



**BE OUR
CHAMPION!**

**Energy for People,
Life for Animals**
*Making Energy Safe
for Wildlife*

Understanding the Challenge

Climate change is not only one of the greatest risks to human society, but also to biodiversity. In 2015, the Paris UN climate change conference delivered a new universal agreement calling for a low-carbon future that keeps the global temperature rise to under 2 degrees C. Alongside increasing energy efficiency, developing renewable sources of energy is essential to reduce the amount of air pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions. However, all the technologies being developed to exploit renewable sources of energy – wind, solar, geo, tidal, wave and hydropower – and associated infrastructure such as powerlines if not sited correctly can have distinct drawbacks as far as wild animals and their habitats are concerned.

Wind farms and hydroelectric dams, in particular, take their toll on wildlife – birds and bats die as a result of collisions with wind turbines and the construction of offshore wind farms causes noise harmful to whales and dolphins; dams prevent aquatic animals such as fish, turtles and dolphins from migrating.

Moving from Decisions to Actions

The CMS Family developed sets of guidelines on the sustainable deployment of renewable energy installations and on avoiding and mitigating the impact of powerlines. The Parties to CMS adopted a resolution that endorsed these guidelines and called for an International Multi-stakeholder Task Force which brings together representatives of relevant government institutions and of the energy industry, civil society organizations and other interested stakeholders to join forces in reconciling energy developments with conservation of wildlife. Following its launch in 2016, the Energy Task Force outlined a Programme of Work which identified priorities for action and provides a road map to meet them.

Championing the Solution!

The Energy Task Force provides a platform for facilitating collaborative engagement between key stakeholders with a view to identifying and implementing evidence-based strategies for reducing the impacts of energy development on migratory species. Among these is the promotion of sound strategic environmental assessment and strategic planning processes to avoid installations in the most sensitive locations e.g. bottlenecks on birds' migration routes. Several practical measures can be applied to minimize impacts. For instance, insulating poles and installing signalling devices designed to improve the lines' visibility for birds have proved to be effective in making powerlines safer for birds and reducing their mortality caused by electrocution and collision.

Continuous and adequate levels of funding are required to support the Energy Task Force delivering on its work. The initiative promotes the deployment of green energy thus contributing to the attainment of various Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations.

More information can be found at: www.cms.int/en/taskforce/energy-task-force



MIGRATORY SPECIES CHAMPION PROGRAMME

WE FLY, WE RUN, WE SWIM. HELP US KEEP MOVING

The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species and its associated agreements, altogether known as CMS Family, are concerned with the protection of migratory wildlife on a global or regional scale. Such work is largely subject to the voluntary financial income that the Secretariats can generate, which is by its nature neither regular nor predictable.

The *Migratory Species Champion Programme* aims to promote initiatives developed under the CMS Family and encourage their sustainable support. The Programme has been designed to raise commitments to provide medium- and long-term resources for conservation actions so as to guarantee their timely planning and implementation.

Who can be a Champion?

Champions can be Governments, companies, organizations and individuals willing to make a financial commitment of at least three years for one or more specific CMS Family initiatives. Contributions could be made annually or as one-off payments. In-kind donations also qualify provided that they comply with requirements of this programme.

Becoming a *Champion* is more than being a donor. It is rather being an advocate for migratory species delivering support for their conservation beyond funding. *Champions* become part of the solution to big problems that concern them.

What can a Champion support?

The programme offers a portfolio of initiatives. Each initiative comprises a set of activities contributing to the implementation of a large programme targeting a species, a group of species or a cross-cutting issue.

Why becoming a Champion?

The Programme and its results are promoted on the dedicated page: www.migratoryspecies.org/champion

Furthermore, *Champions* are acknowledged with certificates that testify their support to one or more initiatives.

Different categories of *Champions* are defined to recognize different levels of contributions. The scheme of categories is as follows:

Champion for annual contributions from €20,000 up to €50,000 over at least a three-year period;

Champion Plus for annual contributions of more than €50,000 over at least a three-year period;

Champion Extraordinaire for continuous support.

Engaging and awarding *Champions* are rolling processes undertaken by each Secretariat.

Ad hoc donors' events are organized in the margins of the CMS Family decision-making bodies to acknowledge existing *Champions*. The certificate and the associated publicity provide *Champions* with the opportunity to promote both nationally and internationally their commitment and support for the conservation of migratory species.