

# Course for the National Focal Points for the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) and its Instruments

## *Course Syllabus*



**InforMEA**  
UNITED NATIONS INFORMATION PORTAL ON  
MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS

## Learning objectives

The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals is the only UN-based intergovernmental organization established for the conservation and management of terrestrial, aquatic and avian migratory species throughout their range.

Its overall objective is to strengthen national institutions in order to ultimately contribute to facilitating conservation efforts both nationally and worldwide and the specific purpose is to guide and support the National Focal Points (NFPs) of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) and its instruments in implementing the Convention. This Course is targeted to government officials charged with the responsibility for implementing CMS and its family of instruments - both those of many years' experience and those recently appointed.

## Content and duration

The e-learning course is comprised of 6 lessons, which provide links to the relevant treaty text paragraphs and term concepts of the InforMEA Glossary section. The lessons are organised in books, which can be downloaded in pdf from the left-hand navigation menu.

The core content of these lessons is complemented with additional materials, such as videos, publication and/or external websites

It will take you 3 hours approximately to complete the course, excluding additional materials. You can manage your time as you wish; take a few units and retake the course whenever it is more convenient for you.

## Assessment and certificate

Take the quizzes at the end of the units to assess your learning progress.

You are required to answer at least 80% of the assessment questions correctly in order to obtain a course certificate.

Before obtaining the certificate you also need to submit the course survey (your feedback). This survey helps us to improve the course, develop new course and assess if you are achieving your learning objectives.

Unit	Content	Learning objectives
Unit 1 -Introduction to the CMS Family	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduction</li> <li>2. Protecting migratory species</li> <li>3. The Role of CMS</li> <li>4. Defining the CMS Family National Focal Points</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explain what migration is and the reasons why migratory animals must be protected</li> <li>2. Define the role of the CMS in the protection of migratory species and its coverage</li> <li>3. Identify the instruments of the CMS family</li> <li>4. Recall the role and responsibilities of CMS national focal points</li> </ol>
Unit 2 - Institutional Framework and Funding of the CMS Family	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bodies of the CMS and its instruments</li> <li>2. Funding of the CMS Family</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Define the role and functions of the different bodies of the CMS and its instruments</li> <li>2. Distinguish different methods of funding</li> </ol>
Unit 3 - National Focal Points	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Appointment of NFP and other representatives and experts</li> <li>2. Communication and Dissemination of Information</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explain the appointment procedure of NFPs</li> <li>2. Infer the role of NPFs in the appointment of representatives to subsidiary bodies</li> <li>3. Compare to composition of different subsidiary bodies</li> <li>4. Relate the communication role of NPFs, their counterparts and available tools</li> <li>5. Tell the role of NFPs with regards to resource mobilization</li> </ol>
Unit 4 -	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduction</li> <li>2. Before the meeting</li> <li>3.. At the meeting</li> <li>4. Follow-up</li> <li>5. Negotiation Meetings</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Plan your attendance to the meeting of a decision-making body</li> <li>2. Describe which groups are usually established during the meeting of a decision-making body</li> <li>3. Explain how a meeting of a decision-making body runs</li> <li>4. Point out the peculiarities of a negotiation meeting</li> </ol>
Unit 5 – Implementation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is Implementation?</li> <li>2. The Implementation Cycle</li> <li>3. International Aspects of Implementation</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explain the implementation cycle and the role of National Focal Points in the process.</li> <li>2. Describe the different options for the development of a national strategy and/or implementation plan</li> <li>3. Identify the necessary steps to implement a national action plan for the conservation of migratory species</li> <li>4. Recognize the need for international cooperation in the implementation the CMS and its instruments</li> </ol>
Unit 6 - National Reporting	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Why have National Reporting at all?</li> <li>2. Benefits of National reporting for the reporting</li> <li>3. When and What to report</li> <li>4. Who reports and how to report</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recount the benefits of national reporting.</li> <li>2. Explain the reporting process</li> <li>3. Be aware of the new Online Reporting System</li> </ol>



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