



The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) in the context of TFCAs



Clara Nobbe & Andrea Dekrout
SADC TFCA Webinar session 17:



The legal frameworks for transboundary species conservation



International Travellers

Up to 10,000 animal species worldwide migrate to different habitats to

- feed
- rest
- reproduce
- reach wintering grounds



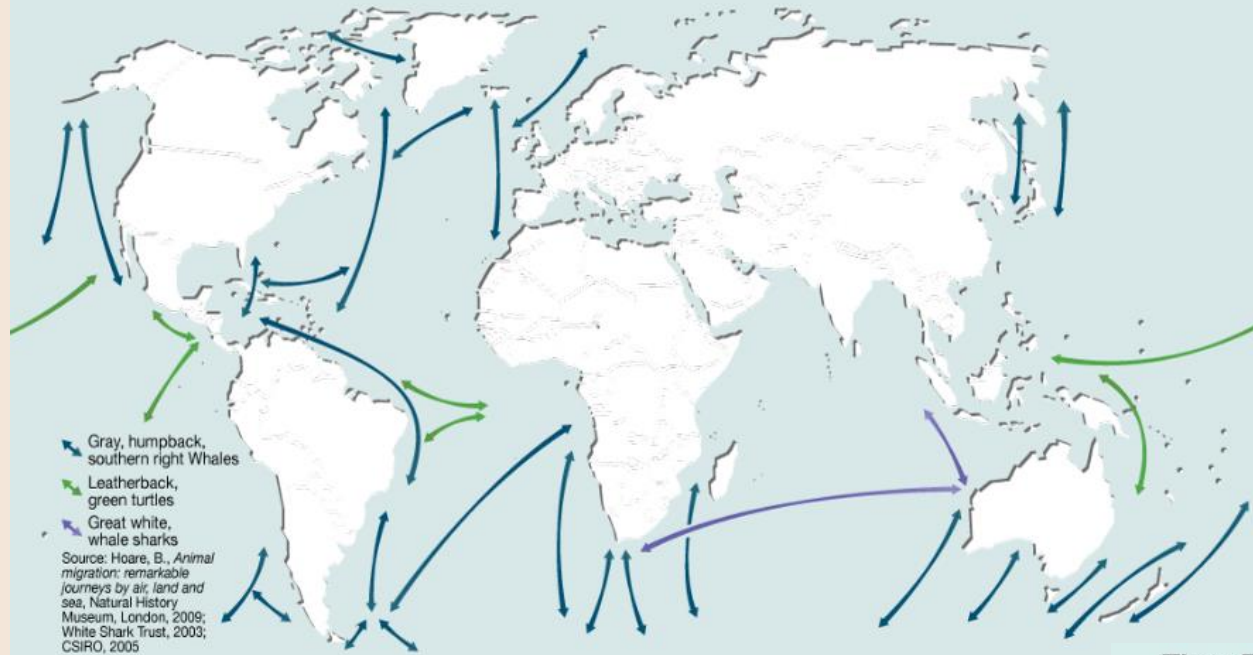
Challenge:

- Wildlife does not recognize international borders



They swim...

Migratory routes for selected marine animals



Leatherback turtle hatchling

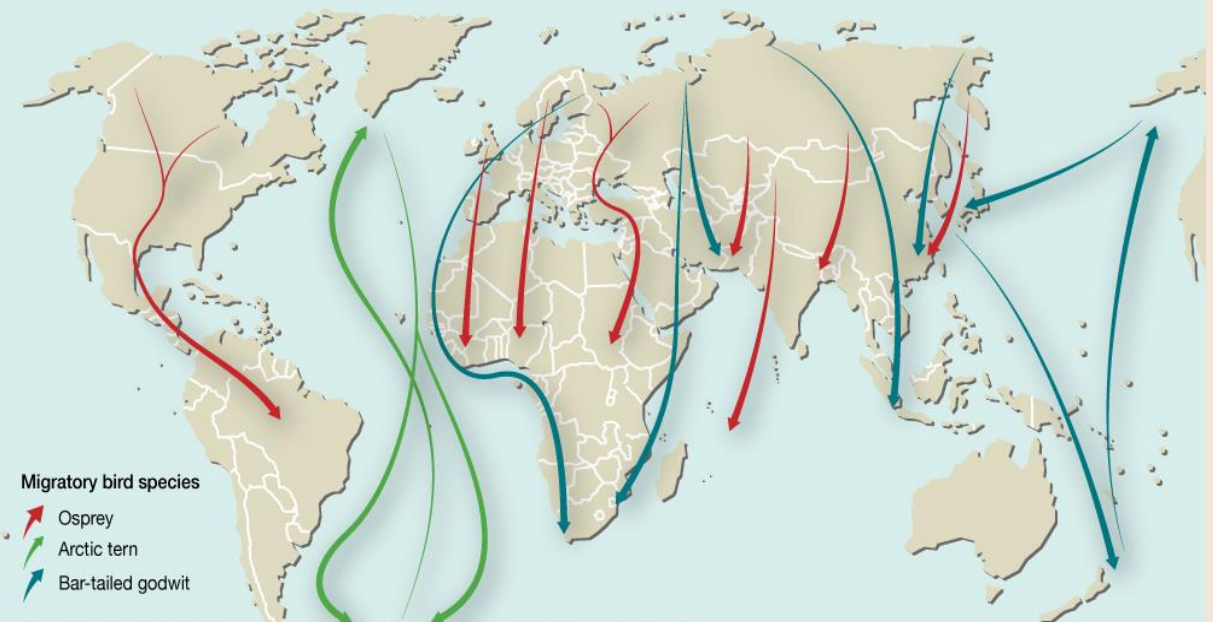
Image: Nora Weyer

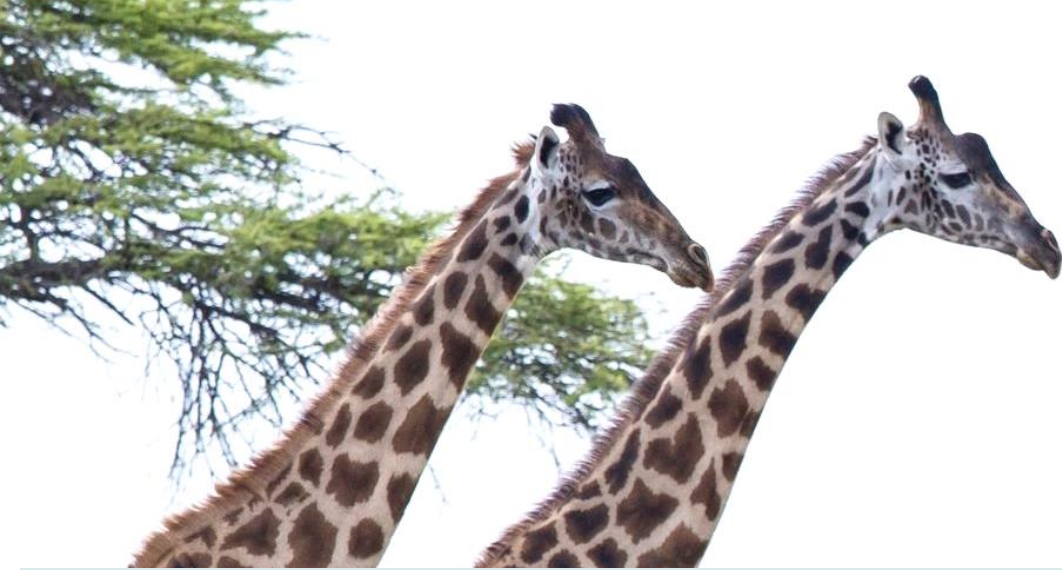
Bar-tailed godwit



They Fly...

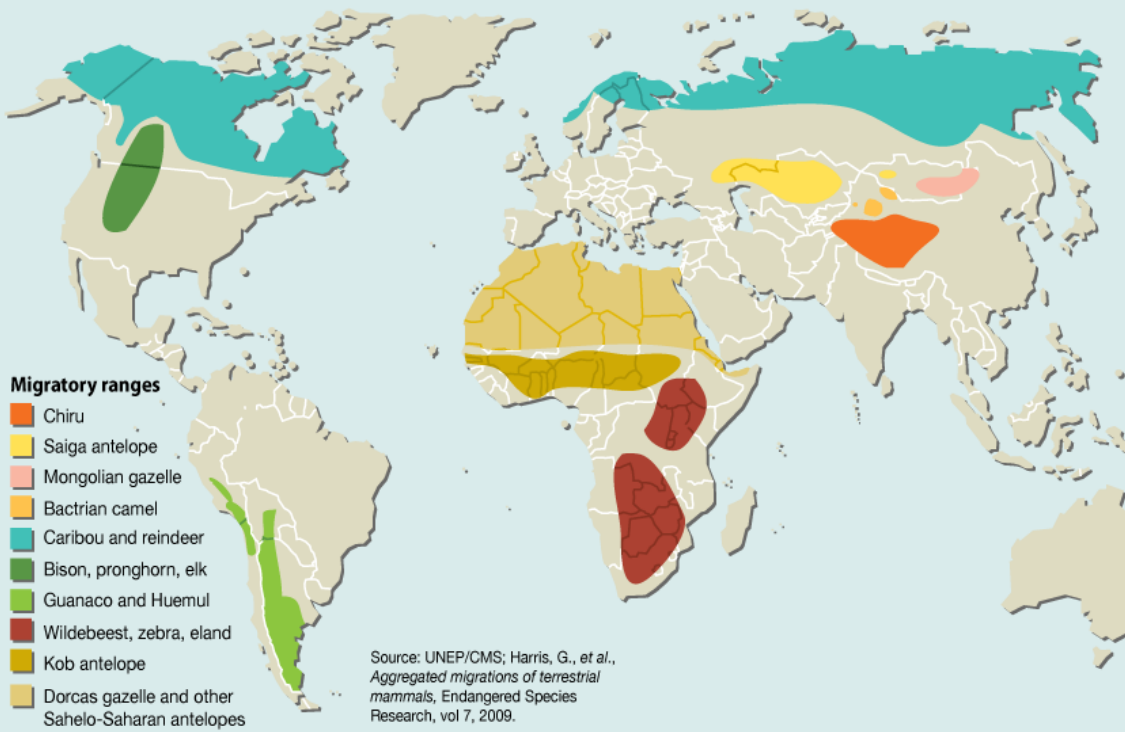
Selected migratory routes for birds





They run...

Selected migratory ranges for ungulates



CMS Species Appendices

Appendix I lists migratory species endangered with extinction

- highest degree of protection
- Parties shall prohibit the taking of species, shall endeavour to conserve and restore important habitats, and remove obstacles to migration (CMS Art. III)



Appendix II lists migratory species that will benefit from international cooperation through regional / global agreements

- Parties shall endeavour to conclude international agreements to benefit the species (CMS Art. IV)

Agreements and MOUs

Legally Binding



Wadden Sea
Seals



ACAP



EUROBATS



ACCOBAMS



ASCOBANS



Gorilla



AWEA

Special Species Initiatives

- Sahelo-Saharan Megafauna Initiative
- African Carnivores Initiative
- Central Asian Flyway Initiative
- Central Asian Mammals Initiative

Non- Legally Binding



Aquatic
Warbler



Bukhara Deer



Dugong



Great
Bustard



Pacific
Cetaceans



Raptors



Ruddy
Headed
Goose



Saiga
Antelope



Sharks



Siberian
Crane



Slender-
billed Curlew



West African
Aquatic
Mammals



High Andean
Flamingo



Marine
Turtles Africa



IOSEA



Mediterranean
Monk Seal



West African
Elephants



Grassland Birds of
South America



Huemul

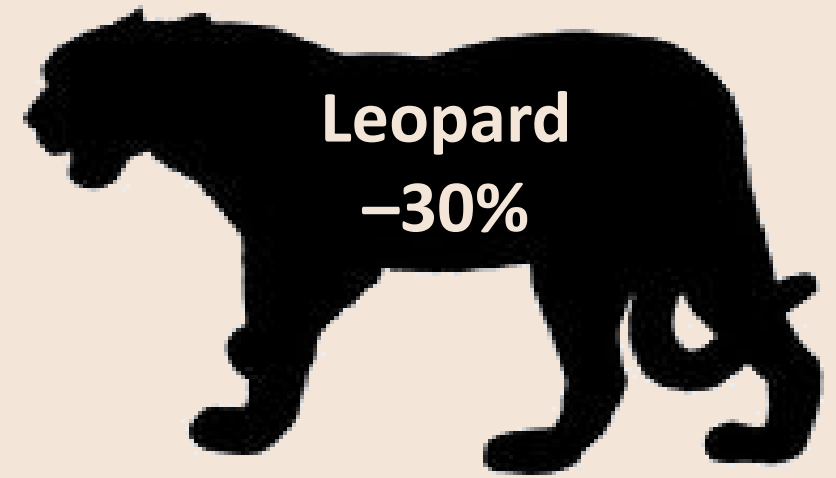


Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative (ACI)





Cheetah
-30%



Leopard
-30%

**African large carnivore species declined over the
last three generations**



Lion
-43%



Wild Dog
-17%



Focus of the ACI

- develop and implement conservation strategies
- secure connectivity between populations
- promote coexistence of local communities with the carnivores
- promote to the local communities sustainable benefits from conserving the carnivores

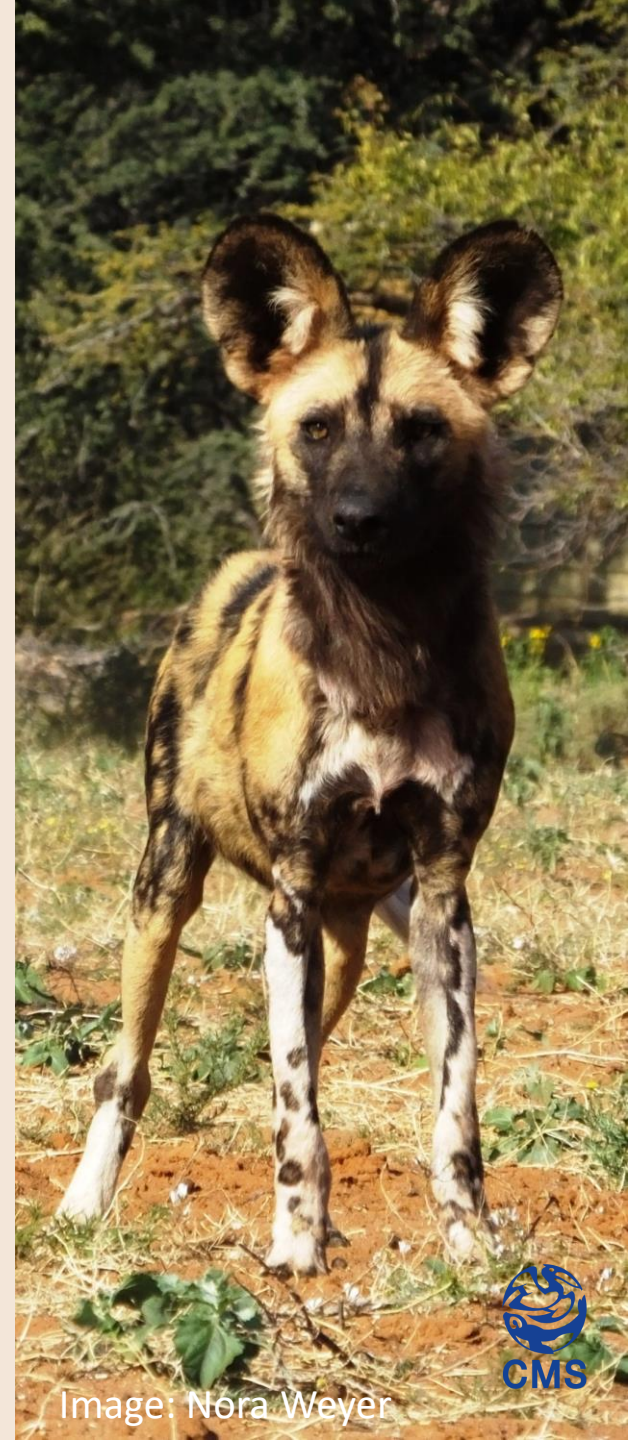


Image: Nora Weyer



Focus of the ACI

- develop and implement conservation strategies
- secure connectivity between populations
- promote coexistence of local communities with the carnivores
- promote to the local communities sustainable benefits from conserving the carnivores
- develop capacity to conserve, manage and monitor populations
- improve education and awareness on the plight of African carnivores
- enhance and facilitate communication and information sharing between Range States
- facilitate raising funds and resources

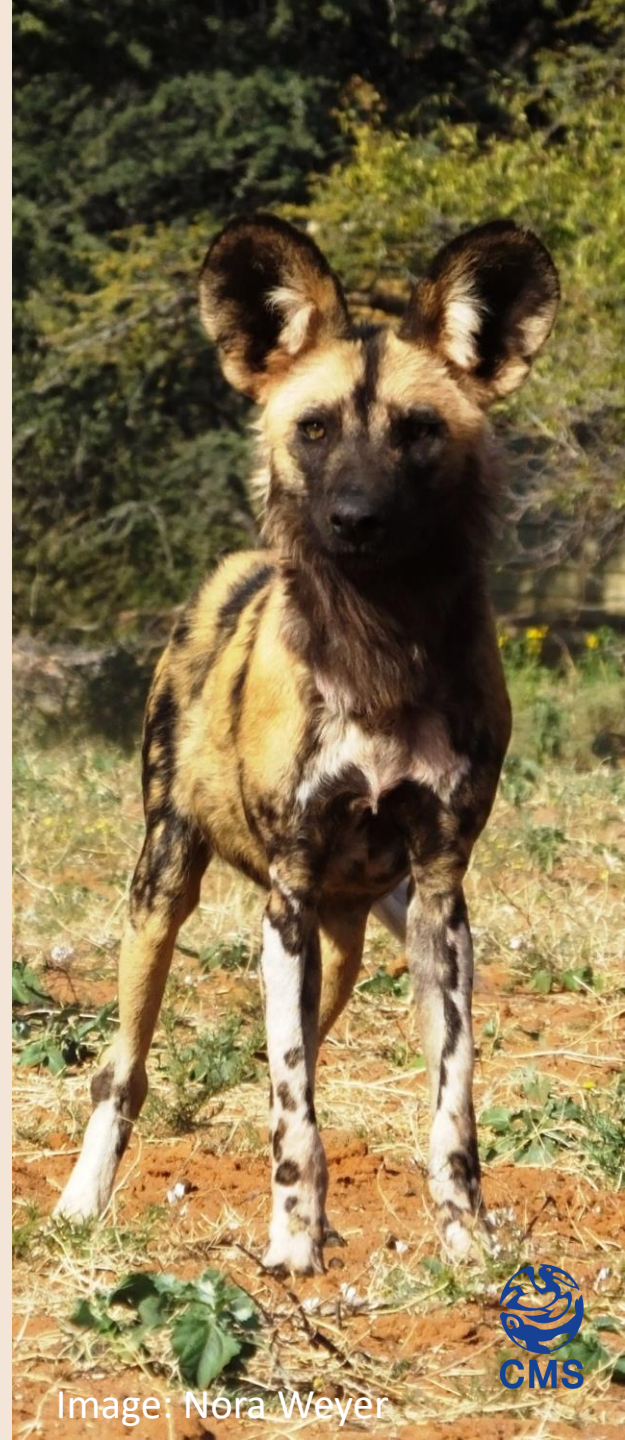


Image: Nora Weyer



Next steps for the ACI:

- development of a Programme of Work;
- review by Range States and CMS/CITES Standing Committees;
- establishment of a funding mechanism;
- monitoring of implementation and revision of Programme of Work



CMS Concerted Action for the Conservation of the Giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis*)

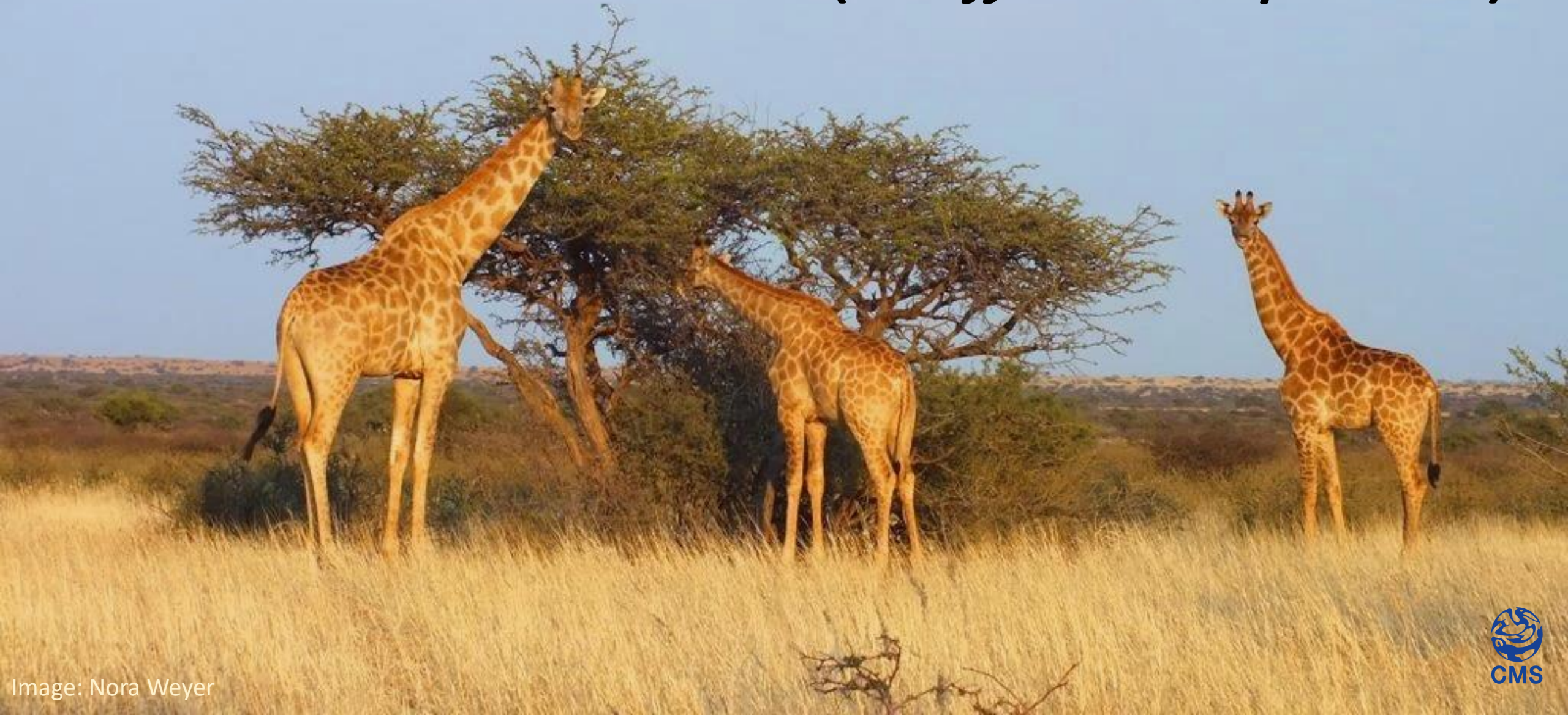


Image: Nora Weyer



Activities proposed under the CMS Concerted Action:

- development of international, regional and national conservation strategies
- information exchange
- population monitoring
- international online database
- involvement of communities
- a conservation fund
- translocation guidelines
- greater awareness

CMS's work to support Transfrontier Conservation Areas across Africa aims to protect the connected spaces that migratory species need to move and thrive.



The development and strengthening of TFCA agreements are critical because coordinated governance for conservation is the best tool we have for preventing wildlife crime, trafficking and habitat loss.

Illegal wildlife trade has become more sophisticated and expanded to involve multiple countries, so we need to keep up and work at the transboundary and regional level.



Specifically, it will:

- Strengthen sectoral management and coordination for wildlife conservation
- Promote legal reforms for national rights to wildlife and natural resources

and

- Reduce unsustainable use



Result areas:

Result 3.1: **High-level political instruments** mandating the formation of TFCAs formulated/updated as requested and required by each Regional Organization

Result 3.2: **Bilateral and multilateral treaties/agreements/MoUs** for the co-management of specific TFCAs formulated and signed by the responsible Ministers

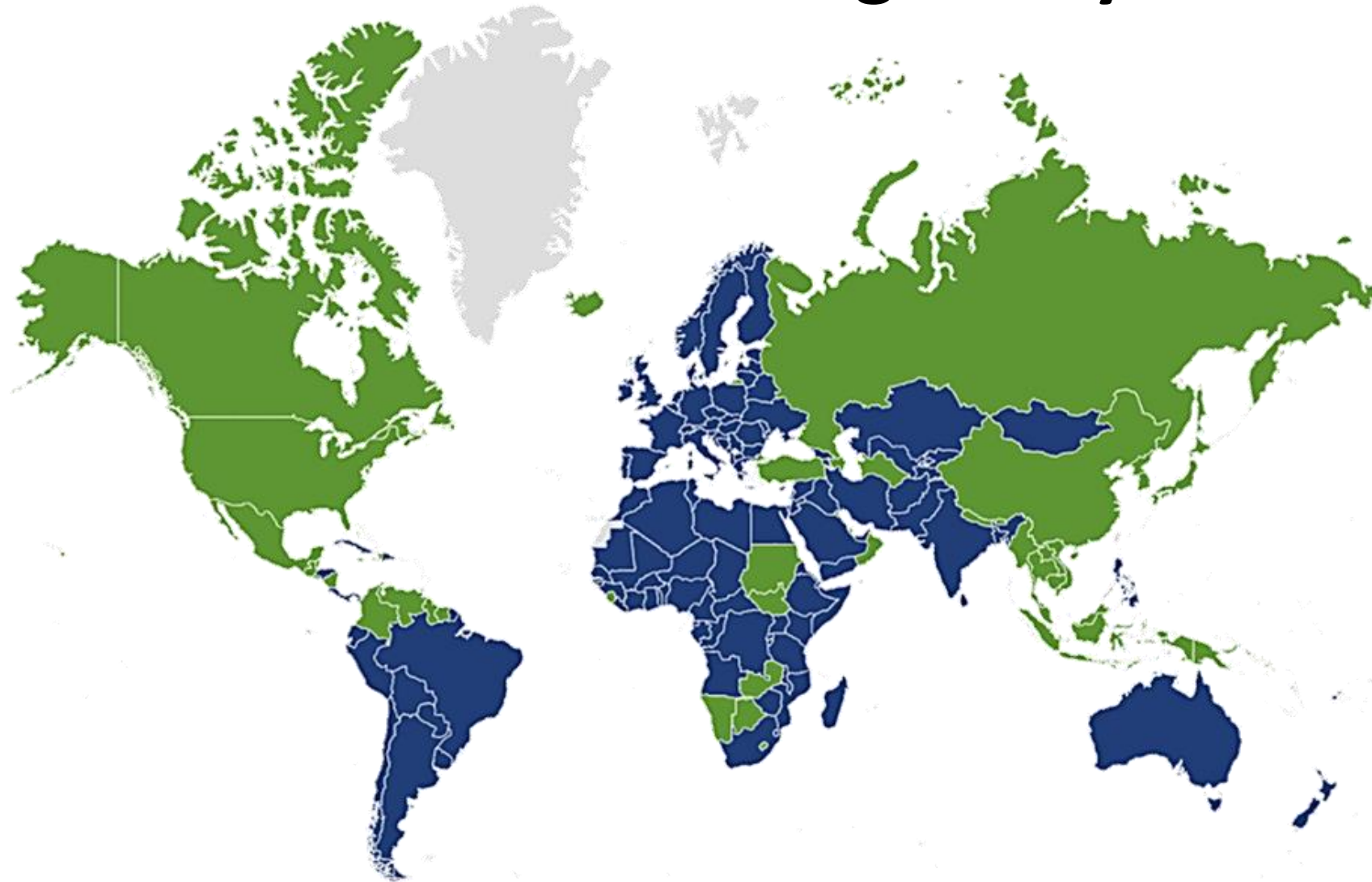
Result 3.3: **Harmonization of legislation** pertaining to wildlife conservation, management and crime between member states of the three beneficiary Regional Organizations promoted and supported

Result 3.4: **Ecosystem / landscape management plans** and / or protected area co-management plans prepared for TFCAs and formally approved by the responsible management authorities of all countries

Result 3.5: Approved **management actions implemented** in the TFCAs according to jointly-agreed priorities.



131 CMS Parties globally



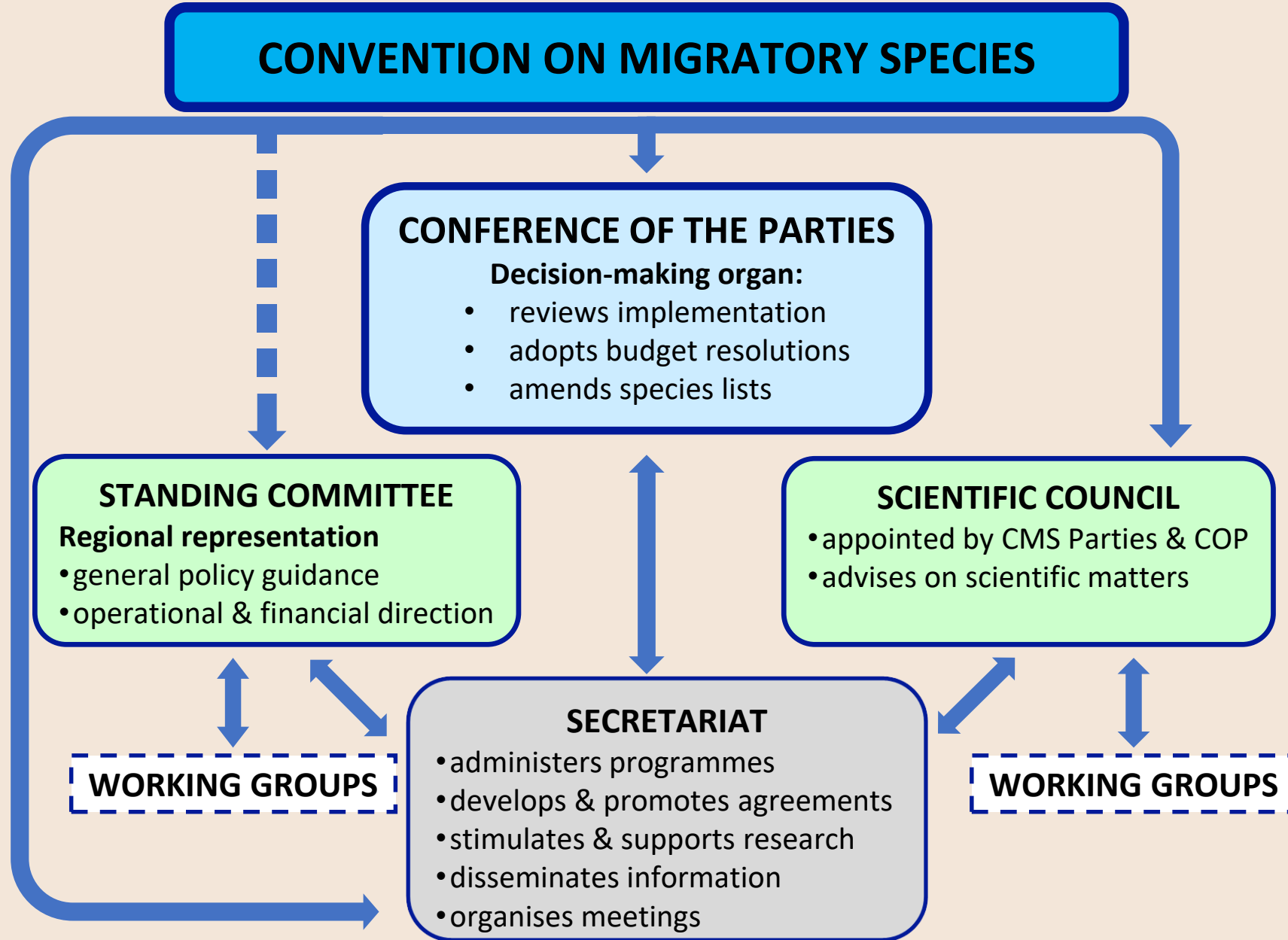
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

The final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined.

Party

Non-Party

Organizational structure of CMS



Why CMS is important for TFCAs:

- Provides set of agreed rules and standards;
- Facilitates transboundary negotiations;
- Provides science-policy interface;
- Raises visibility among international community.



Thank you

