

## Course Syllabus

### Learning objectives

Migratory species are animals that cyclically and predictably move to different habitats as part of their natural life cycles. Human activities threaten many species and their habitats. As a result, many migratory species have been declining, and some are endangered or critically endangered.

The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) provides a global platform for the conservation of migratory animals and their habitats. CMS brings together the States through which migratory animals pass and lays the legal foundation for internationally coordinated conservation measures throughout a migratory range.

This course will introduce you to the history, role and organizational structure of CMS, the obligations of CMS Parties towards species listed on the Appendices of the Convention and the instruments that may be developed under CMS. At the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Explain the role of CMS in protecting migratory species.
2. Outline the obligations of CMS Parties under the Convention.
3. Describe the role of CMS as a framework Convention and the instruments that may be developed for the conservation of migratory species and their habitats.

### Content and duration

The online course is comprised of 6 lessons, which provide relevant information about the different aspects of the Convention. The lessons are organized in interactive modules that combine the course theory with exercises and interactions that will facilitate the learning process. The core content of the lessons is complemented with additional materials, such as videos, publications and external websites.

It will take you approximately 2 hours to complete the course, excluding additional materials. This is a self-paced course that allows you to manage your time as you wish. You can navigate the lessons at your convenience and retake them whenever you wish.

## Completion certificate

Take the quiz at the end of the course 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 courses and assess if you are achieving your learning objectives.

## Course outline and content

### Lesson 1: Introduction

1. Migratory species
2. Rationale for protecting migratory species
3. Role of CMS
4. History of CMS

### Lesson 2: Scope of application of CMS

1. Definitions
2. CMS Appendices
3. Article III of CMS: Appendix I species
4. Article IV of CMS: Appendix II species
5. Amendments to the Appendices
6. Reservations

### Lesson 3: The CMS “Family” of Agreements

1. CMS Framework Convention
2. Agreements
3. Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs)

### Lesson 4: Other CMS Instruments and Activities

1. Other Instruments to promote coordinated action on CMS-listed species
2. Other Activities

### Lesson 5: Implementation of CMS

1. Implementation
2. National Reporting
3. Strategic Plan
4. Review Mechanism and National Legislation Programme

### Lesson 6: Organizational structure

1. Overview
2. Conference of the Parties
3. Subsidiary Bodies
4. CMS Secretariat

Take the free and self-paced course [HERE](#) (login required)