**Development of the Saker Falcon**(*Falco cherrug*)**Global Action Plan (SakerGAP)**

**SakerGAPQuestionnaire: To be compiled and submitted by National Information Coordinators from each Range State of the species.**

To promote comprehensive completion of this SakerGAPQuestionnaire, please seek inputs from your own national contact networks and those individuals identified in the ‘*List of contacts within Range States who have been sent the SakerGAP National Questionnaire’ -* attached to the original commissioning email message. Only the yellow-shaded sections need to be completed. Please return the Questionnaire tocmsoffice.ae@cms.intby the deadline of 15 July 2013.

**Contact Form:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Country:** | **Republic of Moldova** |
| **Date:** | **29.10.2013** |
| **Organization:** | **Ministry of Environment** |
| **Data Provider:** | **Ministry of Environment** |
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\* If not the same person as the ‘Data Provider’

**Please list the names of contributing experts and their affiliations below:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
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| dr. Larisa Bogdea, scientific researcher, Laboratory of Ornithology, Institute of Zoology,  Academy of Science of Moldova larus421@gmail.com , <http://www.zoology.asm.md/> |  Institute of Zoology,  Academy of Science of Moldova |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

***2 – OVERVIEW OF STATUS and POPULATION TRENDS***

***Table 1* The status of the Saker Falcon in your country**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Breeding** | **Migration** | **Wintering** | **Extinct as breeder** |
| *Yes (regular/occasional)/No* | *Yes/No* | *Yes/No* | *Yes(year)/No* |

***Table 1* Population size and trend in your country – *Please refer to the Notes (below) to aid completion of this Table*.**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Known breeding pairs****(observed)** | **Year ofthe latest survey** | **Estimated breeding population size** | **Data Quality** | **Year of the latest estimate** | **Breeding population trend in the last 20 years (or 3 generations)** | **Data Quality** | **Estimated minimumnumber of passage and wintering Sakers**  | **Data Quality** | **Year of the latest estimate** | **References** |
| 5 pairs in 2013 | 5 pairs in 2012 | 5 breeding pairs | **GO**45047’15, 64” - 28036’27,27” | 2013 | **Large decline**In 2005 wos 10 breeding pairs | **GO**Dr.Munteanu.A Zubcov N Movileanu D 2007, 2010dr. Larisa Bogdea | Shakers in winter do not stay in Moldova | Shakers in winter do not stay in Moldova | Shakers in winter do not stay in Moldova | -*Red book of the Republic of Moldova. Ed.II, 2002.*- *Munteanu A., T.Cozari, N.Zubcov, (2006) Lumea animala a Moldovei Păsări III (Animal kingdom of Moldova, Birds III), Chisinau, “Stiintsa”, 79 pp (rom).* |

|  |
| --- |
| **Notes:*** **Estimated breeding population size**: Specify ifpairs or individuals (the same unit will be used for all breeding range countries).
* **Data quality**:
	+ **Good Observed (GO)=***Reliable or representative quantitative data are available through complete counts or comprehensive measurements for the whole period and country.*
	+ **Good Estimated (GE)** = *Reliable quantitative or representative data are available through sampling or interpolation for the whole period and country.*
	+ **Medium Estimated (ME)** = *Only incomplete quantitative data are available through sampling or interpolation.*
	+ **Medium Inferred (MI)** = *Only poor or incomplete quantitative data are available derived from indirect evidence.*
	+ **Poor (P)** = *Poorly known with no quantitative data are available and with guesses derived from circumstantial evidence.*
	+ **Unknown (U)** = *information on quality not available*.
* **Breeding Population trendin the last 20 years** *(or three generations – 6.4x3=19.2 years,BirdLife International, 2013).*

 If possible, **calculate the actual trend in %**or use the following categories: * + **Large decline** (>=30%), **Moderate decline** (10-29%), **Small decline** (0-9%),
	+ **Stable** (<10% decline and <10% increase),
	+ **Small increase** (0-9%), **Moderate increase** (10-29%), **Large increase** (>=30%),
	+ **Unknown** (insufficient data).
* **Estimated minimum number of passage and wintering Sakers**: numbers in individuals.
* **References:** Describe the data sources as (*First Author*) (*et al.*), (*year*)
 |

***Table 2* Habitat use and diet of the Saker Falcon in your country**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Habitat use** | **Diet** |
| During the breeding period the characteristic environment places are forest sectors surrounded by fields or steep rock river banks ( Nistru and Prut river). The rest of the time it can be found in other biotopes, with the exception of compact forest massifs. There are cases of breeding on high electric pylons. | gopher, field mice and birds. |

***Table 4* Current conservation and management actions for the Saker Falcon in your country**

|  |
| --- |
| **Title of Project/Action 1:** |
| **Objective** | **Action** | **Coverage** | **Period** | **Organisations Responsible** |
| *Example:***Population decline halted.** | 1. Monitoring of the breeding population parameters: number of breeding pairs, breeding success.
 | NationalLocalRegional | Started in XX | Government Environment Department |
| 1. Designation of breeding areas as protected areas.
 | Local |  |  |
| Study and description of natural habitats, wild fauna and flora in the north of Moldova in accordance with the requirements *DE 92/43 CEE* | Determination territories particularly valuable for Conservation of birds of common European interest. | Local | 2011 | NGO Herpetology Ornithological Society in Moldova. E-mail niczubcov@mail.ru  |
| Mapping the habitats of European interest in the north of Moldova. | Local  | 2011 | NGO Herpetology Ornithological Society in Moldova. E-mail niczubcov@mail.ru |
| **Title of Project/Action 2:** |
| **Objective** | **Action** | **Coverage** | **Period** | **Organisations Responsible**  |
| *Example:***Increased breeding success.** | 3.Installation of next boxes on electric pylons. | Regional | Started in XX | National BirdLife Partner |
|  |  |  |  |  |

***2 - THREATS***

**General overview of threats**

|  |
| --- |
| * **What are the most important threats to the Saker Falcon in your country?**
 |
| The most important threats is deficit food (the number of colonies gophers), disturbance.Disturbans, destruction of habitats, the reduction of the nutrition base as a consequence of the increase of the number of rodents, illegal hunting, the tall trees cutting in the breeding zones. |
| * **What is their impact on the population?**
 |
| Impact is indirect (illegal tree cutting). |

**List of critical and important threats**

|  |
| --- |
| * **Please follow a descending priority order of threats, starting with the most important.**
* **A full account of the Threats should also be included in Table 5 of Annex I.**

***Example:*** 1. ***Name of threat: (e.g. Destruction of breeding habitats by tree cutting)***

***Brief description:******Importance: (critical, high, medium, low, local, unknown)*** 1. ***Name of threat:***

***Brief description:******Importance: (critical, high, medium, low, local, unknown)*** |
|  |

***3 - POLICIES AND LEGISLATION RELEVANT FOR MANAGEMENT***

**National policies, legislation and ongoing activities relevant to Saker Falcon**

|  |
| --- |
| * **Please list key national nature conservation and related legislation.**
 |
| -Law on accession to CMS,AEWA and EUROBATS, 2000.-Law of the Republic of Moldova on the Animal Kingdom,1995.-Law 325, 15.12.2005 on the Red Book of Republic of Moldova.-Law on Environmental Protection, 1993.-Law of State Natural Protected Areas Fund, 1998.- Law on Zone and Strips for Rivers and Water Basins Protection (1995)-Law on ecological expertise and environmental impact assessment, 1996.-Law on toxic substances, 1997.-Law on natural resources, 1997.-Forest Code of the Republic of Moldova, 1997.-Law on Ecological Network no.94  din  (2007).- National Ecological Network Program approved by Government Decision no. 593 of 2011.- Regulation for the wetlands (Governement Act No.665 from 14.06. 2007)- Regulation Cadastre vegetal kingdom approved by Government Decision, 2009- Regulation Cadastre animal kingdom, approved by Government, 2004 |
| * **Please list key sectoral programmes *(e.g. Rural Development Plans, Forestry Development Plans, etc.)* which contain measures that may be relevant to the conservation of the Saker Falcon.**
 |
| - Elaborated draft National Strategy and Action Plan for Biodiversity Conservation 2013-2020. New National Strategy and Action Plan for Biological Diversity Conservation is part of national efforts to implement the Strategic Plan of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and 2011-2020 CBD Strategic Plan 2020 of the European Union.- UNDP (United Nation Development Programme) - Support for the preparation of project proposals for funding from the ENPI (European Neighbourhood Instrument Programme) JOP Romania-Moldova-Ukraine 2007-2013. This assistance will support the Delta Danube Biosphere Reserve Authority in developing an application for a project that will aim to set up the Trilateral Biosphere Reserve consists of the Delta Danube in Romania and Ukraine and the Prutul de Jos River in Moldova.- It was recently expanded to fund protected areas from 4.65% to 5.65% of the country by creating Orhei National Park with an area of ​​33 700 ha, which will contribute significantly to enhancing biodiversity conservation (Parliament Decision no. 201 07.12.2013).- Prepared and submitted to the Government National Plan for expansion of forest vegetation areas for the years 2013-2018. The project provides for the afforestation of degraded areas and water protection strips rivers and water basins to create the National Ecological Network. |

***4– REFERENCES and PUBLICATIONS***

|  |
| --- |
| * **Please list key references about the Saker Falcon in your country.**

***Recommended format:*****Batbayar, N., A. Dixon, N. Fox, G. Purev-Ochir, and A. Saruul. 2010. (Abstract) Conservation through sustainable use -- a promising way to save Saker Falcon *(Falco cherrug)* populations. Pages 59-60 *in* G. Sundev, R. Watson, M. Curti, R. Yosef, E. Potapov, and M. Gilbert (eds.) , Asian raptors: science and conservation for present and future: The 6th International Conference on Asian Raptors. Asian Raptor Research and Conservation Network, Mongolian Ornithological Society, and National University of Mongolia, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.****Dawnay, N., McEwing, R., Thorpe, R.S., Ogden, R. (2007) Preliminary data suggests genetic distinctiveness of Gyr and Saker Falcons, *Conservation Genetics*, 9:3: 703-707.** |
| * Munteanu A., T.Cozari, N.Zubcov, (2006) Lumea animala a Moldovei Păsări III (Animal kingdom of Moldova, Birds III), Chisinau, “Stiintsa”, 79 pp (rom).
* Red book of the Republic of Moldova.Ed.II, 192 pp 2001.
* Ganea, Zubcov, 1989.
 |

***ANNEX 1***

***Table 5* Threats importance at population or country level -** *Please refer to the Notes (below) to aid completion of this Table.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Threat Description** | **Threat Score** |
| 1. **Habitat Loss/Degradation (human induced)**
 |  |
|  |  illegal cutting the tall trees in the breeding zones  | **Critical** |
|  | * 1. ...
 |  |
| 1. **High mortality/loss**
 |  |
|   | illegal hunting | **Critical** |
|  | * 1. ...
 |  |
| 1. **Missing or ineffective policies, laws and enforcement**
 |  |
|  | Harmonization of National Legislation with the Birds Directive | **Medium** |
|  | * 1. ...
 |  |
| 1. **Low public and stakeholder awareness**
 |  |
|  | * 1. ...
 |  |
|  | * 1. ...
 |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **Notes:*** The description of Threats should reflect the actual understanding of the situation regarding the species, according to the latest available knowledge.
* Threats are not hierarchical, but clustered according to type of effect.
* Threat score:
	+ **Critical:** a factor causing or likely to ***cause very rapid declines*** (>30% over 10 years);
	+ **High:** a factor causing or likely to ***cause rapid declines*** (20-30% over 10 years);
	+ **Medium:** a factor causing or likely to ***cause relatively slow, but significant, declines*** (10-20% over 10 years);
	+ **Low:** a factor causing or likely to ***cause fluctuations***;
	+ **Local:** a factor causing or likely to ***cause negligible declines***;
	+ **Unknown:** a factor that is likely to ***affect the species but it is unknown to what extent.***

 This ranking reflects IUCN extinction risk assessments |

***ANNEX 2***

***Table 6*Most important areas or sites in your country*–*** *Please refer to the Notes section (below).*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Area or Site name** **(in English please)** | **Area or Site size** **(km2)** | **Location in the country** | **Estimated population size** | **Estimated density** | **Year** | **Season** | **Data quality** |
| **Min** | **Max** |
| Village Ciumai 45047’15, 64” - 28036’27,27” nest nr. 1 |  | Taraclia districtSouth of Moldova |  | 1 pairs+juvenil |  | 2012 |  | GO |
| Village Valea Perjei nest nr. 2, 3, 4 |  | Taraclia districtsouth of Moldova |  | 3 pairs |  | 2012 |  | GO |
| Village Caraclia nest nr.5 |  | Taraclia districtsouth of Moldova  |  | 1 pairs  |  | 2012 |  | GO |
| Village Cioc-Maidan |  | Comrat districtsouth of Moldova  |  | three juvenile |  |  |  | GO |
| Village Cremenciuc |  | Soroca districtNorth of Moldova |  | juvenile |  |  |  | GO |

|  |
| --- |
| **Notes:*** **Population Min - Max.***For breeding ('season' column), figures are usually given in pairs; for other seasons, figures are given in individuals*
* **Season:** *Breeding, Migration, Non breeding visitor(wintering)*
* **Data quality:**

 **Good Observed (GO)** = *Reliable or representative quantitative data are available through complete counts or comprehensive measurements for the whole period and country.* **Good Estimated (GE)** = *Reliable quantitative or representative data are available through sampling or interpolation for the wholeperiod and country.* **Medium Estimated (ME)** = O*nly incomplete quantitative data are available through sampling or interpolation.* **Medium Inferred (MI)** = *Only poor or incomplete quantitative data are available derived from indirect evidence.* **Poor (P)** = *Poorly known with no quantitative data are available and with guesses derived from circumstantial evidence.* **Unknown (U)** = information on quality not available.* **Estimated density:**breeding pairs(bp)/100km2

  |

***ANNEX 3***

***Table 7*National conservation and legal status**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Status in national Red Data Book** | **Legal protection from taking and killing** | **Current protection status** (since year) | **Penalties for illegal taking, killing or nest destruction** | **Highest responsible national authority** |
| -Red book of the Republic of Moldova.Ed.II, 192 pp 2001.**-** Law of State Natural Protected Areas Fund, 1998.- Law of the Republic of Moldova on the Animal Kingdom,1995. | *Yes (taking, killing)/No* | *It is a critically endangered (CR)species.**Annex nr. 3**Annex nr. 3* | *Yes (in $US)/No**384 $ (USD) or 285 Euro* |  |

***Table 8*The use of the Saker Falcon**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Purpose of use** | **Taking from the wild** | **Level of annual taking**  | **Opening and closing months of taking** | **Is there any quota scheme in place?** | **Legal national trade**  | **Legal use for falconry** |
|  | *Yes/No* | *Estimated min. and max. numbers/data quality* | *Yes (month-month)/No* | *Yes (quota)/No* | *Yes (wild/captive bred/hybrid)/No* | *Yes (wild/captive bred/hybrid)/No* |

***Table 9*Conservation background**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **General attitude towads** **the Saker Falcon** | **Is there a national action plan for the Saker Falcon?** | **Is there a national Saker Falconproject /working group?** |
|  | *Yes (title, year)/No* | *Yes (provide a title or link)/No* |

***Table 10*Conservation efforts and research activities over the last ten years**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Brief summary of conservation efforts targeting the Saker Falcon over the last ten years** | **Brief summary of research activities dealing with the Saker Falcon over the last ten year** |
| **Reproduction in captivity. It is produced in zoological garden (8).** |  |

***Table 11*Ongoing monitoring schemes for the Saker Falcon**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Is there a national survey / monitoring programme?** | **Is there a monitoring programme in protected areas?** | **Protocols for informing national authorities about monitoing results?**  | **Is there a national coordinator and/or monitoring organisation?** |
| *Yes (start year/last year)/No* | *Yes/No* | *Yes/No* | *Yes(Name)/No* |