

# Raptors MOU:

## New opportunities for raptor conservation in Africa Eurasia emerging from the Third Meeting of Signatories

Umberto Gallo-Orsi & Lauren Lopes  
Coordinating Unit Raptors MOU



# Raptors MOU Conservation Status Assessment Report

## Summary

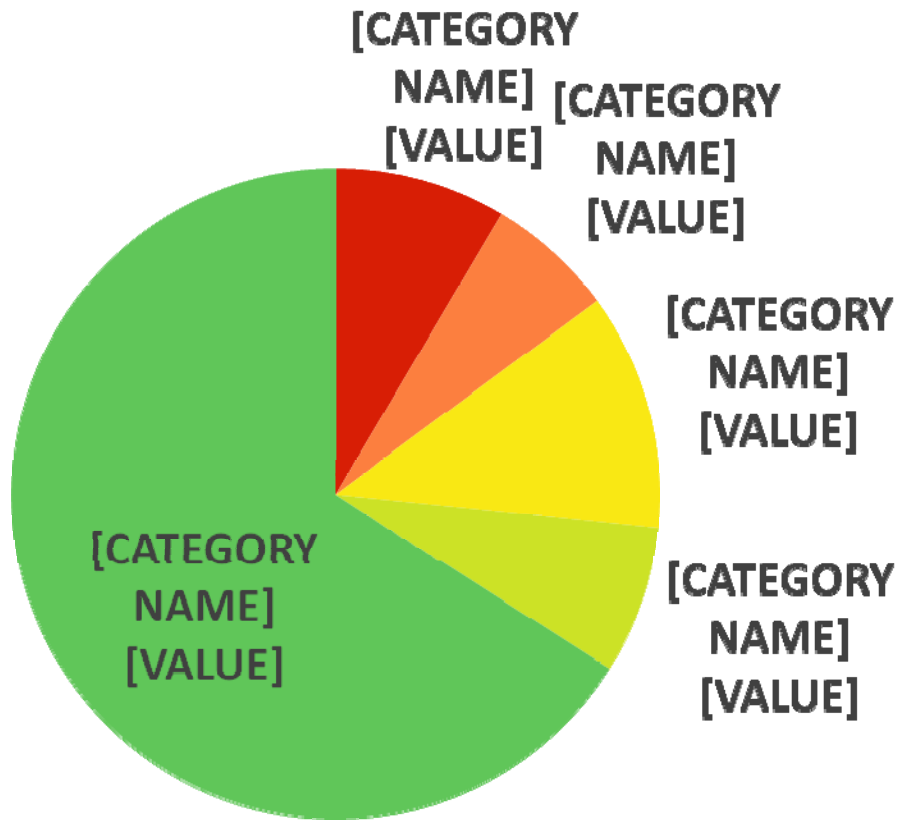
---

Wings of Change: Unveiling the  
Raptors MOU Conservation Status  
Assessment

<https://www.cms.int/en/publication/raptors-mou-conservation-status-assessment-report-summary>



# Conservation Status Assessment Report

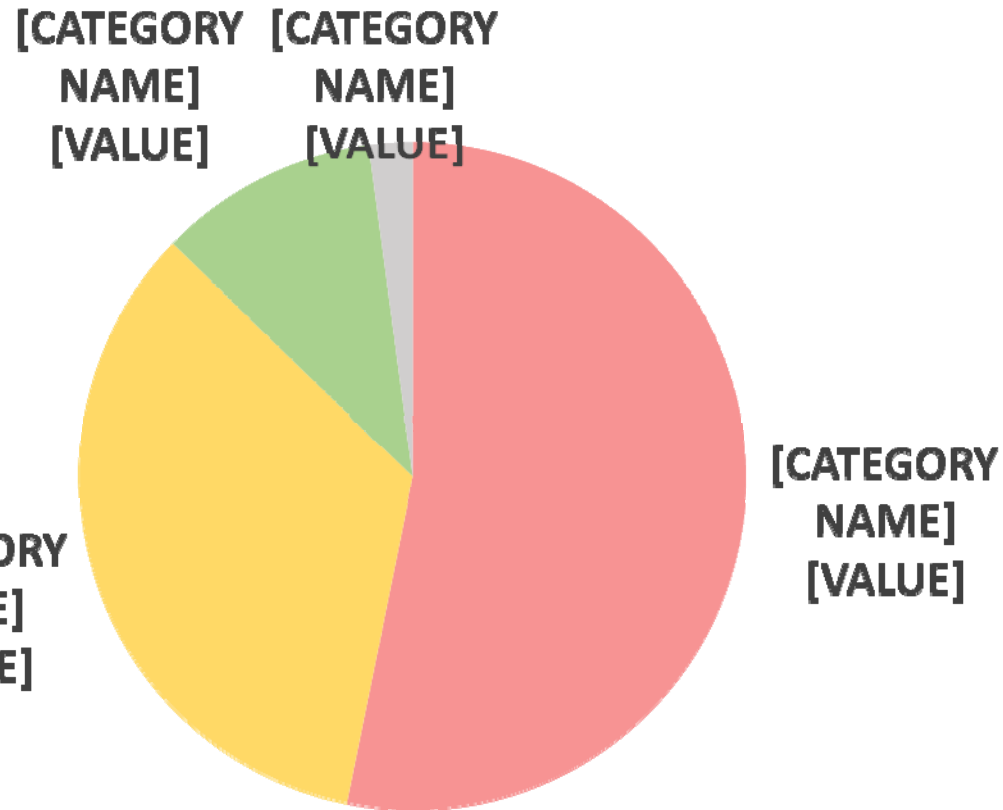


34% of Africa-Eurasian migratory raptors are threatened or Near Threatened





# Conservation Status Assessment Report



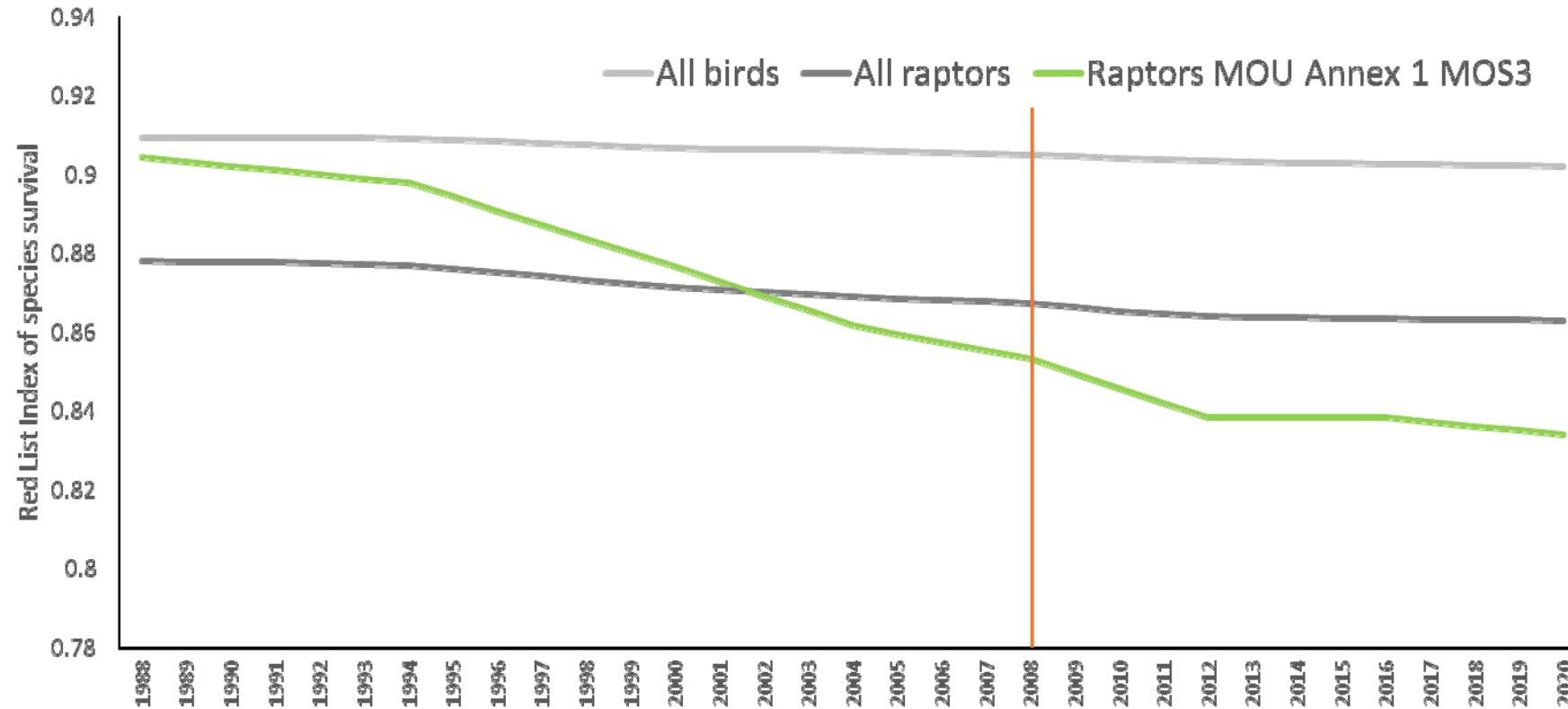
34% of Africa-Eurasian migratory raptors are threatened or Near Threatened

50% of Africa-Eurasian migratory raptors are declining



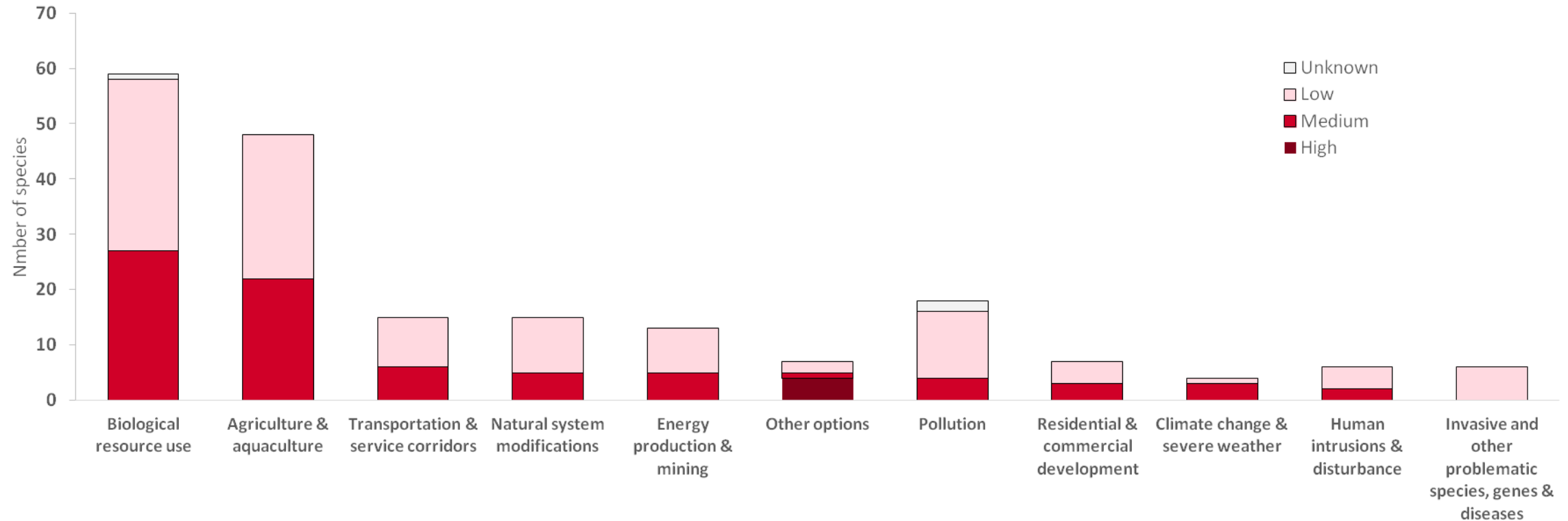
RAPTORS  
MOU

# Conservation Status Assessment Report



Raptors MOU species are the most threatened with extinction

# Conservation Status Assessment Report

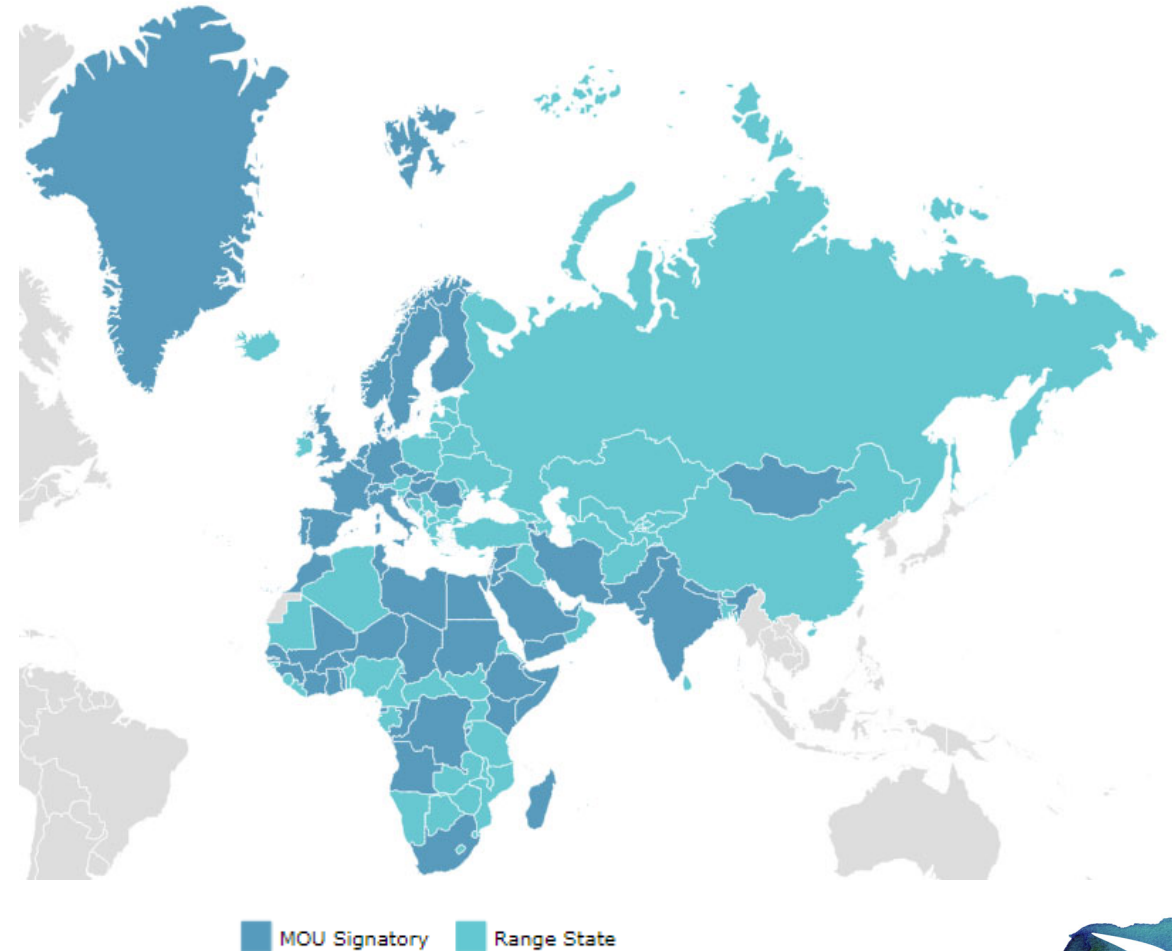


Raptors MOU species are the most threatened with extinction

Habitat loss, illegal killing, and collisions with energy infrastructure are the main threats

# Raptors MOU

- Multilateral MOU under CMS
- Entered into effect 1 Nov 2008
- 131 range states - 61 Signatories
- 94 species listed (3 Categories)
  
- Meeting of the Signatories
- Technical Advisory Group
- Co-ordinating Unit (Abu Dhabi)



# Ongoing activities



- Saker Falcon Task Force (SakerGAP)
- Multi-species Action Plan for Vultures
- ISSAP for the Sooty Falcon
- NSAID Working Group
- National/Regional Strategies (PK, MA)
- Raptor Monitoring Strategies





RAPTORS  
MOU

# MOS3

Dubai | 3-6 July 2023

**Coming together for the  
conservation of birds of prey**



# Amendments to the MOU Text and AP



MOU

- Improved clarity on mandates
- Revised General Conservation Measures

Action Plan

- Improved internal logic
- Clearer list of Priority Actions

Activities

- New list of Activities
- Improved targets and MoVs



# Summary of main provisions

- a) National or Regional Strategies
- b) Legal protection
- c) Conservation and recovery
- d) Identify, protect sites
- e) Assess and address threats
- f) Cross-sectoral policy integration
- g) Research, monitoring and knowledge exchange
- h) Raise awareness
- i) Capacity building
- j) Cooperation to deliver the MOU



# Updated Species list (Annex 1)

- ~~Brown Boobook (*Ninox scutulata*)~~
- Northern Boobook (*N. japonica*)



© Natthaphat Chotjuckdikul



# Updated Species list (Annex 1)

- Yellow billed Kite (*Milvus aegyptius*)

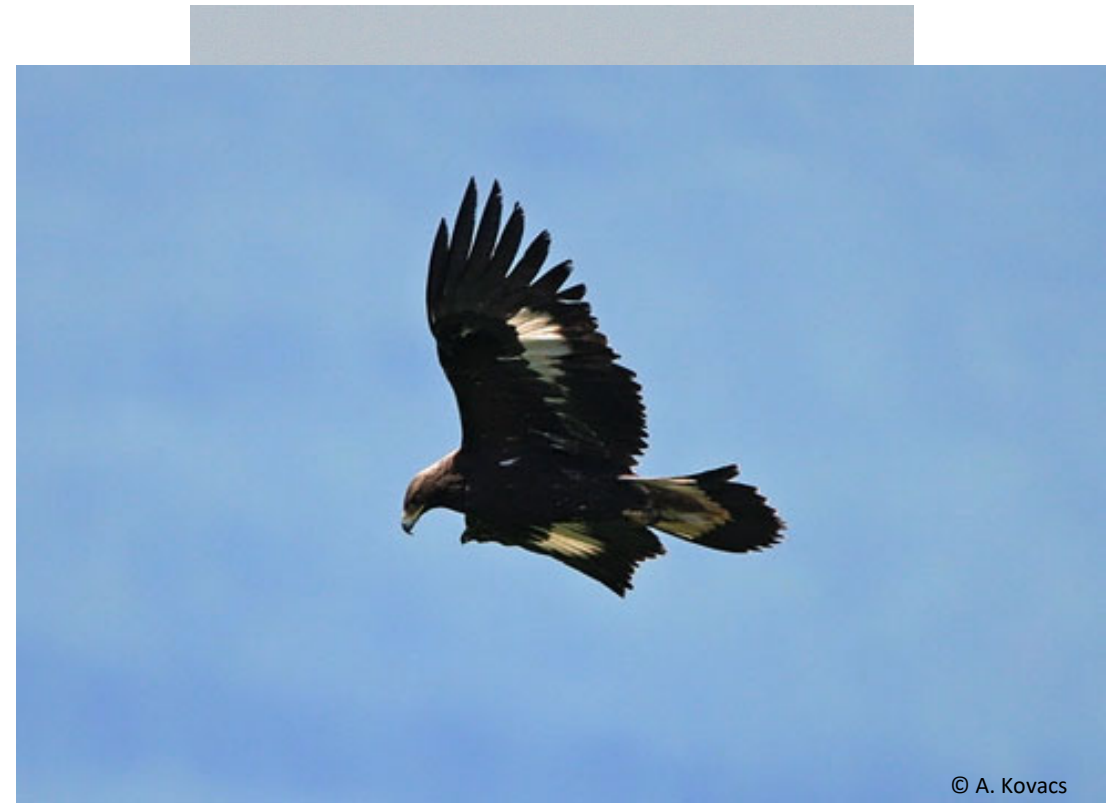


© Tommy Pedersen



# Updated species priorities (Table 1)

- **Category 1** Globally threatened and Near Threatened species as defined according to the latest IUCN Red List and listed as such in the BirdLife International World Bird Database
- **Category 2** Species considered to have Unfavourable Conservation Status at a regional level within the Range States and territories listed in Annex 2 to the MOU
- **Category 3**—all other migratory species



© A. Kovacs



*M.Mendi*



RAPTORS  
MOU

# Updated species priorities (Table 1)

2021 Scientific name	2021 Common name	Table 1 Category (2015)	Table 1 Category (2021)	Table 1 Category change since MOS2?	Reason for Category change
<i>Chelictinia riocourii</i> ●	Scissor-tailed Kite	CAT2	CAT1	YES	Global RL status uplisted from LC to VU
<i>Pernis apivorus</i> ●	European Honey-buzzard	CAT2	CAT3	YES	Global population trend now stable
<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i> ●	Oriental Honey-buzzard	CAT3	CAT2	YES	Global population trend now declining
<i>Circaetus cinereus</i> ●	Brown Snake-eagle	CAT3	CAT2	YES	Global population trend declining
<i>Nisaetus nipalensis</i> ●	Mountain Hawk-eagle	CAT2	CAT1	YES	Global RL status uplisted from LC to NT
<i>Aquila rapax</i> ●	Tawny Eagle	CAT2	CAT1	YES	Global RL status uplisted from LC to VU
<i>Hieraaetus ayresii</i> ●	Ayres's Hawk-eagle	CAT3	CAT2	YES	Global population trend now declining
<i>Accipiter brevipes</i> ●	Levant Sparrowhawk	CAT3	CAT2	YES	Qualifies as SPEC
<i>Buteo lagopus</i> ●	Rough-legged Buzzard	CAT3	CAT2	YES	Qualifies as SPEC

2021 Scientific name	2021 Common name	Table 1 Category (2015)	Table 1 Category (2021)	Table 1 Category change since MOS2?	Reason for Category change
<i>Buteo lagopus</i> ●	Rough-legged Buzzard	CAT3	CAT2	YES	Qualifies as SPEC
<i>Milvus milvus</i> ●	Red Kite	CAT1	CAT3	YES	Global RL status downlisted from NT to LC, global population trend now increasing, no longer qualifies as SPEC
<i>Milvus migrans</i> ●	Black Kite	CAT2	CAT3	YES	No longer qualifies as SPEC
<i>Buteo trizonatus</i> ●	Forest Buzzard	CAT3	CAT1	YES	Global RL status uplisted from LC to NT
<i>Falco columbarius</i> ●	Merlin	CAT3	CAT2	YES	Now qualifies as SPEC
<i>Falco rusticolus</i> ●	Gyrfalcon	CAT3	CAT2	YES	Qualifies as SPEC
<i>Strix nebulosa</i> ●	Great Grey Owl	CAT3	CAT2	YES	Qualifies as SPEC
<i>Bubo scandiacus</i> ●	Snowy Owl	CAT2	CAT1	YES	Global RL status uplisted from LC to VU



RAPTORS  
MOU



# Site List (Table 3 of the Action Plan)

## Original List of sites

Provisional list of Important Bird Areas that are known to be significant **congregatory sites** for birds of prey in Africa and Eurasia

- IBA

**150** sites

**36** Range States

## Post MOS3 List of sites

List of **Internationally Important Sites** for Migratory Birds of Prey

- IBAs
- SPAs
- Sites proposed by Signatories

**7260** sites

**103** Range States





# Renewed TAG membership

- 15 best candidates selected
- 4 women appointed
- 50% Reappointed
- 50% renewal at each MOS



Membership representation	TAG member's name	Nominator (Signatory or Co-operating Partner)	Starting term	Expiry term (inclusively)
<b>Africa (excluding North Africa)</b>	André Botha	BirdLife International	MOS1	MOS4
	Darcy Orgada	BirdLife International	MOS3	MOS5
	Neil Deacon	IAF	MOS2	MOS4
<b>Asia</b>	Karen Aghababyan	Armenia	MOS3	MOS5
	Nyambayar Batbayar	BirdLife International	MOS1	MOS4
<b>Europe</b>	Arianna Aradis	Italy	MOS3	MOS5
	Des Thompson	UK	MOS1	MOS4
	Mátyás Prommer	Hungary	MOS1	MOS4
<b>Middle East &amp; North Africa</b>	Imad Cherkaoui	Morocco	MOS3	MOS5
	Mohammed Shobrak	BirdLife International	MOS1	MOS4
<b>Experts</b>	Campbell Murn	BirdLife International	MOS3	MOS5
	Fadzai Matsvimbo	BirdLife International	MOS3	MOS5
	Munir Virani	IAF	MOS1	MOS4
	Ohad Hatzofe	Israel	MOS3	MOS5
	Ralph Buij	The Netherlands	MOS3	MOS5
<b>BirdLife International</b>	Vicky Jones	BirdLife International	MOS1	MOS4





# Technical support needed

- Population monitoring
- Improve understanding of migration pathways
- Identify important sites / corridors / bottlenecks
- Identify and assess threats along flyways
- Biogeographic populations

## Species action planning

- Black Harrier (*Circus maurus*),
- **Steppe Eagle (*Aquila nipalensis*)**
- Beaudouin's Snake Eagle (*Circaetus beaudouini*)
- **Pallas's Fish Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucoryphus*)**
- Steller's Sea Eagle (*H. pelagicus*)
- **Tawny Eagle (*A. rapax*)**



# Raptors MOU: A stronger tool for conservation

- Raptors MOU “refreshed”
- Clearer commitment
- Updated list of activities
- Measurable targets
- Defined Mean of Verification
- Species priorities up-to-date
- The largest network of sites for raptor conservation across 3 continents





# Thank you for your attention

**Umberto Gallo-Orsi**

Head, Coordinating Unit

CMS Raptors MOU

[umberto.galloorsi@un.org](mailto:umberto.galloorsi@un.org)

