

STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN

2022 - 2026



هيئة البيئة - أبوظبي
Environment Agency - ABU DHABI



الأمانة العامة لصون
المها العربي
General Secretariat for
the Conservation of the
ARABIAN ORYX

The General Secretariat for the Conservation of the Arabian Oryx (GSCAO), headquartered at the Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi (EAD), is a regional initiative aimed at supporting and coordinating efforts to conserve the Arabian Oryx in range states, and establishing the criteria and standards for this purpose.

Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi: Established in 1996, the Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi (EAD) is a government entity which is committed to protecting and enhancing air quality, groundwater, as well as the biodiversity of land and marine ecosystems in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.

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INTRODUCTION

The General Secretariat for the Conservation of the Arabian Oryx (GSCAO) presented its Strategic Action Plan (2015 – 2019) during the Fifth Meeting of the Coordination Committee for the Conservation of the Arabian Oryx (CCCAO), held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE), on 12 May, 2015. The Plan served as a guidance to support range states achieve the long-term objectives of the Arabian Oryx Regional Conservation Strategy and Action Plan. The Action Plan (2015 – 2019) was based on two central components, the first of which is the submission of annual reports by range states. These reports summarized the initiatives and projects implemented by range states, at the national level, to achieve the following objectives of the Arabian Oryx Regional Conservation Strategy and Action Plan:

First Objective – Completing legislative process in all range states and enhance enforcement of wildlife legislation the implementation of legislation for the protection of wildlife.

Second Objective – Enhance and increase wild Oryx populations

Third Objective – Establish a regional species management plan

Fourth Objective – Provide public support to Arabian Oryx-conservation programmes

Fifth Objective – Build adequate region-wide capacity for all aspects of Arabian Oryx conservation

Sixth Objective – Promote coordination between range states

Seventh Objective – Secure financial sustainable support

The second component of the (2015 – 2019) Action Plan focused on building technical capacities through organizing workshops and training programmes targeting employees at Arabian Oryx institutions in the range states.

To ensure the continuity of GSCAOs' efforts in supporting regional coordination between range states, the updated Action Plan (2022 – 2026) focuses on conservation priorities, and the challenges faced by Arabian Oryx populations. These priorities were determined in consultation with range states. The consultation process also identified some practical and sustainable solutions considering available resources for implementation of the action plan.

The General Secretariat for the Conservation of the Arabian Oryx (GSCAO) was established in 2001 as a regional initiative aimed at coordinating and unifying Arabian Oryx conservation efforts in range states across the Arabian Peninsula. GSCAO is hosted by the Environment Agency–Abu Dhabi (EAD), United Arab Emirates (UAE).

ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN (2015 – 2019)

SUCCESSES, CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

GSCAO seeks to become a leading regional conservation platform through exchanging information and engaging in human capacity building for the employees involved in the conservation of Arabian Oryx.



Thanks to the support provided by the Environment Agency–Abu Dhabi (EAD) and other regional partners, the General Secretariat for the Conservation of the Arabian Oryx (GSCAO) has succeeded in achieving and implementing many initiatives and programmes related to the conservation of the Arabian Oryx. Such programmes and initiatives enhanced knowledge exchange on Arabian Oryx conservation and contributed to promote staff capacities in the range states. Figure (1) numerically summarizes GSCAOs' achievements throughout the course of the strategic action plan (2015–2019) in terms of numbers of regional and international partnerships. Furthermore, it should be noted that most of these events and initiatives were in line with the content of the strategic action plan (2015 – 2019). Those programmes which were not part of this content were implemented, in consultation with the strategic partners, because they emerged as unexpected priorities for implementation throughout the years of the action plan. Table (1) summarizes the implementation progress of the strategic action plan (2015–2019).



Figure 1. GSCAOs' achievements throughout the course of its strategic action plan (2015 – 2019).

Table 1. Conservation priorities of GSCAO's Action Plan (2015 – 2019).

Priority	Prioritized Research Areas	Expected Outcomes	Completion Status	Completion Indicators	Funding	Priority	Prioritized Research Areas	Expected Outcomes	Completion Status	Completion Indicators	Funding
Herd Management	- Best practices for herd management, including individual tagging and tracking, nutrition, housing and husbandry practices in range states	Report on the best practices and standards for herd management	This priority was completed through the following: - Organizing a National Workshop on Arabian Oryx Collections in UAE, 17th November 2015, Dubai, UAE	The workshop was attended by 32 participants, including experts and conservation managers of Arabian Oryx institutions in the UAE. The workshop report can be downloaded via: www.arabianoryx.org	GSCAO and the Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi (EAD) completed the technical, scientific, and media-related preparations for the workshop which was hosted by Dubai Desert Conservation Reserve.				- Training Workshop on Arabian Oryx Records Management in Range States, October 9 – 11, 2017, Abu Dhabi, UAE	The workshop was attended by 41 participants, including experts and conservation managers of Arabian Oryx institutions in the range states. The workshop report can be downloaded via: www.arabianoryx.org	Al Bustan Zoological Center funded the expenses for the participation of experts from the “Species 360” GSCAO and the Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi completed the technical, scientific, and media-related preparations for the workshop was held at EAD headquarters (Al Mamoura Building in Abu Dhabi).
			- Organizing a National Workshop on Standardizing Herd Management of Arabian Oryx Populations in UAE, 31st May 2016, Abu Dhabi, UAE	The workshop was attended by 33 participants, including experts and conservation managers of Arabian Oryx institutions in the UAE. The workshop report can be downloaded via: www.arabianoryx.org	GSCAO and EAD completed the technical, scientific, and media-related preparations for the workshop which was held at EAD headquarter at Al Mamoura Building in Abu Dhabi				- Development of the Arabian Oryx Housing and Husbandry Guidelines, 2018	A group of experts and conservation managers from the following Arabian Oryx institutions contributed to writing up the guidelines: Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi (EAD), Al Ain Zoo, Al Bustan Zoological Center and Marwell Wildlife. The guidelines can be downloaded via: www.arabianoryx.org	EAD funded the expenses to design and publish the guidelines. GSCAO facilitated the work of the advisory group by organizing technical meetings and ensuring the scientific and technical review of the guidelines which were launched during the Sixth Meeting of CCCAO, held in December 2018, Abu Dhabi



Priority	Prioritized Research Areas	Expected Outcomes	Completion Status	Completion Indicators	Funding
Genetic Management	-Genetic management of Arabian Oryx collections -Breeding strategies -Regional exchange of animals -Records Keeping systems -Assisted reproduction	Enhanced understanding of the importance of genetic management Online publication of key findings	This priority was completed through the following: - Regional Workshop on Genetic Management of Arabian Oryx populations in the Range States 13-14 March 2018, Taif, Saudi Arabia	The workshop was attended by 57 participants, including experts and conservation managers of Arabian Oryx institutions in the range states. The workshop report can be downloaded via: www.arabianoryx.org	The Saudi Wildlife Authority hosted the workshop, while GSCAO and the Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi (EAD) arranged the scientific and technical requirements.
Disease and other veterinary aspects	Various disease facing Arabian Oryx in the Range States - Biosecurity, biosafety, and quarantine - Population control and ethical considerations - Vaccination	Increase of contributions of Oryx collections in the Range States to the regional disease survey Increased communication on disease occurrences between collection managers/online forum for veterinarians actively used	This priority was completed through the following: - Carrying out regional surveys for Arabian Oryx diseases in range states in 2015 and 2018	The Arabian Oryx Disease Survey Reports were published on GSCAO's website: www.arabianoryx.org	GSCAO and the EAD arranged the technical and scientific requirements to carry out the veterinary surveys

Priority	Prioritized Research Areas	Expected Outcomes	Completion Status	Completion Indicators	Funding
Reintroduction and rehabilitation	- Public awareness and local people engagement - Post release monitoring - Ex situ/in situ relationship - Transportation guidelines - Carrying capacity - Habitat rehabilitation - Definition of a wild population	Oryx managers have full understanding of actual performance of reintroductions in the range states Challenges and successes of reintroductions Guideline report on transportation is published online and circulated to range states	- Development of the Position Paper titled: "What constitutes a wild population of Arabian Oryx?", April 2017 -Development of a position paper titled: "Overpopulation within Arabian Oryx collections in range states: A review, April 2017"	The position paper was published on the GSCAO's website: www.arabianoryx.org The position paper was published on the GSCAO's website: www.arabianoryx.org	

Challenges to the Implementation of the Strategic Action Plan (2015 – 2019)

The implementation process of the action plan (2015 – 2019) was subject to some challenges that hindered completing some of its targets (Table 2).

Table 2: Key challenges identified throughout the Implementation of GSCAO’s strategic action plan (2015 – 2019).

Challenge	Impact Level	Actions taken to address the challenge
Limited national contributions, at the level of range states, in terms of hosting of workshops and meetings	This challenge impacted the integration of some regional efforts to implement the action plan within its set timeline	Although the key role of GSCAO focused on coordinating the implementation of the strategic action plan, it successfully communicated the importance of its events with its strategic partners. Thanks to the support received from EAD and other partners which ensured that these events were held during the timeframe of the action plan
Some of the contributions in the form of annual reports submitted to GSCAO did not meet expectations	-This challenge impacted the level of sharing information and data on national efforts for the conservation of the Arabian Oryx and their connection to the Arabian Oryx Regional Conservation Strategy and its action plan -The lack of new national data related to conservation of the Arabian Oryx impacted the updating of GSCAO’s website	-GSCAO developed a template for the National Annual Report and shared it with the range states for completion. -GSCAO maintained frequent communications with its national coordinators urging them to provide updated data and media products such as Arabian Oryx photos, to be published on the GSCAO’s website
Limited authority given to some national coordinators by their institutions to directly communicate with GSCAO	This challenge led to GSCAO lacking some information about the latest updates about national programmes of Arabian Oryx conservation such as release and breeding efforts, their successes, and challenges, which could had been linked to the implementation of the strategic action plan	GSCAO engaged in official correspondence with its strategic partners in the range states
Work changes of national coordinators	During the reporting period of the Strategic Action Plan (2015 – 2019), work changes for some national coordinators due to various reasons including retirement and joining new positions, were not reported. These changes impacted data collection to provide GSCAO with latest updates on Arabian Oryx programmes in the range states	GSCAO proposed signing a regional Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between range states on Arabian Oryx conservation. The MoU was presented for discussion during the CCCAO’s sixth meeting held in 2018

GSCAO’S STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN
(2022 – 2026)

Methodology

GSCAO designed an electronic survey, using SurveyMonkey in both Arabic and English. The survey covered the following topics:

- National and regional priorities on Arabian Oryx conservation
- Programmes, activities, and events which the strategic action plan (2022 – 2026) should focus on
- Defining the participation mechanism which can enable national coordinators, biologists, veterinarians, and conservation managers at Arabian Oryx institutions to contribute to the implementation of the strategic action plan
- Types of events that Arabian Oryx institutions can host as part of implementing the strategic action plan
- Challenges that may hinder individual participations of national coordinators, biologists, veterinarians, and conservation managers in GSCAOs’ programmes, activities, and events

The survey was sent in April 2022 to 87 individuals, including national coordinators, biologists, veterinarians, and conservation managers at Arabian Oryx institutions in range states, who participated in all/some/one of the events held by GSGAO between 2015 and 2021 (Table 3). Two additional messages were sent via the email to the targeted individuals urging them to participate in this survey.

Thirty-one individuals, representing 36% of the targeted sample, responded to the survey. This response is deemed to be good for the following consideration:

- The reported response rate (36%) exceeded the average online surveys response rate, amounting to 29% (<https://pointerpro.com/blog/average-survey-response-rate/>).
- Some personal circumstances for some national coordinators may have hindered the response to the survey. These factors included job changes for some individuals, retirement, or changing their workplace.
- Some national coordinators in the range states expressed their inability to respond to the survey within the set deadlines, as they needed to obtain their management approval to do so. This was particularly applicable for some individuals who work for private Oryx collections.
- The survey was sent to more than one person working at the same Arabian Oryx institution. GSCAO was keen on providing all individuals with the opportunity to express their opinions, and suggestions on the priorities of the strategic action plan (2022 – 2026). However, it was realized that some employees working for the same Oryx institution satisfied with the response of one individual only from their institution to the survey, which in turn impacted the overall survey response rate.

Most participants in the survey were working for Arabian Oryx institutions in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) (21 participants, representing 68% of the total participants of the survey). This increase in the participation from UAE could be due to the increasing numbers of Arabian Oryx institutions in the country compared to the ones found in other range states.

Table 3. Number of individuals who participated in the survey for developing the GSCAO’s strategic action plan (2022 – 2026).

State	Number of participants
United Arab Emirates	21
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	3
Sultanate of Oman	2
Kingdom of Bahrain	1
Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan	2
Other States	2
Total	31

National and regional priorities for Arabian Oryx conservation

Survey participants identified several national and regional priorities as per figure 2 and table 4.

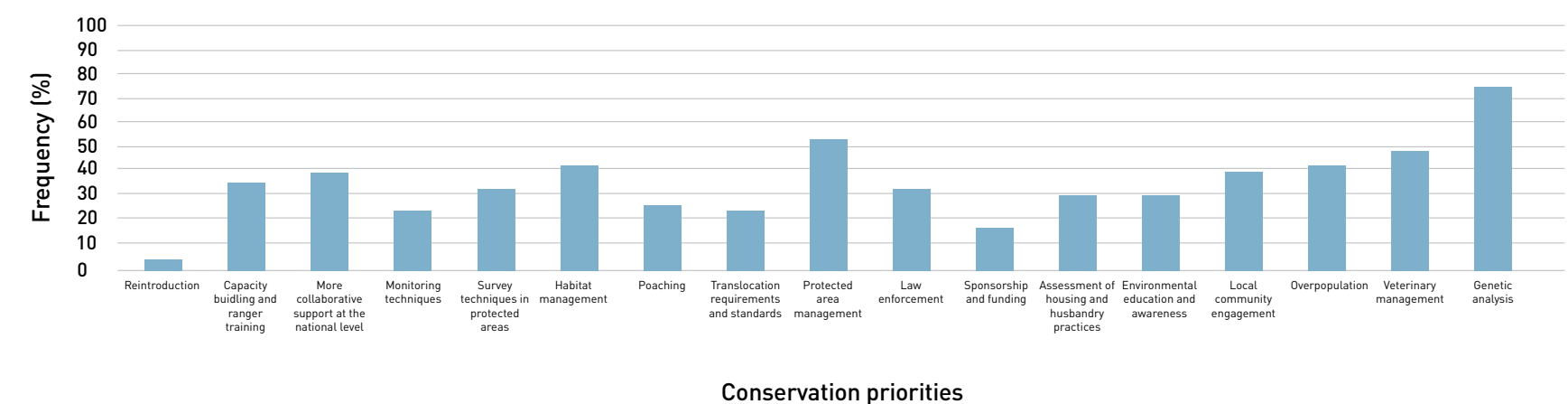


Figure 2 Priorities that should be integrated into GSCAO’s strategic action plan (2022 – 2026) as identified by survey participants from the range states.

Table 4. Top ten priorities related to conservation of Arabian Oryx throughout the Period (2022 – 2026) as per participants’ responses from range states.

	Priorities	Importance Rate (%) according to participants
1.	Genetic management of Arabian Oryx populations	74
2.	Protected area management	52
3.	Veterinary management of Arabian Oryx populations	48
4.	Habitat management	42
5.	Challenges of Arabian Oryx overpopulation	42
6.	Support national institutional cooperation	39
7.	Local community engagement in Arabian Oryx conservation	39
8.	Capacity building and training for rangers	35
9.	Support law enforcement for wild Arabian Oryx populations	32
10.	Techniques and statistics for surveying Arabian Oryx populations in protected areas	32

Table 5 highlights the priorities related to the national conservation of the Arabian Oryx in range states, according to the survey participants.

Table 5. Priorities of Arabian Oryx conservation at the national level.

State	Priorities of Arabian Oryx conservation
United Arab Emirates (UAE)	• Environmental education and awareness programmes • Assessment of Arabian Oryx housing and husbandry practices • More support is needed for Oryx institutional cooperation at the national level • Veterinary management of Arabian Oryx populations • Translocation requirements and standards for Arabian Oryx • Survey techniques for Arabian Oryx populations in protected areas • Challenges of Arabian Oryx overpopulation • Protected area management • Arabian Oryx poaching • Capacity building and training for rangers • Genetic analysis of Arabian Oryx populations • Local community engagement in Arabian Oryx conservation • Sponsorship and funding for Arabian Oryx-related initiatives • Law enforcement • Habitat management • Arabian Oryx reintroduction programmes and monitoring



State	Priorities of Arabian Oryx conservation
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	• Genetic analysis of Arabian Oryx populations • Veterinary management of Arabian Oryx populations • Habitat management • More support is needed for Oryx institutional cooperation at the national level • Local community engagement in Arabian Oryx Conservation • Environmental education and awareness programmes • Sponsorship and funding for Arabian Oryx-related initiatives • Law enforcement • Protected area management • Translocation requirements and standards for Arabian Oryx • Capacity building and training for rangers



State	Priorities of Arabian Oryx conservation
Sultanate of Oman	• Challenges of Arabian Oryx overpopulation • Assessment of Arabian Oryx housing and husbandry practices • Sponsorship and funding for Arabian Oryx-related initiatives • Genetic analysis of Arabian Oryx populations • Veterinary management of Arabian Oryx populations • Environmental education and awareness programmes • Law enforcement • Protected area management • Arabian Oryx poaching • Habitat management • Survey techniques for Arabian Oryx populations in protected areas • Monitoring techniques for marking Arabian Oryx populations • More support is needed for Oryx institutional cooperation at the national level • Capacity building and training for rangers

State	Priorities of Arabian Oryx conservation
Kingdom of Bahrain	• Genetic analysis of Arabian Oryx populations • Veterinary management of Arabian Oryx populations • Challenges of Arabian Oryx overpopulation • Protected area management
Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan	• Protected area management • Genetic analysis of Arabian Oryx populations • Veterinary management of Arabian Oryx populations • Challenges of Arabian Oryx overpopulation • Local community engagement in Arabian Oryx conservation • Sponsorship and funding for Arabian Oryx-related initiatives • Law enforcement • Habitat management • Survey techniques for Arabian Oryx populations in protected areas • Monitoring and techniques for marking Arabian Oryx populations • More support is needed for Oryx institutional cooperation at the national level • Capacity building and training for rangers

How to Respond to the Priorities in the Action Plan?

Due to considerable efforts and financial resources needed, it will be difficult to complete each of these above priorities independently in the strategic action plan. Hence, a cost-effective approach for completing these proprieties would be through **maximizing benefits at low costs**. Accordingly, **these priorities may be classified in terms of their management and scientific similarities**, thus allowing their implementation in one event, programme, or activity, as shown in Figure 3

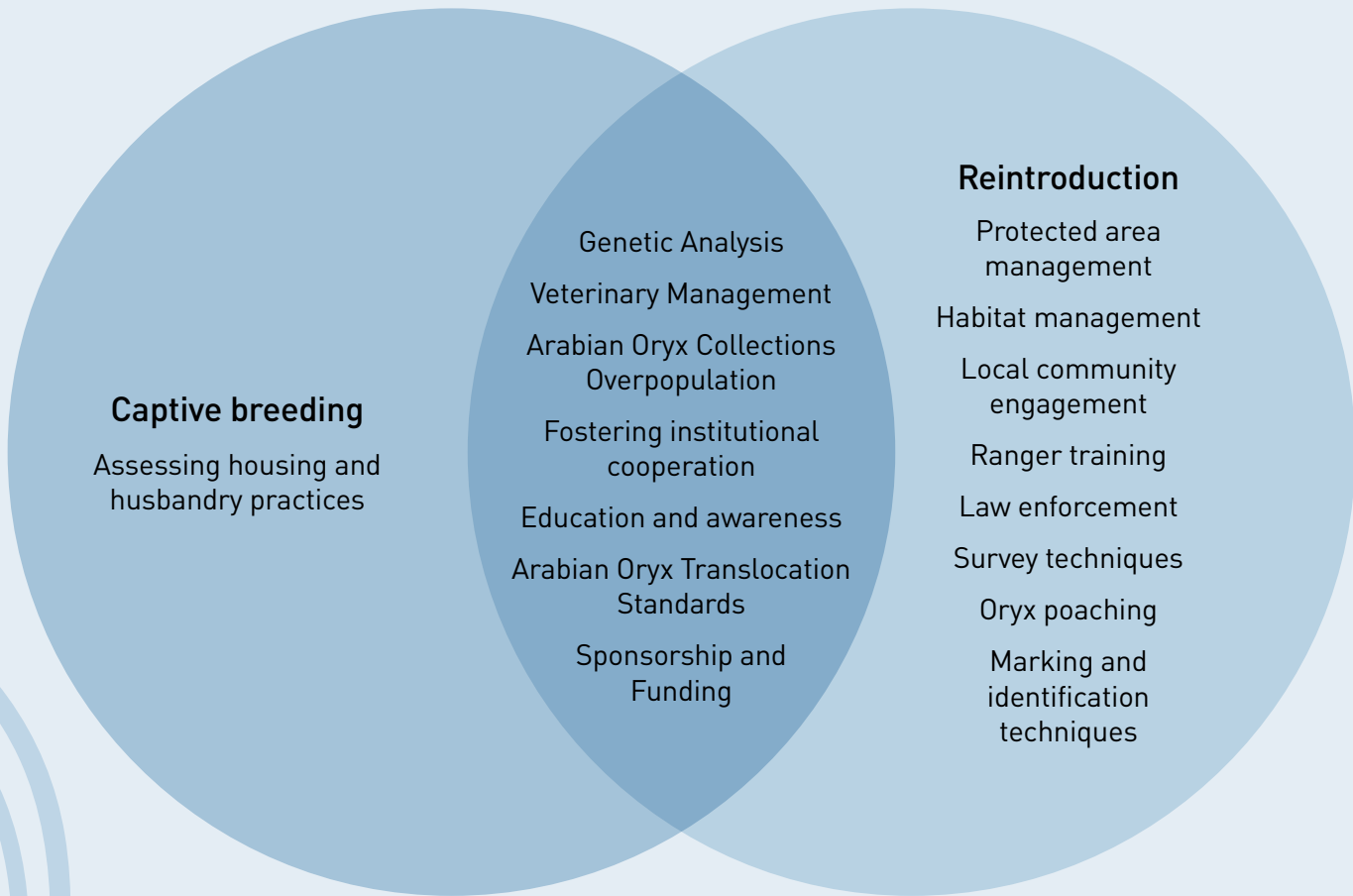


Figure 3. Management priorities of Arabian Oryx conservation in the range states as identified by the survey participants.

What are the most prominent elements which you want to be featured in the GSCAO’s prospective action plan (2022-2026)?

In accordance with the responses provided by the survey participants, it was noted that 65% of the most recurrent responses stressed the importance of developing further guidelines for the management of wild populations of Arabian Oryx in protected areas. This priority was followed by recommendations to organize more seminars on Arabian Oryx conservation, establish regional partnerships, host events in range states, hold training sessions for rangers, and more focus on education and awareness, each achieving, a rate of 58%, 52%, 48%,and 42% respectively out of the most recurrent responses (Figure 4).

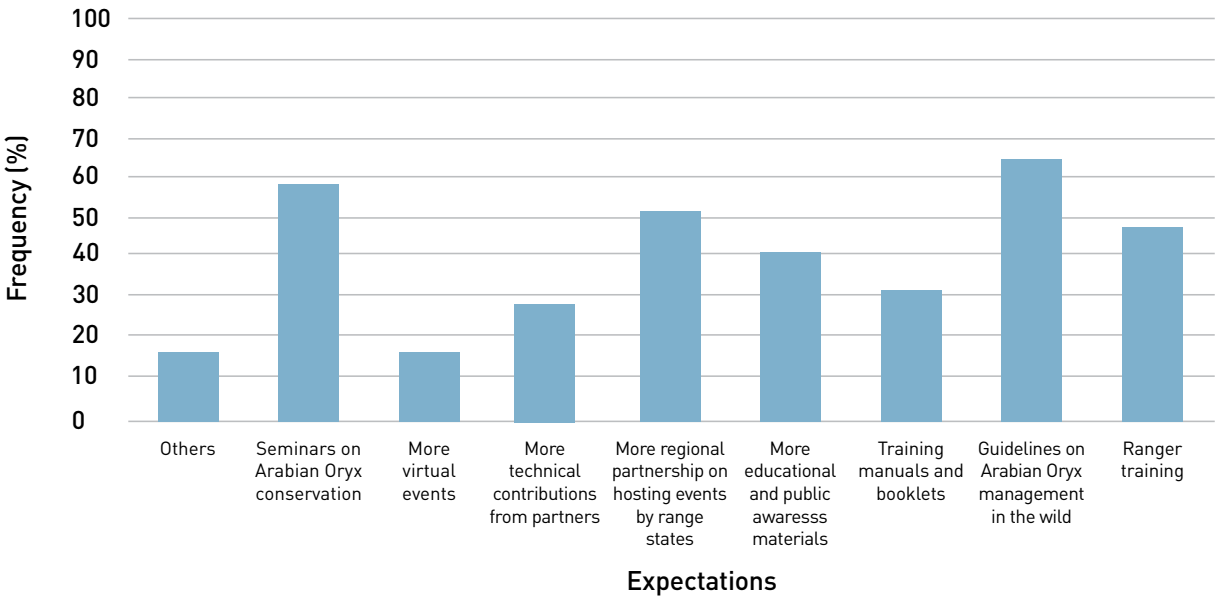


Figure 4. Expectations of survey participants of aspects which need more focus in the GSCAO’s action plan (2022 – 2026).

How to respond to expectations of survey participants in the Action Plan?

These expectations fall within the main mission of GSCAO which is to **facilitate knowledge exchange on Arabian Oryx populations between range states** and promote **practical and scientific capacities** of wildlife specialists, veterinarians, conservation managers, environmental education and awareness specialists, technicians, rangers working at Arabian Oryx institutions in the range states. Hence, the strategic action plan will focus on **developing guidelines for Arabian Oryx management and organizing technical workshops**.

To reflect such expectations on the strategic action plan, GSCAO will work on **developing these proposals, integrating them into the plan, setting up recommendations for relevant workshops, and coordinating the work of its Technical Advisory Group (TAG)** to develop guidelines. GSCAO will also coordinate with its stakeholders to organize some workshops in accordance with the relevant priorities and available resources. In line with such efforts, and with the aim of achieving institutional integration, it is expected that Arabian Oryx institutions in the range states to contribute more to implementation of the action plan, and enhance their regional partnership with the GSCAO, specifically by **taking the initiative to host workshops and scientific seminars**. GSCAO also expects national coordinators and Arabian Oryx experts to intensify their volunteering contributions and be part of the team developing the Arabian Oryx conservation and management guidelines.

The GSCAO's website, www.arabianoryx.org features many resources that can be beneficial to partners, researchers, and individuals interested in wildlife conservation.



How can you contribute to the implementation of GSCAO's Strategic Action Plan (2022 – 2026)?

When survey participants were asked about their expected contributions to implement the GSCAO's strategic action plan, volunteering to become members of GSCAO's Technical Advisory Group (TAG) had a response frequency of 58%, followed by providing a voluntary support at any implementation levels of the action plan (52%), providing media support (48%) and 42% of the response frequencies listed by survey participants were on providing support through launching internal initiatives at their workplace to facilitate the implementation programmes of the action plan (Figure 5).

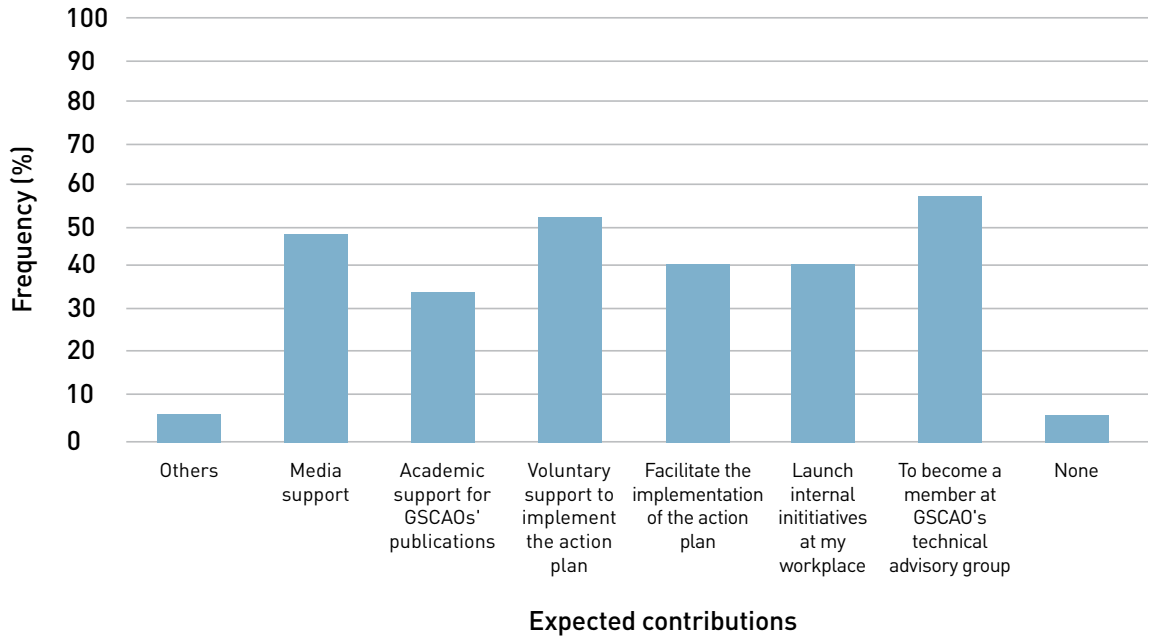


Figure 5. Expected individual contributions to the GSCAO's strategic action plan (2022 – 2026).

How to respond to the expected individual contributions in the Action Plan?

Individual contributions, regardless of their size, are deemed to be one of the **most essential catalysts** for the success of the GSCAOs' initiatives and their continuity. This success was evident through the Arabian Oryx housing and husbandry guidelines, published in 2018 which was a voluntary work initiated by a group of experts who were committed to develop the first ever such guidelines for Arabian Oryx management in the region. In fact, the importance of individual contributions made in the form of volunteering had positive aspects in **supporting teamwork, exchanging expertise and information**, and compiling case studies into a unified guideline to **quantitatively and qualitatively** direct the management of Arabian Oryx populations to meet the **minimum and international standards on the species conservation requirements**.

As virtual communications through electronic and digital platforms either at the institutional or individual levels have proven to be an essential tool in the business environment, **investing in such communications** can effectively contribute to building the voluntary teamwork of TAG for discussing initiatives and implementation mechanism of the strategic action plan. Moreover, through the course of the timeline of the action plan, GSCAO will continue to benefit from its previous expertise in developing guidelines using the following tools:

- Updating terms of reference document of the Technical Advisory Group (TAG)
- Receiving individual volunteering applications, analyzing them, and determining their levels and topics of contributions in accordance with the initiatives listed in the action plan
- Coordinating the TAG meetings in accordance with its objectives
- Assigning tasks to TAG and setting a timeline for implementation
- Providing support in accordance with the available resources to enable TAG to perform its tasks as per required standards
- Contacting national and international organizations and institutions involved in the conservation of the Arabian Oryx for establishing collaborative initiatives
- Auditing and reviewing guidelines and seeking management approval for publication

Which of the following events, related to the conservation of the Arabian Oryx, you think the institution which you work for will be interested to host?

When the survey participants were asked about the interest of their institutions to host some of GSCAOs' events, responses varied, and the response rate for each option was less than 50%. Figure 6 provides an overview of the most frequent responses, where the possibility of hosting a training field trip ranked first, followed by hosting an online seminar. Whilst the possibility of institutions to host an Arabian Oryx workshop or a meeting had 29% of the response frequencies.

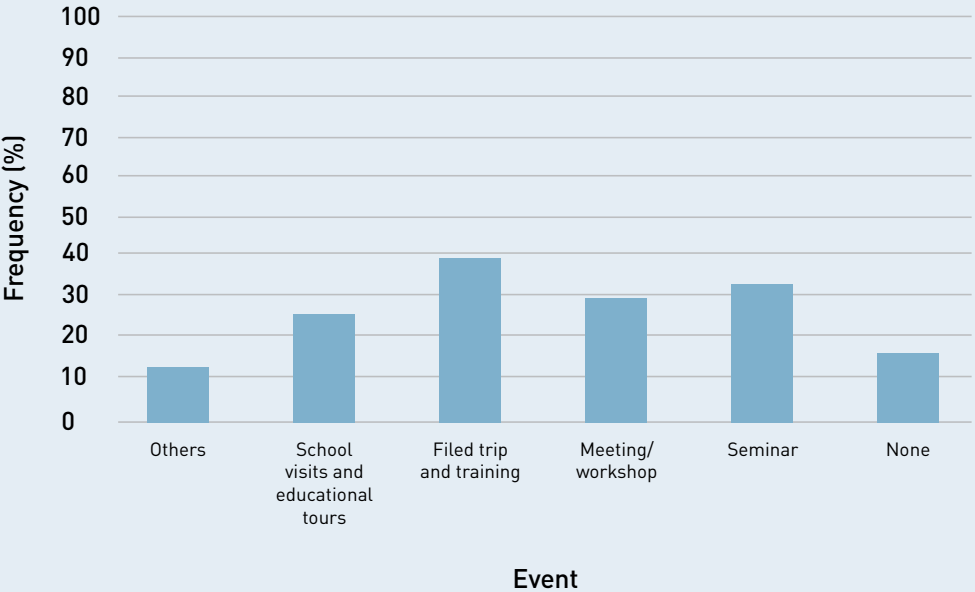


Figure 6. Expectations of survey participants on the engagement levels of their institutions to host GSCAOs' events.

How to address individual contributions in the action plan?

The participant responses in this survey reflect their personal views concerning the willingness of their institutions to host GSCAOs' events of the action plan (2022-2026). Hence, these views remain personal and not official responses of the Arabian Oryx institutions. On the other side, the responses highlight the importance of enforcing the role of GSCAOs' national coordinators in the range states through:

- **Intensifying individual communication** between GSCAO and national coordinators to identify collaborative opportunities and resources for implementing the action plan
- **Identifying institutional cooperation opportunities and resources**, thus supporting regional collaboration
- **identifying incentive tools** to attract national, regional, and international contributions to host **events of the action plan**

What are the obstacles and challenges that may hinder your participation at GSCAO activities and programmes?

When the survey participants were asked about the major obstacles and challenges which they think might hinder their contributions to GSCAOs' events, 52% of reported responses stated they need to have a permission from their institution to do so, followed by lack of sufficient time for contributions, confidentiality of their institutional data (29% and 23%, respectively). Additionally, some protected areas at in the range states are independent of institutions where the national coordinator works. Hence, the national coordinator would find it difficult to provide GSCAO with required data about Arabian Oryx populations in these protected areas.

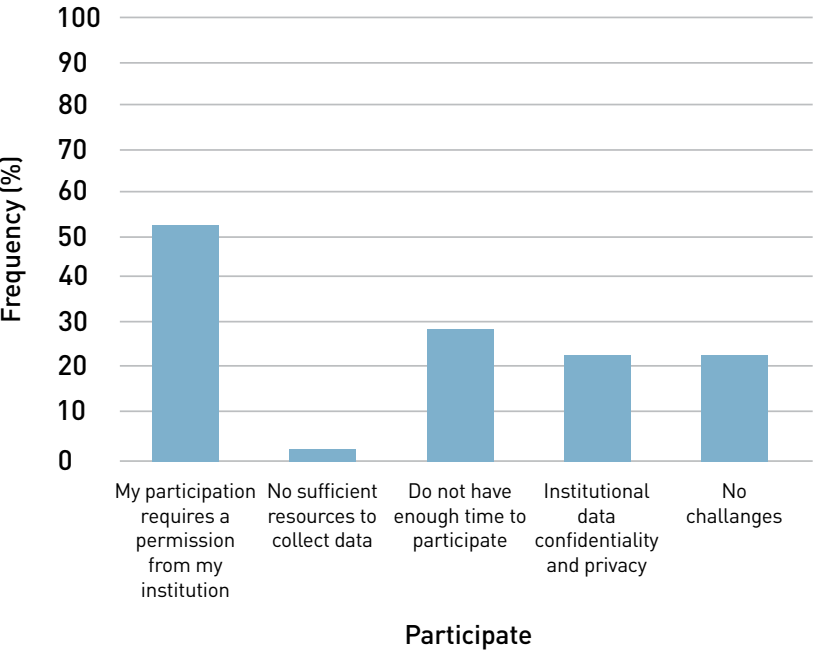


Figure 7. Challenges related to individual contributions to regional initiatives.

How to address the expected obstacles and challenges in terms of the implementation of the action plan?

To address such challenges and provide the best support possible to national coordinators, GSCAO will:

- Update the terms of reference document on the roles and responsibilities of national coordinators in line with levels of their empowerment, workload, and available resources
- Contact partners in range states to nominate national coordinators in accordance with the updated terms of reference document
- Enhance the use of electronic correspondences with regional partners of Arabian Oryx conservation in the range states
- Use social media platforms to ensure frequent communications with the national coordinators
- Visit national coordinators at their Arabian Oryx institutions where they work in range states

Individual scientific contributions are an essential element for GSCAO to achieve its objectives related to the conservation of the Arabian Oryx and its natural habitat.

Other proposals and recommendations

Some of the survey participants provided the following suggestions and recommendations:

- It is important for range states to provide the support needed for carrying out a genome study on Arabian Oryx populations
- It is important that the outcomes of the Arabian Oryx conservation programmes to focus on quality rather than quantitative criteria only
- Encourage the exchange of Arabian Oryx populations among range states as a mean to enhance genetic diversity, engage research institutions and facilities in the species conservation
- Enhance the communication network between GSCAO and its institutional and individual partners in the range states

Hosting workshops of GSCAO's strategic action plan by range states, this is considered as a mean of integrative regional collaboration to achieve the objectives of this action plan.

FRAMEWORK OF GSCAO'S ACTION PLAN (2022-2026)

Vision

Facilitate knowledge sharing and contribute to capacity building in the range states to meet international standards for conservation and management of Arabian Oryx populations.

According to the analysis of the survey findings and priorities related to the national conservation of the Arabian Oryx in range states, Table 6 details the framework of implementing the strategic action plan (2022 – 2026).

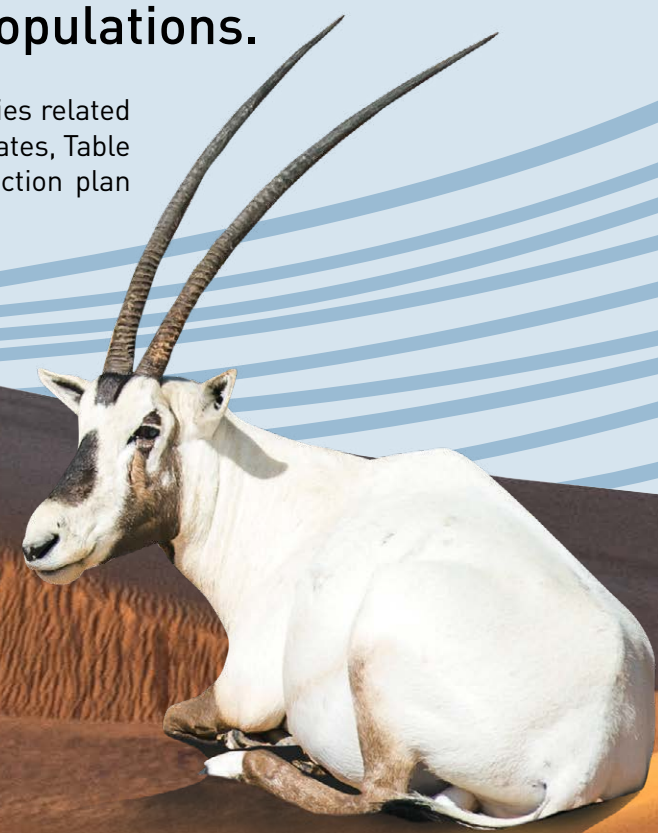


Table 6. Implementation framework of GSCAO's strategic action plan (2022-2026).

Implementation role: ● Leading role ○ Supporting role

Objectives	Inputs	Deliverable outcomes	Expected Completion Year	Procedures	GSCAO's Role	Partners' Role
Objective No. 1: Design a questionnaire to carry out a field survey related to priorities of the Strategic Action Plan (2022 – 2026) priorities, expectations, and challenges	-National conservation priorities - Individual and institutional contributions - Expectations - Challenges and obstacles	-Survey questionnaire - Strategic Action Plan (2022 –2026) document	2022	Procedure 1-1: Designing an electronic questionnaire and ensure that it is reviewed, approved, before sharing with range states	●	○
				Procedure 1-2: Completing the survey questionnaire		●
				Procedure 1-3: Analyzing the survey data	●	
				Procedure 1-4: Elaborating the Strategic Action Plan (2022 – 2026) Document, and ensuring its review, approval, and publishing	●	
				Procedure 1-5: Elaborating the Strategic Action Plan (2022 – 2026) Document, and ensuring its review, approval, and publishing	●	

Objectives	Inputs	Deliverable outcomes	Expected Completion Year	Procedures	GSCAO's Role	Partners' Role
Objective No. 2: Organizing the CCCAO's seventh meeting (One day, virtual event)	- Updated reports on efforts of Arabian Oryx at the national levels - Updated Terms of Reference on roles of national coordinators - Launching the GSCAO's website	- Meeting minutes - Updating the terms of Reference document on GSCAOs' national coordinators in the range states	2023	Procedure 2-1: Developing the meeting proposal	●	
				Procedure 2-2: Sending invitations and receiving nominations from range states	●	○
				Procedure 2-3: Preparing meeting minutes and sharing them with range states for approval	●	○
Objective No. 3: Organizing a regional workshop on the reintroduction of Arabian Oryx in range states	- Protected area management -Habitat management - Genetic analysis and criteria for the reintroduction of Arabian Oryx - Arabian Oryx overpopulation - Local community engagement in Arabian Oryx conservation - Arabian Oryx counting, tracking, and survey-related techniques - Supporting law enforcement, of Arabian Oryx wild populations - Arabian Oryx Poaching challenges - Education and awareness	Workshop report detailing the progress of the various aspects related to the reintroduction programs of Arabian Oryx in range states	2024	Procedure 3-1: Developing a proposal for the workshop and sharing it with range states	●	
				Procedure 3-2: Nominating experts to participate in workshop		●
				Procedure 3-3: Hosting the workshop, for two days by one of the range states		●
				Procedure 3-4: Developing and publishing the workshop report	●	

Objectives	Inputs	Deliverable outcomes	Expected Completion Year	Procedures	GSCAO's Role	Partners' Role
Objective No. 4: Surveying demographic data, housing and husbandry practices of Arabian Oryx populations in range states	- Arabian oryx numbers - Population demography data - Health status - Marking techniques and records keeping	Final survey report Approved for publishing	2024	Procedure 4-1: Drafting and approving the survey questionnaire	●	
				Procedure 4-2: Sharing the survey questionnaire with range states	●	
				Procedure 4-3: Completing the survey questionnaire		●
				Procedure 4-4: Analyzing the survey's questionnaire, Developing the survey report, and ensuring its approval for publication	●	
Objective No. 5: Developing the guidelines on marking techniques and survey methods of Arabian Oryx populations in protected areas	- Arabian Oryx marking techniques (advantages and disadvantages of each technique) - Survey methods of Arabian Oryx populations (Strength and gap analysis)	Guidelines on marking, monitoring, and surveying Arabian Oryx populations protected areas	2024	Procedure 5-1: Establishing Technical Advisory Group (TAG) to develop the guidelines	●	○
				Procedure 5-2: Completing the survey questionnaire	○	●
				Procedure 5-3: Analyzing the survey data, drafting the final report, and ensuring its approval and publication	●	○

Objectives	Inputs	Deliverable outcomes	Expected Completion Year	Procedures	GSCAO's Role	Partners' Role
Objective No. 6: Workshop on the genetic analysis of Arabian Oryx populations in range states (Two days)	- Current genetic management practices for Arabian Oryx populations - Genetic impact of internal breeding among individual Oryx - Genetic criteria for selecting individuals Oryx for reintroductions - Genetic diversity - Modern techniques for genetic enhancement - Exchange of Arabian Oryx populations between breeding facilities to promote the species genetic diversity (case study) - Arabian Oryx studbook Benefits and required actions	Approved workshop report	2025	Procedure 6-1: Developing and approving the workshop proposal	●	○
				Procedure 6-2: Nominating experts to participate in the workshop	●	○
				Procedure 6-3: Hosting the workshop, for two days by one of the range states	○	●
				Procedure 6-4: Developing and publishing the workshop report	●	
Objective No. 7: Organizing the Eighth Meeting of CCCAO (one day)	- Reviewing achievements during the action plan (2022 – 2026) - Discussing implementation challenges of the plan and provide recommendations to resolve these challenges - Discussing Terms of Reference of national coordinators - Identifying priorities of the next action plan	Meeting minutes	2026	Procedure 7-1: Developing the meeting proposal	●	
				Procedure 7-2: Sending invitations and receiving nominations from the range states	●	○
				Procedure 7-3: Developing meeting proceedings and sharing them with range states for approval	●	○

Objectives	Inputs	Deliverable outcomes	Expected Completion Year	Procedures	GSCAO's Role	Partners' Role
Objective No. 8: Surveying demographic data, housing and husbandry practices of Arabian Oryx populations in range states	- Arabian oryx numbers - Population demographic data - Health status - Marking techniques and records keeping	Final survey report Approved for publishing	2026	Procedure 8-1: Developing and approving the survey questionnaire	●	
				Procedure 8-2: Completing the survey questionnaire		●
				Procedure 8-3: Analyzing the survey questionnaire and Publish its report	●	



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