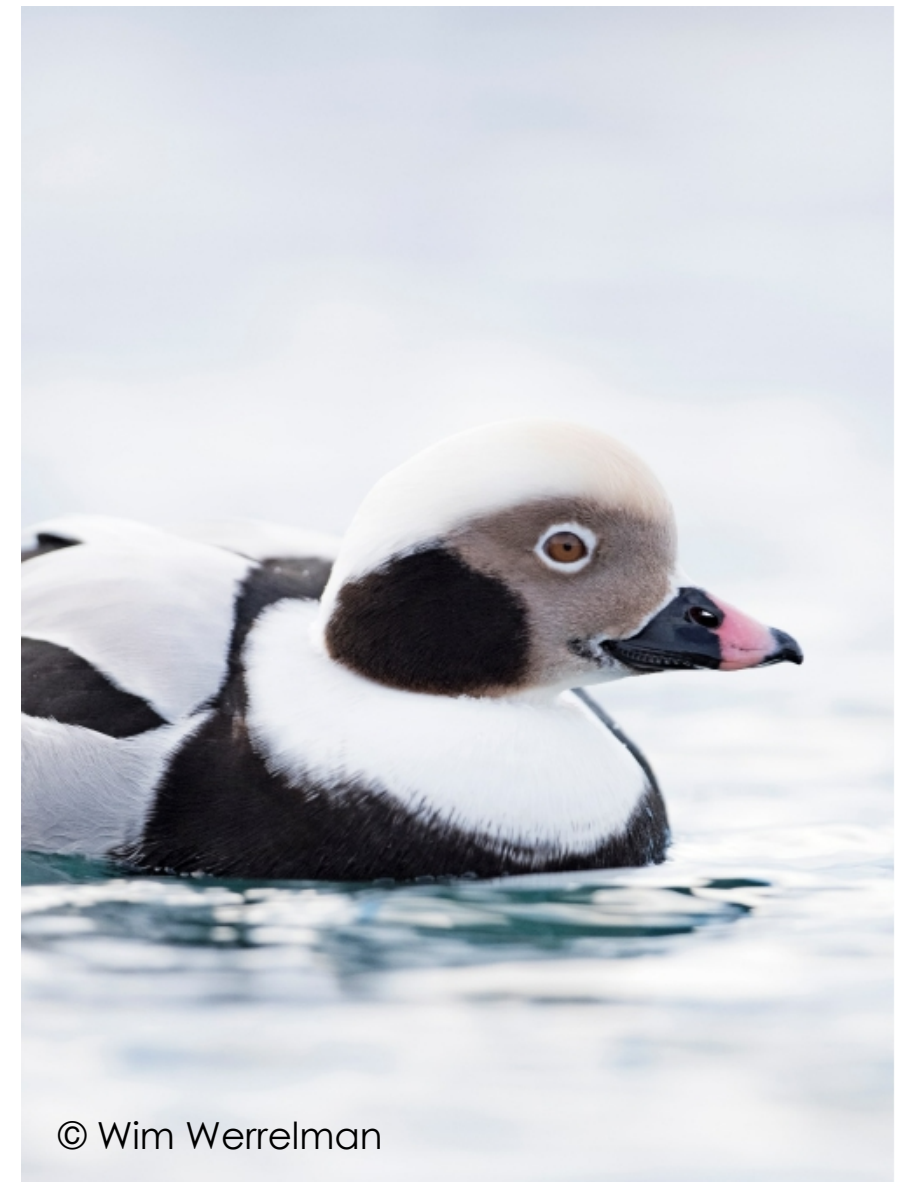
Update on current issues

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## Background

- Overview on the Status of Preparation and Implementation of AEWA Action and Management Plans presented to MOP6 in 2015;
- Included **recommendations on how to improve species action and management-planning** under AEWA – with a particular focus on **increasing implementation** (AEWA Resolution 6.8);
- **General conclusion – process and structure matter:**
  - increase future implementation by making sure that our action- & management-planning processes are as inclusive/transparent as possible and that Range State governments are involved from the outset;
  - following adoption of Plans, establishing active international inter-governmental or expert coordination structures is crucial;
  - provide countries with any overarching tools/guidance/guide to guidance that they may need (such as the AEWA guidelines on developing National Action Plans).



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## Ongoing activities

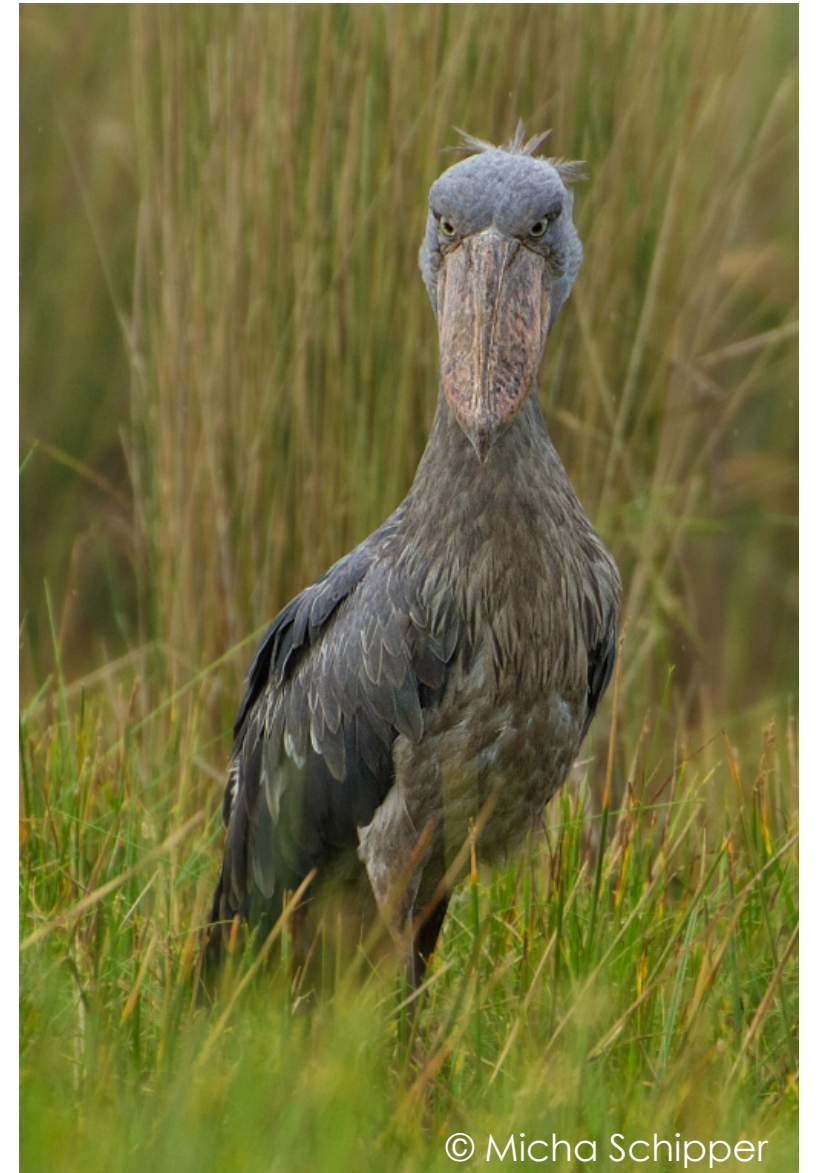
Following these recommendations, AEWA is focusing on the following activities during this triennium with delivery expected at the next AEWA MOP in November 2018:

- Revising the AEWA International Species Action/Management Plan Format;
- Preparing recommendations for the revision, retirement or extension of existing AEWA International Action Plans;
- Developing 5 new Plans for adoption at MOP7;
- Pushing for the establishment of international coordination of Action/Management Plan implementation.



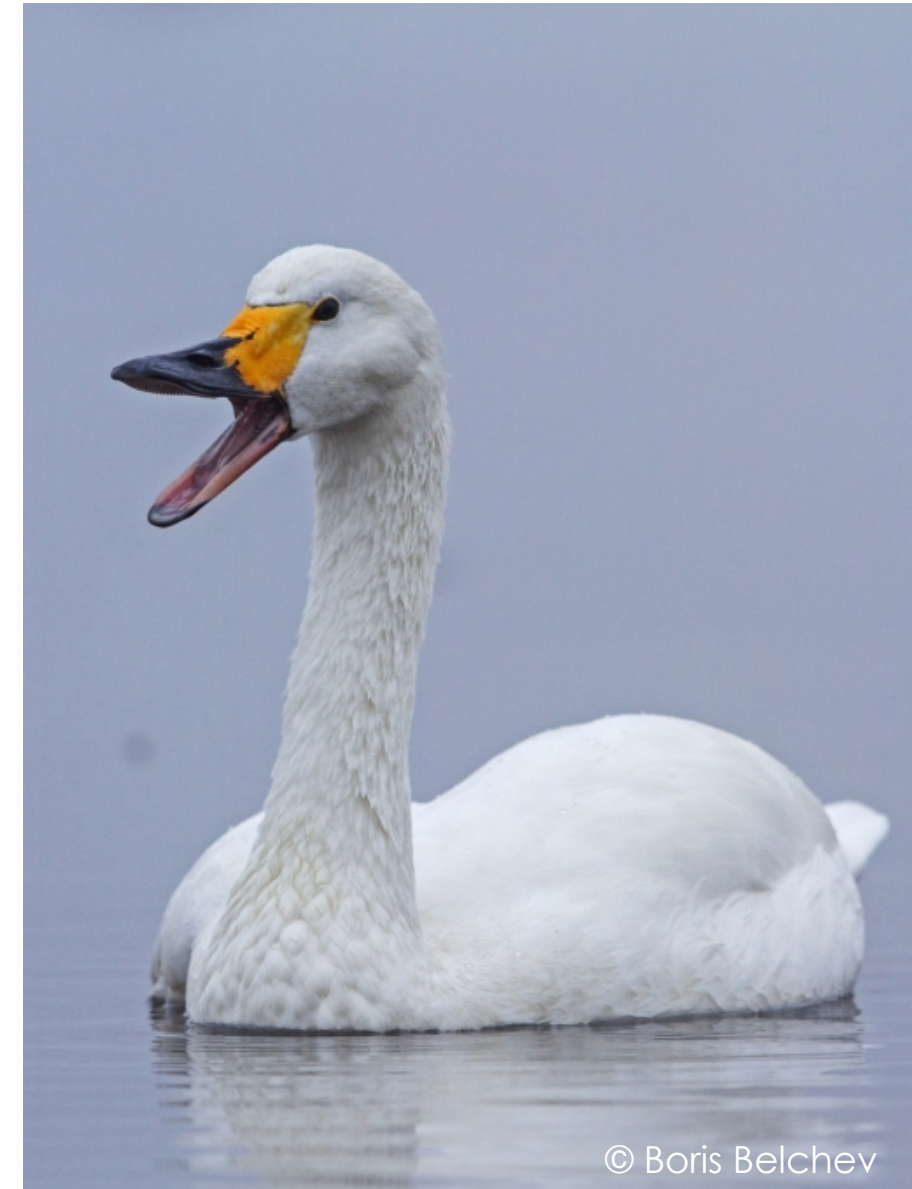
## Revision of the AEWA Species Action/ Management Plan Format

- Currently updating the AEWA format as part of the overall effort to improve the functionality and ultimately the implementation of adopted Plans;
- Format has to be more user-friendly, easier for policy makers to grasp quickly and to implement;
- Need much more elaborate guidance for compilers and stakeholders, outlining not only what should be included where – but also the AEWA species planning process itself.



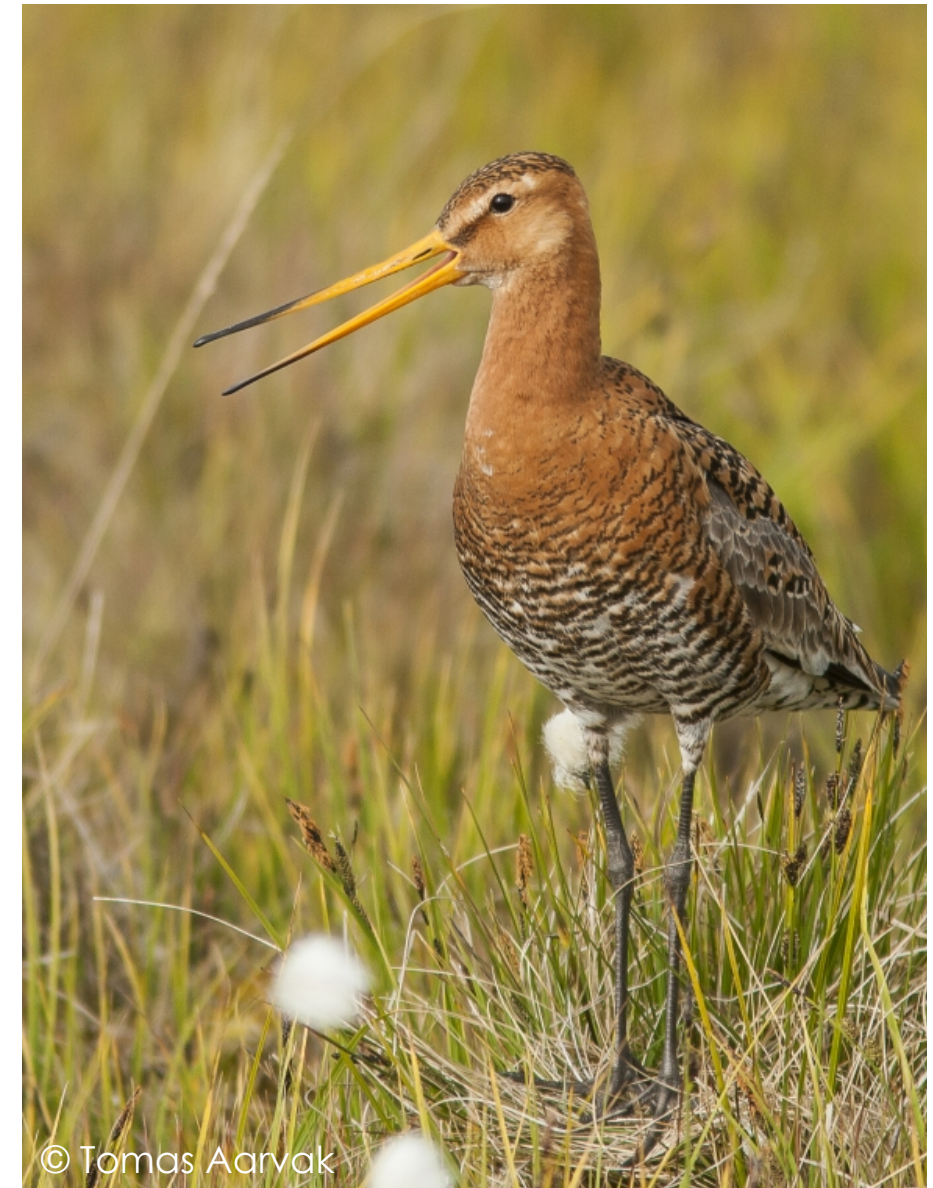
## Main changes:

- Format now caters for Single as well as Multi-Species Action and Management Plans;
- Much more compact, with the main information pulled to the front (1 page overview of basic data followed by action framework – rest placed in annexes);
- A justification of the conservation and/or management objectives is foreseen in Annex 3 (predicted population trajectories under „business as usual“ versus „Action or Management Plan implemented as foreseen“);
- Revised format approved by the AEWA Standing Committee on interim basis in February 2017, final approval expected at MOP7 in 2018;
- Format is being used for all 5 Plans currently in preparation – modifying guidance on basis of lessons learned and feedback from compilers.



## Revision, retirement or prolongation of existing AEWA International Action Plans

- Several AEWA Action Plans have come or are coming to the end of their terms;
- In the case of some Action Plans, the goals have been achieved and the respective species/populations are recovering;
- A process was developed by the AEWA Technical Committee and adopted at MOP6 for the assessment and recommendation of Action Plans for revision or retirement;
- Subsequent we have concluded that for some Plans, the goals, results and actions remain valid and that an extension of the validity of these Plans would be more useful – they just need to be implemented;
- Consultations with various stakeholders is still ongoing, but initial recommendations were presented to the AEWA Standing Committee in February 2017;
- NOTE: the assessment of AEWA species/populations for action- and management planning is a cyclical process.



## Preliminary recommendations:

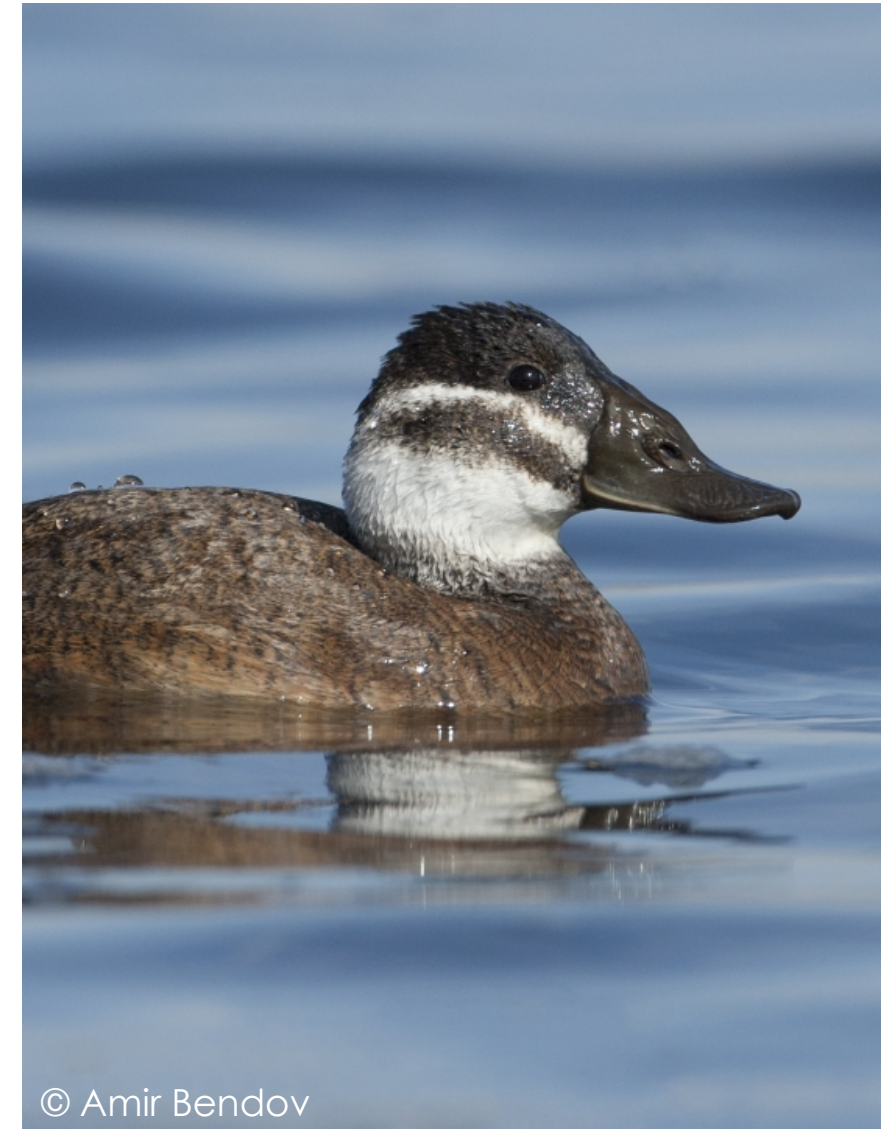
- **Retire** the AEWA/CMS/EU ISSAP for the **Corncrake**, the AEWA ISSAP for the **Light-bellied Brent Goose** as well as the AEWA/Bern Convention ISSAP for the **Black-winged Pratincole**;
- Apart from the two Plans for which revision processes are already ongoing (Lesser White-fronted Goose and White-headed Duck), it is **not recommended to undertake a full revision of any additional Action Plans at this stage**;
- **Extend the validity** of the following 8 Action Plans for another 10 years (until 2028): **Great Snipe, Ferruginous Duck, Lesser Flamingo, Eurasian Spoonbill, Black-tailed Godwit, Maccoa Duck, White-winged Flufftail & Madagascar Pond Heron**;
- In order to increase implementation of the extended Plans, specific recommendations for next steps will be provided;
- As is the case for all AEWA Action Plans, emergency reviews of any of the Plans can be undertaken if there are any sudden major changes liable to affect any of the species/populations in question.



## New/ revised AEWA Action and Management Plans for MOP7

The following Plans are currently being developed and are expected to be adopted at the next Session of the Meeting of the AEWA Parties in late 2018:

- Revised CMS/AEWA/EAAFP International Single Species Action Plan for the **White-headed Duck** (EU LIFE EuroSAP);
- CMS/AEWA/EAAFP(?) International Single Species Action Plan for the **Dalmatian Pelican** (EU LIFE EuroSAP);
- AEWA International Single Species Action Plan for the **Velvet Scoter** (EU LIFE EuroSAP);
- AEWA International Management Plan for the **Barnacle Goose**;
- AEWA International Management Plan for the **Greylag Goose**.



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## Establishing international coordination

Following the adoption of new Plans at MOP6 in 2015 and in anticipation of coming Plans, the following inter-governmental AEWA International Species Working Groups have recently been convened:

- AEWA **European Seaduck** IWG (Long-tailed Duck and Velvet Scoter);
- AEWA **Eurasian Curlew** IWG;
- AEWA **White-headed Duck** IWG (1st Meeting in Madrid, Spain in October 2016);
- AEWA **Grey-crowned Crane** IWG;
- AEWA **Benguela Seabirds** IWG;

**Taiga Bean Goose** is covered under the European Goose Management Platform and its Working Group (same will apply to Barnacle & Greylag Goose);

Currently trying to establish active Working Groups for the following AEWA Action Plans: **Great Snipe, Ferruginous Duck, Lesser Flamingo, Maccoa Duck, Madagascar Pond Heron, Slaty Egret and Shoebill.**

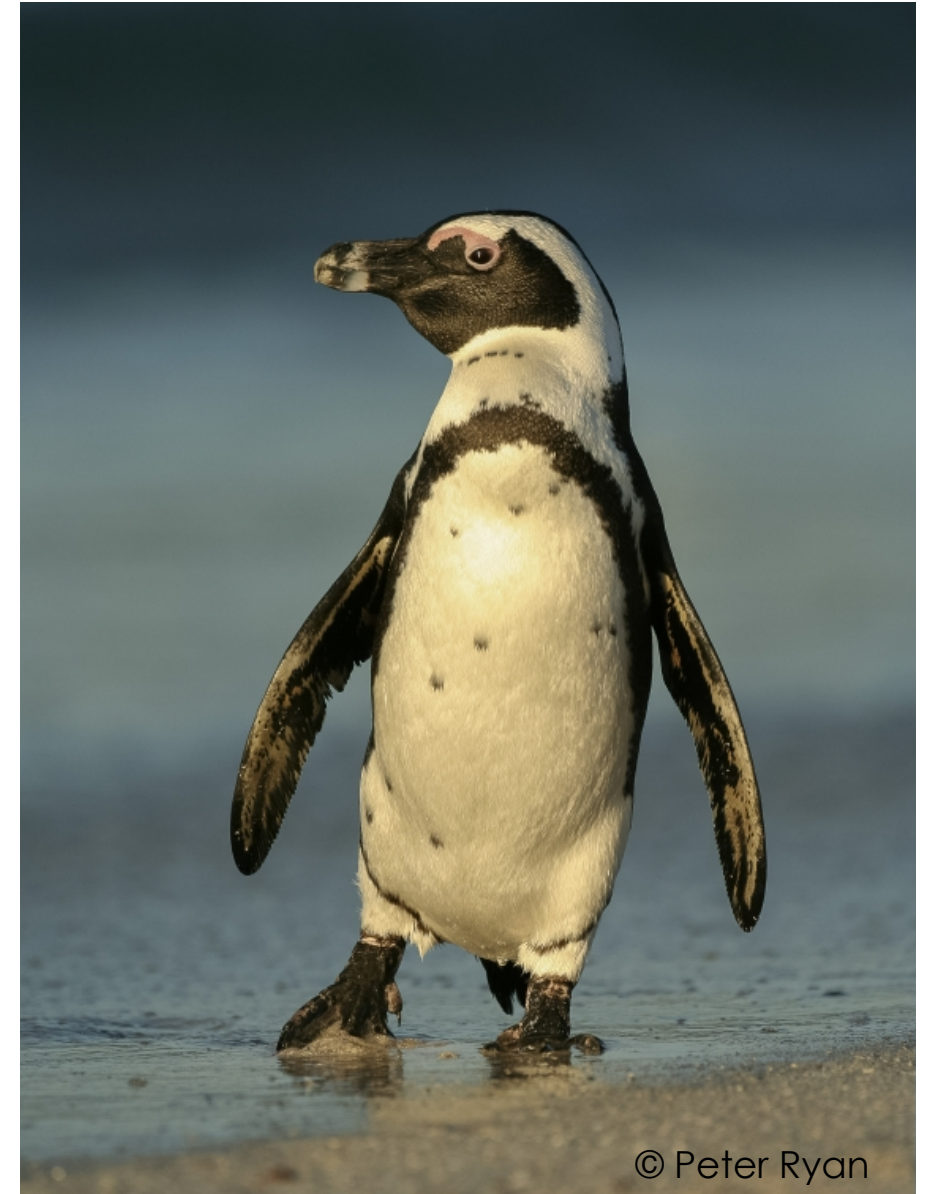


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Many thanks for your attention!

More information:

[www.unep-aewa.org](http://www.unep-aewa.org)



## Key issues seen as promoting Action/Management Plan implementation:

- International/national species plans;
- International monitoring network/national teams;
- International/national coordination, cooperation and action;
- Identification of key sites and adequate site protection;
- Increased public awareness.

## Key issues seen as hindering Action/Management Plan implementation:

- Lack of adequate funding as well as human and technical capacity;
- Lack of government buy-in and lack of (national) management and cooperation;
- Lack of hunting regulation, enforcement etc.