



3rd Regional Meeting of the NW-European Breeding Range States under the AEWA Black-tailed Godwit International Working Group

Thursday 2 September 2021 (online via Zoom)

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AEWA Black-tailed Godwit International Working Group

Terms of Reference¹

Goals (as defined in the International Single Species Action Plan for the Black-tailed Godwit)

- To restore the Black-tailed Godwit to “Least Concern” category on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Animals by halting the decline of the Western Palearctic populations of *Limosa limosa limosa* and maintaining the favourable status of the *Limosa limosa islandica* population.

Role

The role of the AEWA Black-tailed Godwit International Working Group will be to:

- 1) coordinate and catalyse the implementation of the International Black-tailed Godwit Single Species Action Plan (SSAP);
- 2) stimulate and support Range States in the implementation of the SSAP; and
- 3) monitor and report on the implementation and the effectiveness of the SSAP.

Scope

The AEWA Black-tailed Godwit International Working Group will endeavour to:

- set priorities for action and implement them;
- coordinate the overall international implementation;
- raise funds for implementation;
- assist Range States in producing national action plans;
- ensure regular and thorough monitoring of the species populations;
- stimulate and support scientific research in the species necessary for conservation;
- promote the protection of the network of critical sites for the species;
- facilitate internal and external communication and exchange of scientific, technical, legal and other required information, including with other specialists and interested parties;
- assist with information in determination of the red list status and population size and trends of the species;
- regularly monitor the effectiveness of implementation of the SSAP and take appropriate action according to the findings of this monitoring;

¹ Subject to review and approval by the Working Group and in accordance with Articles 1 and 10.



- regularly report on the implementation of the SSAP to the AEWA Meeting of the Parties through the National Focal Points; and
- update the international SSAP ~~in 2018 or~~ as required.

Membership

The AEWA Black-tailed Godwit International Working Group will comprise (1) designated representatives of national state authorities in charge of the implementation of AEWA and (2) representatives of national expert and conservation organisations as invited to the national delegations by the state authorities from all major Range States.

Countries representing the range of the species within the AEWA region: Albania, Algeria, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Hungary, Iceland, Iran, Republic of Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Libya, Lithuania, Mali, Mauritania, Montenegro, Morocco, The Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

The composition of the Working Group (a priority selection of these countries) will be proposed by the coordinator (~~DLG~~Sovon) in consultation with the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat.

Sub-groups may be established, composed of smaller numbers of countries with similar issues to be tackled (e.g. regarding breeding sites, stop-over sites or wintering sites).

The Chair of the AEWA Black-tailed Godwit International Working Group may invite and admit international expert and conservation organisations as well as individual experts as observers to the Working Group, as necessary.

Officers

A Chairperson of the AEWA Black-tailed Godwit International Working Group will be elected amongst its members.

A part-time Coordinator post will be provided by ~~DLG~~Sovon Dutch Centre for Field Ornithology. The Coordinator will be in charge of the day-to-day operations of the Working Group and shall act in close cooperation with the Chairperson and the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat.

The designated representatives of national state authorities will act as National Focal Points for the SSAP and will be the main contact persons for the Chairperson and the Coordinator.

Meetings

The AEWA Black-tailed Godwit International Working Group should aim to hold face-to-face meetings once every three years. Other face-to-face meetings may be arranged as circumstances allow (e.g. back-to-back meetings with other international fora). Between meetings, business will be conducted electronically via Working Group's website and list server. Meetings may be arranged of sub-groups of countries as mentioned under 'Membership', too, as appropriate.

Reporting

A report on the implementation of the SSAP will be produced according to a standard format with contributions from, as far as possible, all Range States and submitted for inclusion into the general International Review on the Stage of Preparation and Implementation of Single Species Action Plans to the AEWA Meeting of the Parties. Reports shall also be prepared by each working group member state to a format agreed by the Working Group and presented at each face-to-face meeting of the Working Group. Other reports will be produced as requested by the AEWA Technical Committee or the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat.

Financing

The operations of the AEWA Black-tailed Godwit International Working Group, including the coordinator post, are to be financed primarily by its members and, if applicable, by its observers; the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat cannot commit regular financial support and may only provide such if possible. Funding for SSAP activities of the Working Group or its members is to be sought from various sources.