

**SECOND VIRTUAL MEETING ON THE ACTION PLAN OF THE MOU ON THE  
CONSERVATION OF THE SOUTHERN SOUTH AMERICAN MIGRATORY  
GRASSLAND BIRD SPECIES AND THEIR HABITATS**

*(Online, 27 - 29 August 2025)*

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**DRAFT ACTION PLAN FOR THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON THE  
CONSERVATION OF SOUTHERN SOUTH AMERICAN MIGRATORY GRASSLAND BIRD  
SPECIES AND THEIR HABITATS**

*(as developed so far by the Third Meeting of the Signatories in December 2024)*

CMS - Grasslands MoU			
Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Southern South American Migratory Grassland Bird Species and Their Habitats			
PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY BIRD SPECIES FROM GRASSLANDS IN SOUTHERN SOUTH AMERICA AND THEIR HABITATS			
<b>General objective of the action plan</b>			
Improving the conservation status of grassland migratory bird species and their habitats in southern South America, in areas of breeding, migration and non-breeding concentration			
<b>MOS3</b>			
December 2 and 3, 2024			
Florianópolis, Santa Catarina, Brazil			
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 1 OF THE ACTION PLAN			
	Objectives of the 2020 Virtual Meeting	MOS3 2024	
1	Promote the protection and sustainable management of grasslands of importance for migratory species and the ecosystem services they provide.	GRASSLAND PROTECTION: By 2029, get signatory countries to recognize the value of grasslands in terms of their biodiversity, contribution to ecosystem services and climate resilience, and commit to developing at least one mechanism to promote the protection and sustainable management of grasslands of importance for migratory species and the ecosystem services they provide. <a href="#">in the grasslands of South America.</a>	
ACTIONS UNDER SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 1			
	2020 Virtual Meeting Information	MOS3 2024	Samarkand SPMS
1.1	Compile available information on priority areas for bird conservation in the MOU, seeking regional representativeness and complementarity	<p>Compile, <a href="#">update and centralize</a> the available information on priority areas for the conservation of birds of the MOU, seeking regional representativeness and complementarity.</p> <p><b>Suggested Products:</b> Technologies that exist in South America. <a href="#">[Comment: who will centralize this information? (centralize CMS, identify</a></p>	By 2029, all important habitats for migratory species listed in CMS Appendices are identified, assessed and monitored to ensure their functionality and ability to support migratory species throughout their life cycles.

		institutions that can do so, compilation committee).] Birdlife portal.	
1.2	Identify conservation and management figures, including appropriate incentives for the conservation of migratory grassland birds in each country, at the subnational and regional levels.	Identify <b>figures and define</b> conservation and management strategies, including <b>appropriate</b> appropriate incentives - for the conservation of migratory grassland birds in each country, at the subnational and regional levels, <b>to identify the most appropriate and effective tools.</b>  [Explanation: indices that can measure conservation and management.]  <b>Suggested Product:</b> Portfolio of conservation and management strategies, including a list of incentives widely available in each country	By 2029, the conservation status of all migratory species is reviewed regularly, informing priorities for conservation and management action.  By 2029, all migratory species with an unfavourable conservation status are listed in CMS Appendices and are covered by an effectively implemented CMS Instrument and/or Concerted Action.
1.3	Ensure the protection of priority areas under appropriate mechanisms for the conservation of migratory grassland birds.	<del>Identify—</del> priority <b>grassland</b> areas <del>under appropriate mechanisms</del> for the conservation of migratory <del>grassland birds.</del>  <b>Suggested Product:</b> List of identified priority areas for migratory bird conservation. [CMS Build: Should be on the MoU page]  <b>Indicator to be measured to check the success of the action:</b> Number of areas identified	By 2032, all important habitats for migratory species listed in CMS Appendices are protected, effectively conserved, managed and restored through ecologically representative, well-connected and equitably governed systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures.

<p>1.4</p>	<p>Identify protected areas that do not have management plans that include the needs of migratory grassland birds or that require updating to include those needs and the ecosystem services that the areas provide.</p>	<p>[The action remains the same.]</p> <p><b>Suggested Products:</b> List of areas requiring management plans or their updating, including the needs of grassland migratory birds A CMS database of protected areas, including their management plans focused on migratory grassland species and ecosystem services.</p>	
<p>1.5</p>	<p>Develop and update protected area management plans that include the needs of migratory grassland birds and the ecosystem services that the areas provide</p>	<p><del>Develop and update</del> Include the needs of migratory grassland birds in management plans for protected areas in native grassland areas that include the needs of migratory grassland birds and the ecosystem services that the areas provide</p> <p><b>Suggested Product:</b> Database of countries with developed or updated Protected Area Management Plans and whether they meet the needs of migratory grassland birds. <b>Indicator</b> for use in protected areas: the Grassland Conservation Index.</p>	<p>By 2032, the loss, degradation and fragmentation of important habitats for migratory species listed in CMS Appendices is reduced, and habitats are restored to ensure that such habitats support their viability</p>
<p>1.6/ 1.7</p>	<p>Promote, develop and strengthen good management practices (GMPs) for migratory grassland bird habitats</p>	<p>Promote, develop and strengthen <del>evidence-based, bird-friendly</del> good management practices (GMPs) for migratory grassland bird habitats. (GROUP online)</p> <p><b>Suggested Products:</b> Best Practices E-book for Grassland Migratory Birds in the Southern Cone. Information</p>	

		<p>compiled, documented and published for POPs by CMS;          Training for GMP technicians and disseminators – Creation of the Committee for publication;          Promote the sustainable production agenda.</p>	
1.8	Promotion of traditional grassland practices as a mechanism to support the conservation of migratory grassland birds.	<p>Promotion of typical grassland cultures as a mechanism to support the conservation of migratory grassland birds</p> <p><b>Suggested Products:</b>          Chapter in the e-book "Grassland Cultures" of action 1.7 with overlay of migratory bird areas/associated cultures;          Meetings of producers and ranchers in celebrations of typical grassland cultures (e.g. <a href="#">Grassland Alliance Meetings</a>).</p>	
1.9/ 1.10	Promote the use of native seeds and forage plants in pastoral systems	<p><a href="#">Develop techniques for the use of native seeds and forage plants in pastoral systems for the recovery of degraded areas.</a></p> <p><b>Suggested Products:</b>          Compilation of information in the ebook (action 1.7) on good management practices and use of native seeds and forages;          Creation of a network of available grassland seed banks.</p>	

### General comments on objective 1

1. More specific action would be needed around habitat conversion.
2. See how it is connected and align with the Shorebird Action Plan.
3. We need governments to first accept and recognize threatened shorebird and grassland bird conservation areas (KBAs, WHSRN sites, etc.).
4. Focus not only on KBAs but also on WHSRN sites to execute action plans.
5. Better define what we mean by good management practices.
6. Quantify the hectares for protected areas.
7. Highlight the importance of sustainable livestock farming as the only ally to continue conserving the ecosystem, to implement actions to promote, develop and strengthen good management practices (GMP) of the habitats of migratory grassland birds.

8. Recommend governments approach Birdlife partners in each country to start organising and implementing actions: Support to implementers.
9. Specify that when we talk about livestock management we do not refer to the fact that it is done in a sustainable way and in natural pastures.
10. The use of biological corridors in grain agriculture should be encouraged.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 2 OF THE ACTION PLAN		
	Objectives of the 2020 Virtual Meeting	MOS3 2024
2	Develop and coordinate monitoring and research programs for MoU species, their habitats, and grassland ecosystems.	RESEARCH AND MONITORING: By 2029, get the signatory countries to include in their National Plans the prioritization/facilitation/financing of state institutions, lines of <del>Develop and coordinate</del> research and monitoring programs for the species of the MOU, their habitats and grassland ecosystems

ACTIONS UNDER SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 2			
	2020 Virtual Meeting Information	MOS3 2024	Samarkand SPMS
2.1	Facilitate access to existing information and improve distribution maps and key areas of the Memorandum species in each country Party.	<del>Facilitate access to existing information and improve distribution maps and key areas of the Memorandum species in each country Party.</del>	By 2029, Parties have access to relevant information and evidence-based guidance to effectively implement the Convention, its Resolutions and Decisions.
2.2	Analysis of Representativeness Gaps (GAP) in the region's protected area system.	[The action remains the same.]	By 2029, all important habitats for migratory species listed in CMS Appendices are identified, assessed and monitored to ensure their functionality and ability to support migratory species throughout their life cycles.
2.3	Conduct niche modeling studies in areas important for species conservation under the MoU	Conduct <del>distribution map studies and niche modeling in areas important for species conservation under the</del> MoU	
2.4	Increase knowledge of seasonal movements and habitat needs of species.	<del>Increase knowledge of seasonal movements and habitat needs of species.</del> [2.4 and 2.5 merged?]	By 2026, awareness of the importance of migratory species and their role in providing benefits for people has increased globally
2.5	Improve knowledge of the biology and demography of the species in the Memorandum.	Improve knowledge of the <del>biology and demography,</del> natural history of species (e.g., minimum area size). [2.4 and 2.5 merged?]	No direct correspondence with the SPMS.
2.6	Carry out studies on the effectiveness of different management techniques (fire, rest, animal loading, afforestation, agriculture) for the conservation of MOU species and the increase in production.	Carry out studies on <del>the effectiveness of</del> different management techniques (e.g. fire, <del>resting, animal loading, afforestation,</del>	No direct correspondence with the SPMS.

		<p><del>agriculture, grazing, etc.) for the conservation of MOU species and the increase in production.</del> affect birds. (GROUP 2)</p> <p>Conduct studies to build evidence-based knowledge on the effectiveness of different management techniques (fire, resting, animal loading, afforestation, agriculture) for the conservation of MOU species and the increase in production. (GROUP online and 3)</p>	
2.7	Disseminate existing information and promote new studies on the carbon balance in natural grasslands under livestock management systems.	<del>Disseminate existing information and promote new studies on the carbon balance in natural grasslands under livestock management systems.</del>	By 2029, Parties have access to relevant information and evidence based guidance to effectively implement the Convention, its Resolutions and Decisions.
2.8	Create a group of scientists to advise the decisions of the MoU (Grassland Bird Study Group)	<del>Create a group of scientists to advise the decisions of the MoU (Grassland Bird Study Group)</del>	
2.9	Develop studies on the control of the invasive alien forage crop <i>Eragrostis plana</i> .	Develop studies on the <del>control of the invasive exotic forage crop <i>Eragrostis plana</i></del> and the impact of invasive alien species on birds and their habitats, and identify control measures.	By 2032, the negative impacts of invasive alien species on migratory species and their habitats are reduced or eliminated.
2.10	Investigate the importance of roadside strips/shoulders along highways and neighborhood roads for the conservation of native grasslands	[The action remains the same.]	By 2032, the direct mortality of migratory species caused by humanmade infrastructure is significantly reduced to levels that are not harmful to species' viability
New		2.1. Hold a regional workshop to standardize monitoring methodologies.	
New		Conduct demographic studies and evaluate changes in species abundance over time.	

<p><b>New</b></p>		<p>Generate a coordinated network project that integrates the signatory countries to implement the monitoring of MOU species at the regional level. (GROUP 2)</p> <p>Develop harmonized bird monitoring programs to contribute to an international grassland bird index adopted as a measure to monitor land-use sustainability. (GROUP 3 and online)</p>	
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**General comments on Objective 2**

- How will the promotion of these studies be facilitated by governments-scientific organizations and state universities?

**Threats/Challenges that emerged:**

- Improve processes and make them more open.

**Activities to change**

- Increase focal points per country, with at least one representative from government/NGOs/research institutions/academia

**Limiting factors:**

- Actions that are not very achievable. Propose more specific, achievable actions and who will be responsible (similar for all Objectives/Actions).

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 3 OF THE ACTION PLAN			
	Objectives of the 2020 Virtual Meeting	MOS3 2024	
3	Raise awareness of the importance of natural grasslands and threatened species.	Raise awareness about the importance of natural grasslands and threatened species and solutions for their conservation and sustainable management.  EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION. By 2029, the signatory countries should commit to facilitating communication efforts in alignment with the messages of this MoU regarding the value and need for conservation of South America's natural grasslands.	
ACTIONS UNDER SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 3			
	2020 Virtual Meeting Information	MOS3 2024	Samarkand SPMS
3.1	Develop educational campaigns to discourage illegal trade in bird species under the MoU	Develop and implement educational campaigns to discourage illegal trade <del>in bird species under the</del> grassland songbird MOU. [3.1 and 3.2 merged]	By 2032, any take, use and trade of migratory species listed in CMS Appendices is sustainable, safe and legal, overexploitation is prevented, risk of pathogen spillover is reduced and negative impacts on non-target species and their ecosystems are minimized.  By 2026, awareness of the importance of migratory species and their role in providing benefits for people has increased globally.  By 2029, Parties have access to relevant information and evidencebased guidance to effectively implement the Convention, its Resolutions and Decisions.  By 2026, awareness of the importance of migratory species and their role in providing benefits for people has increased globally.
3.2	Implement educational campaigns to discourage illegal trade in species under the MOU.	<del>Implement educational campaigns to discourage illegal trade in species under the MOU.</del> [3.1 and 3.2 merged]	
3.3	Develop a communication strategy for the conservation of grasslands aimed at the general public, decision-makers, markets and finance.	Develop and implement <del>communication strategies for rangeland conservation</del> (with a clear definition of objectives) aimed at landowners and managers, decision-makers, <del>markets and finance, businesses, financial institutions, local communities and the general public.</del> [3.3 and 3.4 merged]	
3.4	Implement a communication strategy for grassland conservation aimed at the general public, decision-makers, markets and finance.	<del>Implement a communication strategy for grassland conservation aimed at the general</del>	

		<p><del>public, decision-makers, markets and finance.</del>  [3.3 and 3.4 merged]</p>	
3.5	Promote the organization of symposia on grassland birds at national/international ornithology meetings and agricultural sector meetings.	<p>Promote the organization of symposia on <del>conservation of grassland</del> birds and relevant birds, highlighting priorities for research on threats and solutions, at national/international ornithology meetings <del>and at agricultural sector meetings.</del>  [Skip to Goal 2?]</p>	
New		<p>[Actions in relation to education and awareness of the importance and value of the Grasslands, especially at primary/elementary levels]  (GROUP online)</p>	
New		<p>3.2. Disseminate guidance on evidence-based interventions for sustainable (bird-friendly) rangeland management among practitioners, including through agricultural sector meetings.</p>	
New		<p>Promote rangeland connectivity through migratory species during the International Year of Grasslands in 2026.  (GROUP 3)</p> <p>Organize at least one side event/session with X, X and X institutions/governments to promote grassland connectivity across migratory species during the International Year of Grasslands in 2026.  (GROUP online)</p>	

## **General comments on Goal 3**

### **Threats that emerged:**

1. THE GOVERNMENTS THEMSELVES see grasslands AS A SACRIFICIAL AND PURELY PRODUCTIVE ECOSYSTEM.
2. Lack of Recognition by Governments of the Importance and Value of Grasslands for biodiversity and the provision of ecosystem services.
3. In Uruguay, a Law for the Protection and Sustainable Management of Grasslands was presented and there was opposition from the productive sectors.

### **Limiting factors:**

1. There are no public policies for the conservation and sustainable management of the Grasslands. It is important to consider that more than 98% is in private hands. We need incentives and awareness from governments.
2. The Grassland needs to be recognized for its importance, and that it is considered as IMPORTANT AS A FOREST for biodiversity and ecosystem services.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 4 OF THE ACTION PLAN		
	Objectives of the 2020 virtual meeting	MOS3 2024
4	Develop and strengthen public and private policies for the conservation of natural grasslands and promote collaboration with the productive sector and civil society.	<b>PUBLIC AND PRIVATE POLICIES:</b> By 2029, the signatory countries must commit to outline an incentive/law plan and review current legislation, to facilitate good management practices and <del>develop and strengthen public and private policies for the</del> conservation of natural grasslands and promote collaboration with the productive sector and civil society.

ACTIONS UNDER SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 4			
	2020 Virtual Meeting Information	MOS3 2024	Samarkand SPMS
4.1	Develop and implement legislative measures for the conservation of grasslands in non-protected areas	<p>Develop and implement legislative measures <b>at different levels of governance</b> for the conservation of grasslands in non-protected areas. (GROUP 4)</p> <p>The signatory government of each country develops/implements/regulates <del>Develop and apply legislative measures at least one</del> legislative measure for the conservation of grasslands in non-protected areas. (GROUP online)</p>	By 2029, Parties have mechanisms in place, including national legislation and enforcement mechanisms where relevant, to fully implement the Convention, its Resolutions and Decisions.
4.2	Developing, updating and implementing planning instruments in grassland regions	<p><del>Developing, updating and implementing planning instruments in grassland regions</del> (GROUP 4 and online)</p> <p>4.2 a. Influence the Land Use Plans of each signatory country to include rangelands, based on the MOU.</p> <p>4.2.b. Form working groups to develop Land Use Plans. [e.g. there is already a working group for the Llanos de Moxos in Bolivia.]. (GROUP online)</p>	By 2029, Parties work collaboratively with other governments on actions and initiatives to implement CMS, its Resolutions and Decisions and associated guidance.

<p>4.3</p>	<p>Develop and implement regulations on invasive alien species in grassland regions (wild boar, pine, eucalyptus, forage, etc.)</p>	<p>Develop and implement regulations on invasive alien species in grassland regions (wild boar, pine, eucalyptus, forage, etc.) including roadsides and roads (shoulders, domain strips). [4.3 and 4.5 merged?] (GROUP 4)</p> <p>In each signatory country, develop and apply at least one regulation for the management of each problematic invasive alien species in grassland regions (wild boar, pine, eucalyptus, forage, etc.-). (GROUP online)</p>	<p>By 2032, the negative impacts of invasive alien species on migratory species and their habitats are reduced or eliminated.</p>
<p>4.4</p>	<p>Develop and implement control programmes to prevent illegal capture and trade of species under the MoU</p>	<p><del>Develop and implement control programmes to prevent illegal capture and trade of species under the MoU</del> [4.4 and 4.6 merged?]</p>	<p>By 2032, any take, use and trade of migratory species listed in CMS Appendices is sustainable, safe and legal, overexploitation is prevented, risk of pathogen spillover is reduced and negative impacts on non-target species and their ecosystems are minimized.</p>
<p>4.5</p>	<p>Promote, regulate, and supervise the use of roadsides and roads (shoulders, domain strips) to maintain natural grasslands in areas of importance for species under the MoU</p>	<p><del>Promote, regulate, and supervise the use of roadsides and roads (shoulders, domain strips) to maintain natural grasslands in areas of importance for species under the MoU</del> [4.3 and 4.5 merged?]</p>	<p>By 2032, the direct mortality of migratory species caused by humanmade infrastructure is significantly reduced to levels that are not harmful to species' viability.</p>
<p>4.6</p>	<p>Increase surveillance and monitor the volume and geographic scale of illegal capture and trade of grassland species</p>	<p>Increase surveillance through the development and implementation of control and monitoring programmes to monitor <del>the volume and geographic scale</del> of illegal capture and trade of <del>grassland species</del> under the MOU. [4.4 and 4.6 merged?]</p>	<p>By 2032, any take, use and trade of migratory species listed in CMS Appendices is sustainable, safe and legal, overexploitation is prevented, risk of pathogen spillover is reduced and negative impacts on non-target species and their ecosystems are minimized.</p>
<p>4.7</p>	<p>Building dialogue and collaborating with the productive sector for the conservation of grasslands</p>	<p><del>Develop</del> and implement Communication Plans based on social diagnosis, analysis and mapping of actors (productive sector,</p>	<p>By 2029, Parties work collaboratively with other governments on actions and initiatives to implement CMS, its Resolutions and Decisions and associated guidance.</p>

		civil society, among others) <del>for the conservation of grasslands.</del> [4.7 and 4.9 merged?] [The action remains the same.]	
4.8	Develop and implement financial incentives for grassland conservation, e.g., lines of credit for good practices, environmental services, green products, environmental certification		By 2029, Parties have mobilized or secured resources to implement the Convention, its Resolutions and Decisions.
4.9	Promote collaboration with civil society through the joint implementation of national action plans	<del>Promote collaboration with civil society through the joint implementation of national action plans</del>  Promote the integration of the MoU into National Action Plans, involving civil society and other actors in their implementation.	By 2032, CMS provisions are included in relevant national planning processes and policies for the benefit of migratory species and the ecosystem services they provide
4.10	Explore the potential of grasslands for tourism purposes, ornamental plants and other uses	Explore the potential of grasslands for tourism purposes, ornamental plants, and other uses for grassland conservation.	By 2029, Parties have mobilized or secured resources to implement the Convention, its Resolutions and Decisions.
New		Recognize sustainable livestock farming in natural pastures as an NBS and develop at least one tax mechanism/incentives to ensure its sustainability/competitiveness against other more profitable and unsustainable activities (e.g., extensive grain monocultures and afforestation with exotic sp.. (GROUP online)	
New		Monitor the impact on MOU species and their habitats of grain monocultures, exotic pastures, and afforestation so that they can be considered in the public policies of each signatory country.. (GROUP online)	
New		Recognize, promote, and incorporate good conservation management practices in	

	<p>private reserves. (e.g., Bolivia Private Reserves Natural Heritage). (GROUP online)</p>	
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#### General comments on Objective 4

1. Perhaps now, that progress has been made in the knowledge of species, this should be the Main Objective (#1). On this basis, the other Objectives/Actions can be built. If this Goal is not achieved, it is very difficult to make significant progress with the other Goals/Actions. Policies for the protection of grasslands is a priority.
  2. Memorandum: update the list of birds: *S. maximiliani* is missing, for example. *Calidris subruficollis* (VU).
  3. Why does the memo begin by talking about birds? While this is the priority of bird conservation institutions, it is not that of governments. The priority of governments should be the facilitation of mechanisms that facilitate the implementation of sustainable management and conservation of grasslands to improve the habitat of migratory grassland species and guarantee the conservation of these species and native biodiversity, and that do not yet exist (e.g.: incentives for sustainable livestock production, tax reductions, laws for the protection of pastures, ecosystem services, etc. Use of the ICP – large investment, but the laws were never regulated in the few countries/provinces in which legislation began to be used using this tool).
  4. We have to change our approach to communication. We must begin to speak the same language as that of the interests of governments and local actors. We are going to convince the government and local actors with economic incentives, but not by talking about threatened birds.
  5. Review of laws that promote productive activities that are incompatible with the conservation and sustainable management of grasslands (for example, currently, incentives for the afforestation of exotic species) and at the same time of conservation laws. Legal antagonisms, confusion with the enforcement body and international environmental standards (such as FSC and VCS that encourage incompatible activities and are detrimental to the conservation of grasslands) have been generated.
  6. Focus on sustainable livestock farming, but at a more holistic level. Focus more on social and productive conditions to convince governments and local actors. The ecological component (which is the most important thing for us) is not the one that sells the change we are looking for.
  7. It was agreed that it should be the pastures. Birds could be presented as an indicator of sustainable land use (as, for example, the EU uses the Wild Bird Index to monitor the sustainability of land use).
  8. Objective 4 actions should be subdivided into those related to policy implementation (4.1-4.5, 4.8?) compared to other elements, e.g. implementation (4.6?), participation (4.7, 4.9?), enterprises (4.10).
- Activities to change/add.
9. Recognize regional public goods for government incentives (example: Grassland Conservation Index-ICP).

#### Stock Comments

- About Action 4.1:
  - o What happened to the ICP (Grassland Conservation Index)?
  - o Ex: sub-actions for each National Plan:
  - o Bolivia: Approve the Property Management Plans with Private Natural Heritage Reserves.
  - o Regulate laws already developed in Argentina, Paraguay and Brazil using the ICP.
  - o Paraguay: Review the resolution of incentives for pastures to include cattle ranchers. Modify the compensation mechanism.

- o Uruguay: Support the law on incentives for natural field conservation by recognizing and using the Grassland Conservation Index as a tool to measure the contribution to the conservation of ecosystem services - possibility of using the Grassland Alliance's technological platform for a country database
- On Action 4.2:
  - o Need for a Land Use Plan. For example, in fire management (or any other activity) the need to have planning at the landscape level, not only at the farm level. E.g., biological corridors between properties.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 5 OF THE ACTION PLAN		
	Objectives of the 2020 virtual meeting	MOS3 2024
5	Strengthen international cooperation for the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding	SUSTAINABILITY AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION. By 2029, the signatory countries commit to allocate resources to strengthen international cooperation for the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding (CAF, GEF, IDB) of the grasslands of South America.

ACTIONS OF SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 5			
	2020 Virtual Meeting Information	MOS3 2024	Samarkand SPMS
5.1	Promote the use of interactive systems to share and systematize monitoring information on migratory grassland species	Promote the <del>coordinated use of interactive systems to share and systematize information from a</del> standard grassland health index, such as the Grassland Conservation Index (PCI) for monitoring and evaluation of the actions envisaged in the MoU among all signatories. <del>of migratory grassland species.</del>	By 2029 and beyond, all Parties inform the COP, through National Reports, of measures taken to implement the Convention, its Resolutions and Decisions.
5.2	Strengthen the implementation of north-south conservation agreements for grassland bird conservation	Develop tools and instruments to facilitate <del>Strengthen the implementation of conservation agreements coordinated north-south actions for the conservation of grassland birds</del>	By 2029, Parties work collaboratively with other governments on actions and initiatives to implement CMS, its Resolutions and Decisions and associated guidance.
5.3	Promote the interface between the MOU and the Mercosur SGT6 group for grassland bird conservation issues	Promote the interface between the MOU and <del>the Mercosur SGT6 group for grassland bird conservation issues</del> , livestock sector, including agricultural agencies.	By 2029, Parties work collaboratively with other governments on actions and initiatives to implement CMS, its Resolutions and Decisions and associated guidance.
5.4	Organize a technical-scientific workshop to develop a methodology for the census and monitoring of birds of the MoU at the international level	<del>Organize a technical-scientific workshop to develop a methodology for the census and monitoring of birds of the MoU at the international level</del>	Parties use best available science, as the basis for evidence-based advice and decision-making to address the conservation of migratory species, their habitats and threats under CMS.
5.5	To explore the potential of rangelands to Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).	Explore the potential of rangelands for Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Biodiversity Strategies and Action	By 2032, CMS provisions are included in relevant national planning processes and policies for the benefit of migratory

		Plans (NBSAPs), and Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN). [Go to Goal 4]	species and the ecosystem services they provide.
5.6	Coordinate common actions and management protocols for protected areas through Red Parques	Coordinate common actions and management protocols for protected areas through the national focal points for Red Parques.	By 2029, Parties work collaboratively with other governments on actions and initiatives to implement CMS, its Resolutions and Decisions and associated guidance.
5.7	Ensure the long-term financial viability of the MoU by developing a business plan	<del>Ensure</del> Support the long-term financial viability of the MoU by developing the adoption of a business plan approach.	By 2029, Parties have mobilized or secured resources to implement the Convention, its Resolutions and Decisions.
New		Strengthen cooperation and exchange of experiences between regional grassland bird initiatives (such as the Trilateral Committee) and the Memorandum of Understanding.	
New		Identify sources of international financing and incentives to facilitate the implementation of the MoU (CAF, IDB, GEF).	
New		Create a Scientific Platform/database and implementation instruments and products of the MoU Action Plan of all South American countries to facilitate follow-up and share key information with governments to facilitate the development of legislation/public policies.	

**General comments on Goal 5**

1. Who is going to make the Business Plan?
2. Who is going to implement? Grasslands as mitigation tools. Grasslands have a high capacity for carbon sequestration
3. Give more emphasis to the work that BirdLife and its partners have been doing.
4. It would be necessary to mention the rearticulation with the Hemispheric Network of the MidContinental route.
5. Connect CMS actions with current new strategies such as the Mid-continental Shorebird Action Plan that strongly includes grasslands.
6. It would not seem to be 5.1 the most important action for this objective. Do we need to restructure and prioritize?

### **General Comments on the Action Plan**

1. It would be good to define the objectives a little more and transform them into SMART objectives:
  - Specific: They clearly define what you want to achieve.
  - Measurable: They can be quantified or evaluated with indicators.
  - Achievable: They are realistic and achievable with the available resources.
  - Relevant: They are aligned with priorities, general objectives and context.
  - Time-bound: They have a defined deadline for their fulfillment
2. Add specificity to achieve concrete actions with a clear definition of who is going to carry them out.
3. Better specify who is going to carry out what specific action, in order to improve implementation, and how each action is going to be facilitated.
4. It would be good for the Expected Results to add a date and a measurable indicator. For example, instead of "Published Regulations," "At least one regulated law for the protection and sustainable management of grasslands in each country by 2029."
5. There should be more than one focal point per country in order to improve the management and monitoring of the Plan. A Working Group per country to know who is going to work with to implement each action, carrying out a complete mapping of key actors that should participate.
6. It would be nice to have at least one annual meeting, even if it's virtual.
7. Given the importance of a 5-year Action Plan, it would be good to form these working groups and organize virtual workshops to agree on more concrete and SMART actions. Propose a National Action Plan with specific actions in each country that contribute to the Regional Action Plan.
8. Hold a virtual organizational meeting prior to the CMS Plenary meeting, to organize well which documents are going to be reviewed, what needs to be analyzed/prepared, so that we can arrive better prepared and with the best processed information for this meeting.
9. Support governments from the BirdLife Partners to be able to implement the actions.
10. Create a monitoring committee for the BirdLife Action Plan that can facilitate linkages with governments.
11. As the MoU is non-binding, how can we manage to support governments in facilitating the implementation of the actions of the Action Plan? For example, there are many new laws in Bolivia that are antagonistic to what was signed in the Plan. How do we ensure alignment with the MoU? Transform the MoU into a more linkage instrument to achieve greater support for governments (e.g. similar to the ACAP-Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels).
12. Include the Socioeconomic Factor in Sustainability in order to also align with the interests of governments.

### **Limiting factors:**

- Lack of public incentives.