



24

20 Year Landmark

Celebrating 20 years of ACAP

ACAP entered into force 1 February 2004

www.acap.aq

ACAP's objective

To achieve and maintain a favourable conservation status for listed albatrosses and petrels.



A CONSERVATION CRISIS

In 2019 a conservation crisis for albatrosses and petrels was declared by ACAP's Advisory Committee.



Seabirds are one of the most threatened group of birds, with 30% of species considered globally threatened (19 Critically Endangered, 34 Endangered and 58 Vulnerable), a further 11% listed as Near Threatened, and 57% of species known to be in decline.

Haskell, L., Zurita, P. & Skov, M. 2022. State of the World's Birds. BirdLife International



Ross Wheeler

SPECIES ON ANNEX 1 OF THE AGREEMENT



IUCN Red List:

3 Critically Endangered, 8 Endangered, 10 Vulnerable, 7 Near Threatened, 3 Least Concern

31 ACAP-listed Species:

22 albatrosses

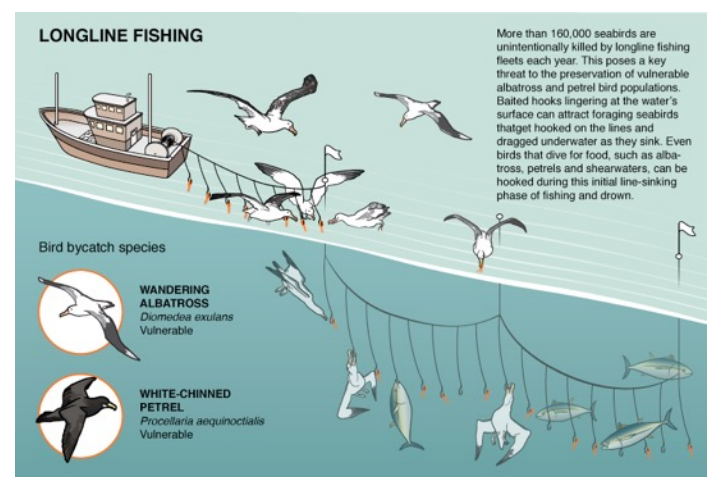
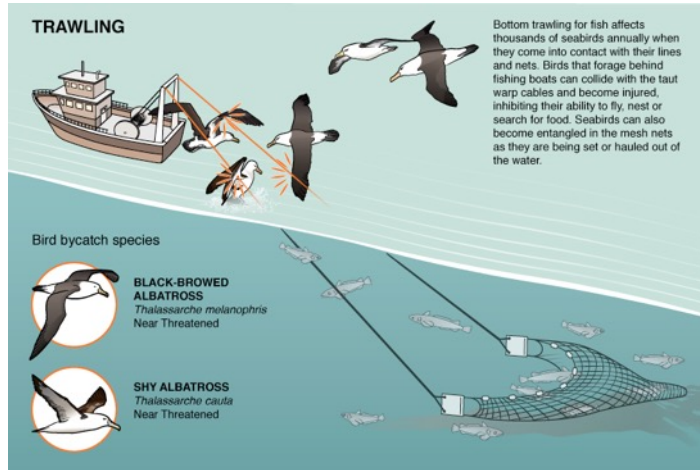
7 petrels

2 shearwaters

THREATS FACING ALBATROSSES & PETRELS – AT SEA



FISHERIES



Illustrations by Emily Eng

ACAP'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN ADDRESSING THESE THREATS

Best Practice Mitigation Advice (BPA)

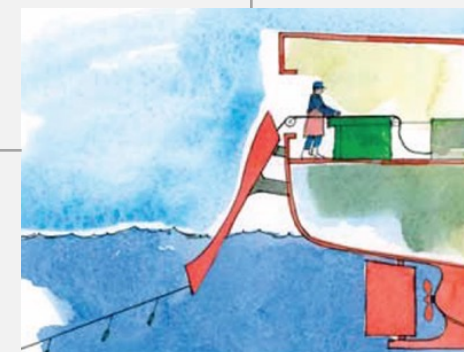
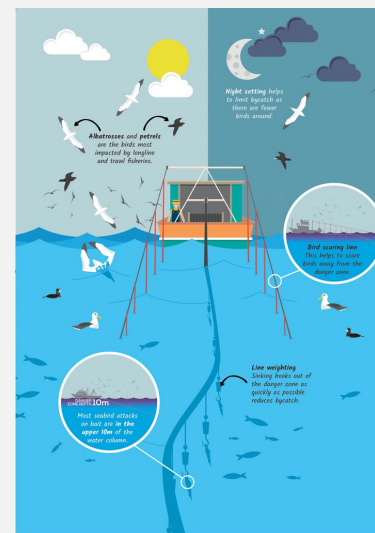
Most deaths are avoidable if ACAP best practice is followed

ACAP recommends a combination of three measures in long line fisheries :

- Bird Scaring Lines
- Night Setting
- Line Weighting

Guidelines: electronic monitoring (EM), observer data gathering, EM implementation in international fisheries

Engagement with certification schemes



Underwater Bait Setter

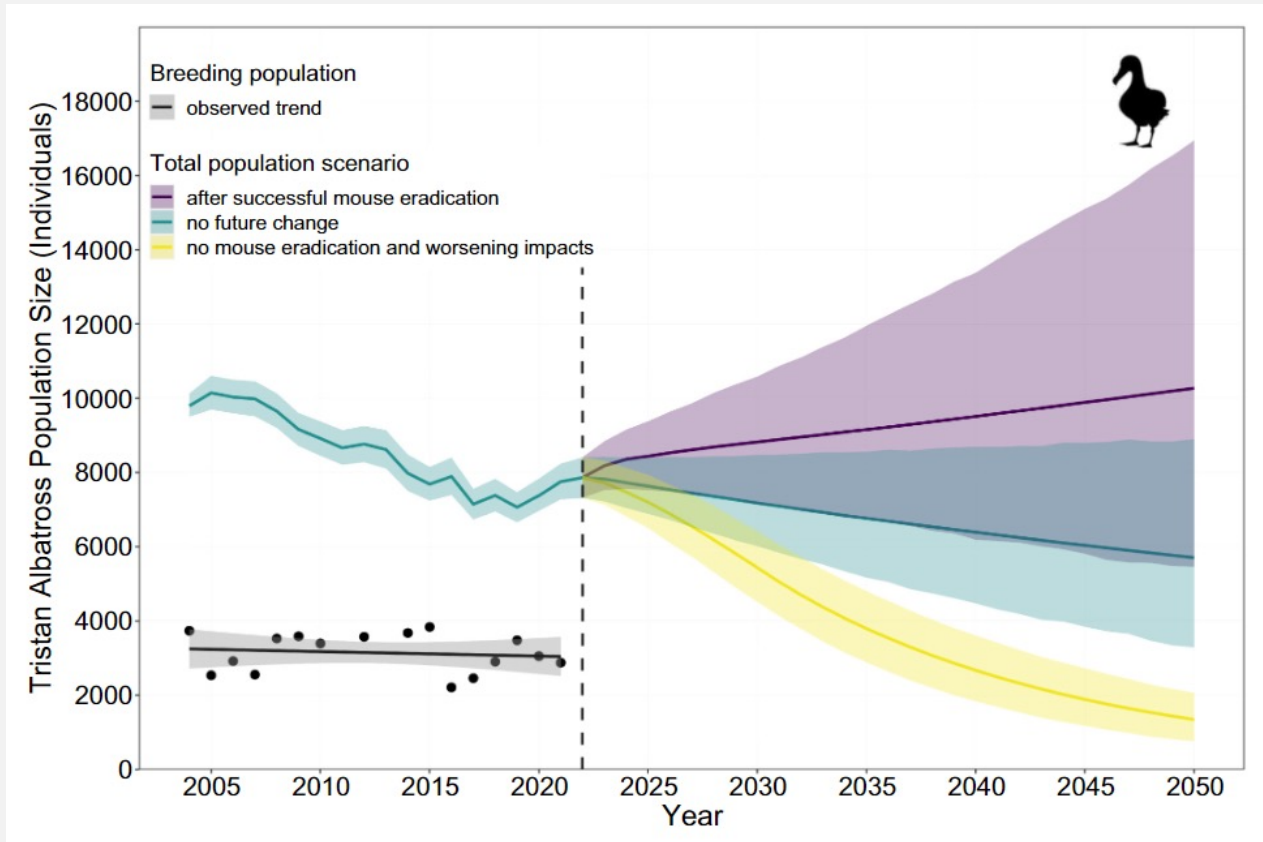


Certification schemes



Hook shielding devices

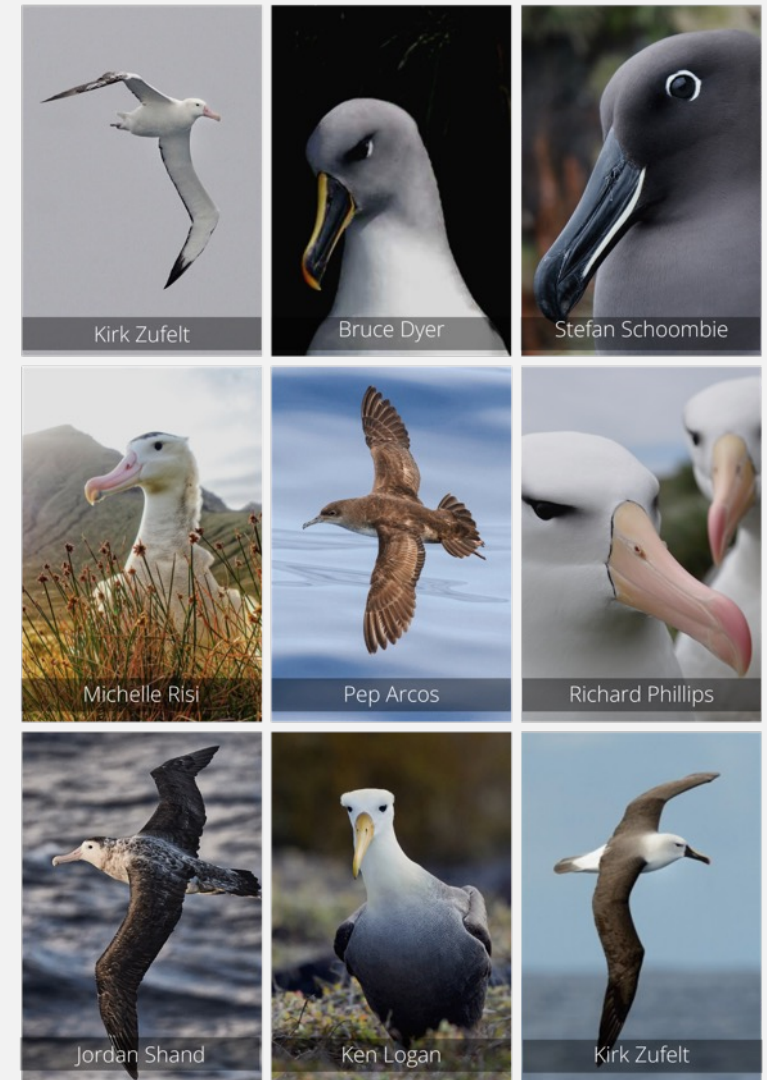
Other Threats to albatrosses & petrels



Oppel, S., Clark, B. L., Risi, M. M., Horswill, C., Converse, S. J., Jones, C. W., Osborne, A. M., Stevens, K., Perold, V., Bond, A. L., Wanless, R. M., Cuthbert, R., Cooper, J., & Ryan, P. G. (2022). Cryptic population decrease due to invasive species predation in a long-lived seabird supports need for eradication. *Journal of Applied Ecology*, 59, 2059–2070. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1365-2664.14218>

ACAP High Priority Populations

Species	Island group
Wandering Albatross	South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur) ¹
Black-browed Albatross	South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur) ¹
Tristan Albatross	Gough Island
Sooty Albatross	Crozet Islands
Grey-headed Albatross	South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur) ¹
Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross	Amsterdam Island
Waved Albatross	Española Island
Antipodean Albatross	Antipodes Islands
Balearic Shearwater	Balearic Islands



¹ A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty of the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas), South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands (Islas Georgias del Sur e Islas Sandwich del Sur) and the surrounding maritime areas.

ERADICATION & RESTORATION PROGRAMMES

Macquarie Island

Eradication of rabbits, rats and mice
2007 - 2014



Antipodes Island

Eradication of mice
2016 - 2018

Auckland Island

Eradication of feral pigs, cats and mice
In planning



South Georgia (Islas Georgias del Sur)¹

Eradication of reindeer, rats and mice
2008 - 2018

¹A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty of the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas), South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands (Islas Georgias del Sur e Islas Sandwich del Sur) and the surrounding maritime areas.

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS



ACAP recognized globally



ABNJ Common Oceans Tuna Programme



Population assessments
Status & trends of all ACAP-listed species



Development of standard, revised taxonomy
for albatrosses



Comprehensive online database



Guidelines for HPAI H5N1



Assessing socio-economic factors



CHALLENGES



- Many ACAP-listed species are in decline
- Implementation by Parties
- Compliance
- Growing the ACAP family
- Expense & logistics of eradication programmes
- Managing High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza
- Data collection and reporting
- Development of mitigation measures:
 - trawl & demersal longline fisheries
 - small scale & artisanal fisheries



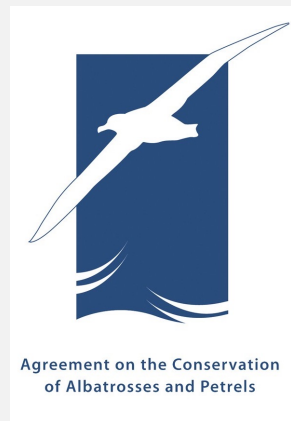
Origins of ACAP



- 1990s: Concern about the impact of fisheries on seabirds



Development of the Agreement ●



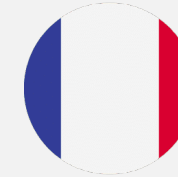
- 19 June 2001: The Agreement was signed (and now the date of World Albatross Day)

ACAP PARTIES & SUPPORTERS

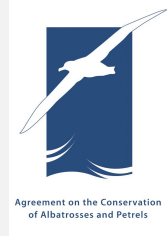
Parties to the Agreement

Argentina	France	South Africa
Australia	New Zealand	Spain
Brazil	Norway	United Kingdom
Chile	Peru	Uruguay
Ecuador		

- Who can be a Party?
- What are Parties committing to?
- What are the advantages of being a Party?
- Are there other ways to be involved? (Observers, including from Range States)
- See the ACAP website on how to join:
<https://www.acap.aq/about-acap/joining-acap>



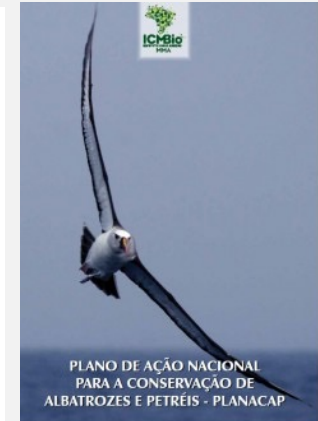
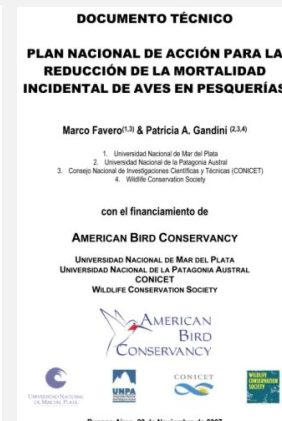
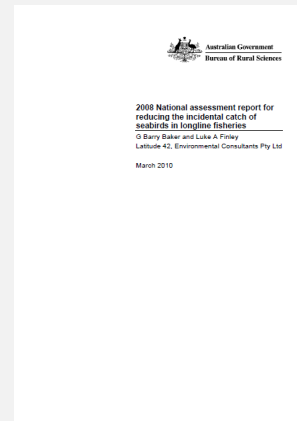
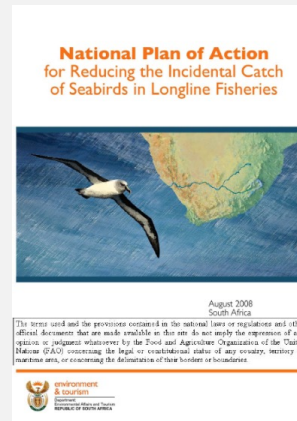
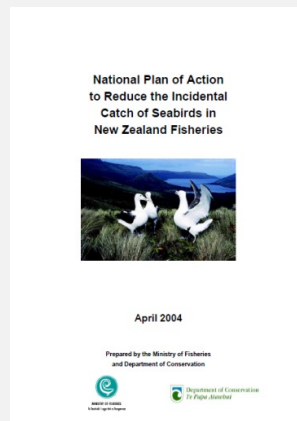
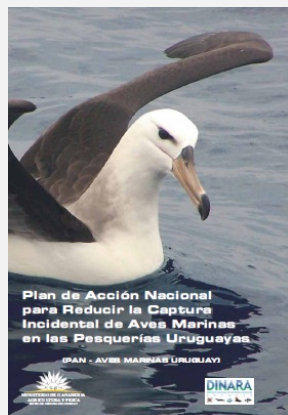
Tackling the issues



- All ACAP Parties have individually and/or in regional cooperation arrangements, set in place mitigation measures based on ACAP advice

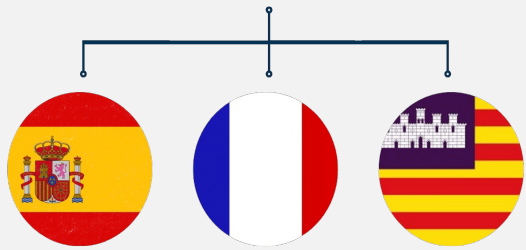


- Many have adopted National Plans of Action – Seabirds

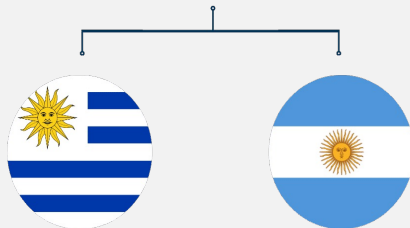


PLANS OF ACTION: National, Regional, International

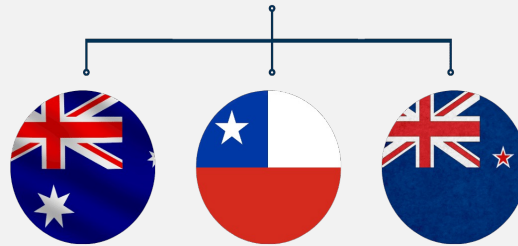
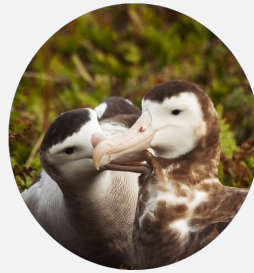
Balearic Shearwater



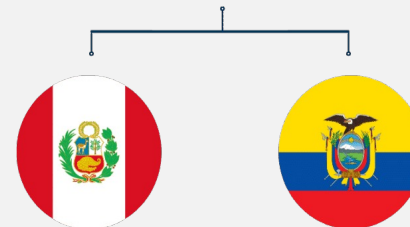
RPOA - Seabirds



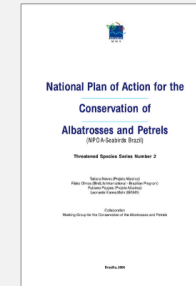
Antipodean Albatross



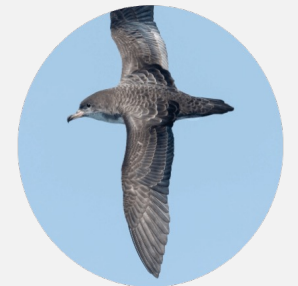
Waved Albatross



PLANACAP



Pink-footed Shearwater



ACHIEVEMENTS: ACAP PARTIES & RANGE STATES



Observer coverage & mitigation measures



Twin bird-scaring lines = 90% reduction in mortality



Comprehensive seabird tracking programme



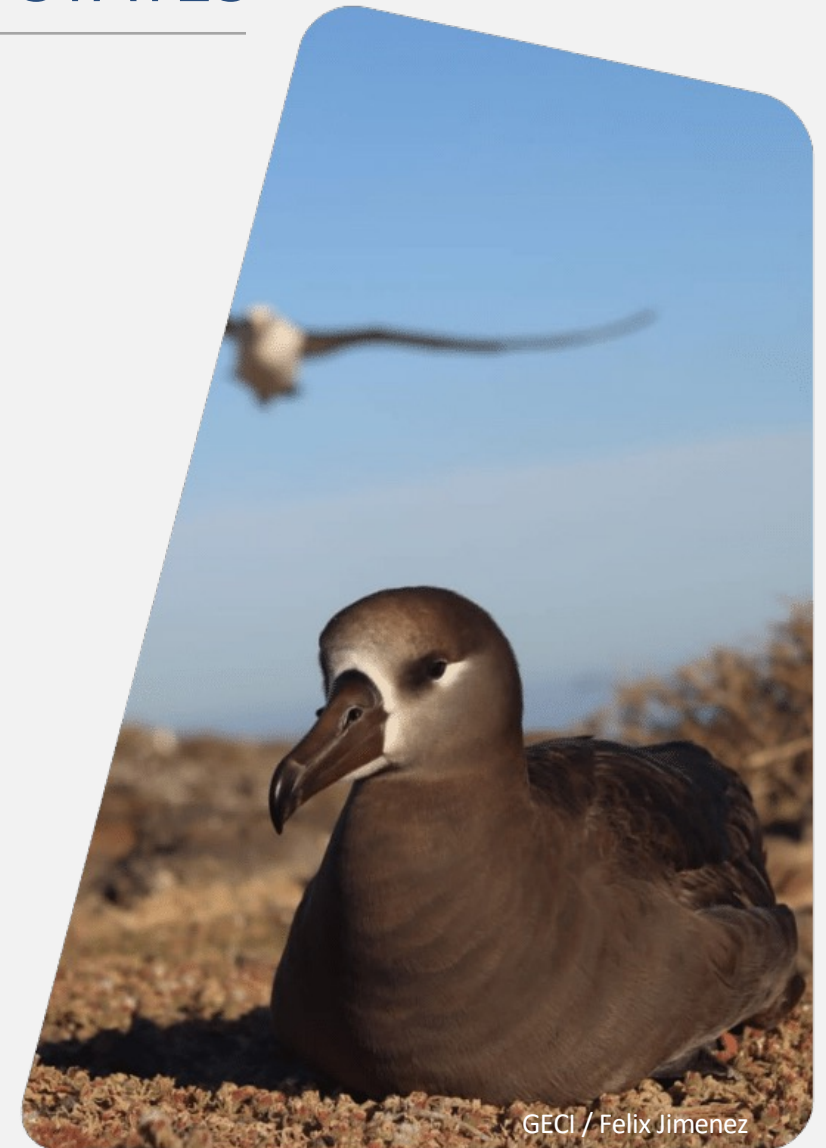
Development of mitigation measures for continuous trawl fisheries using net monitoring cables



Project with NZ to mitigate bycatch in artisanal longline fishery

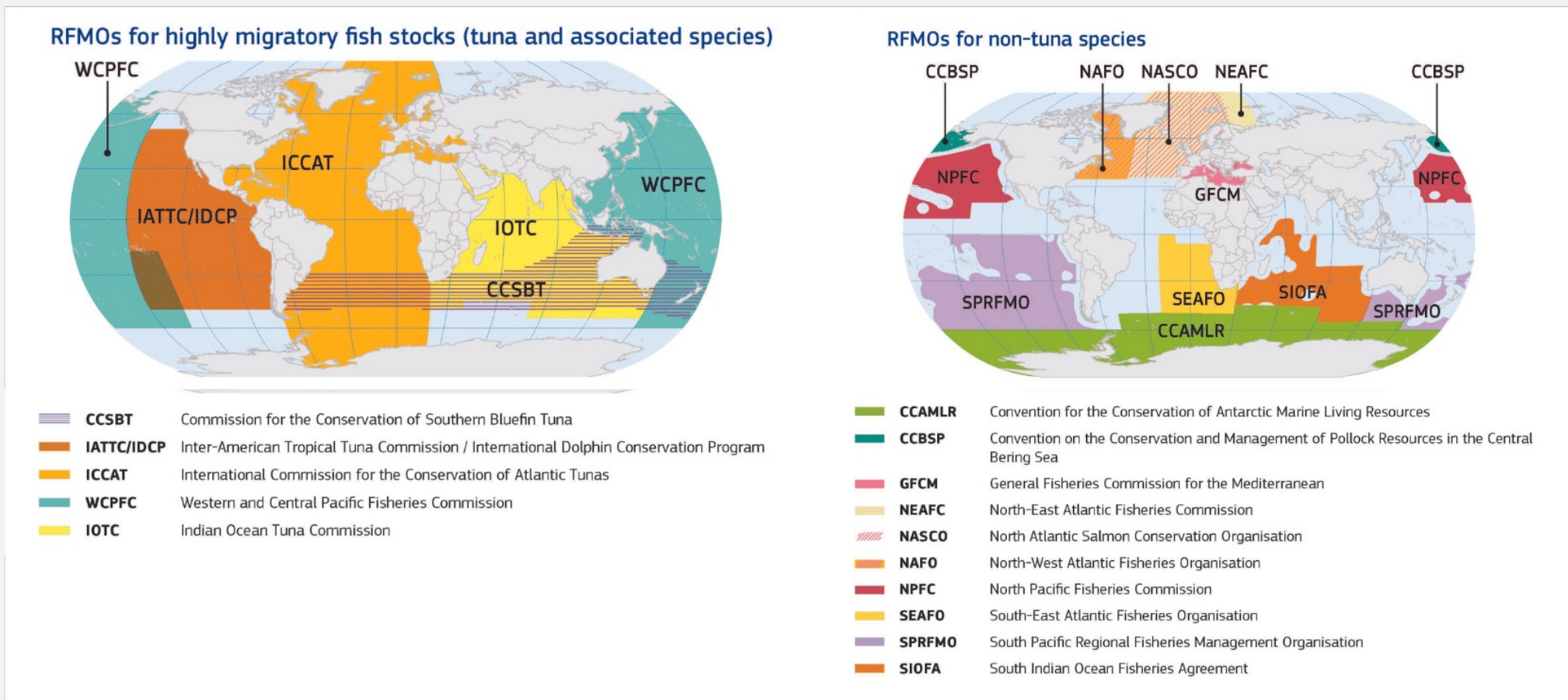


Translocation project

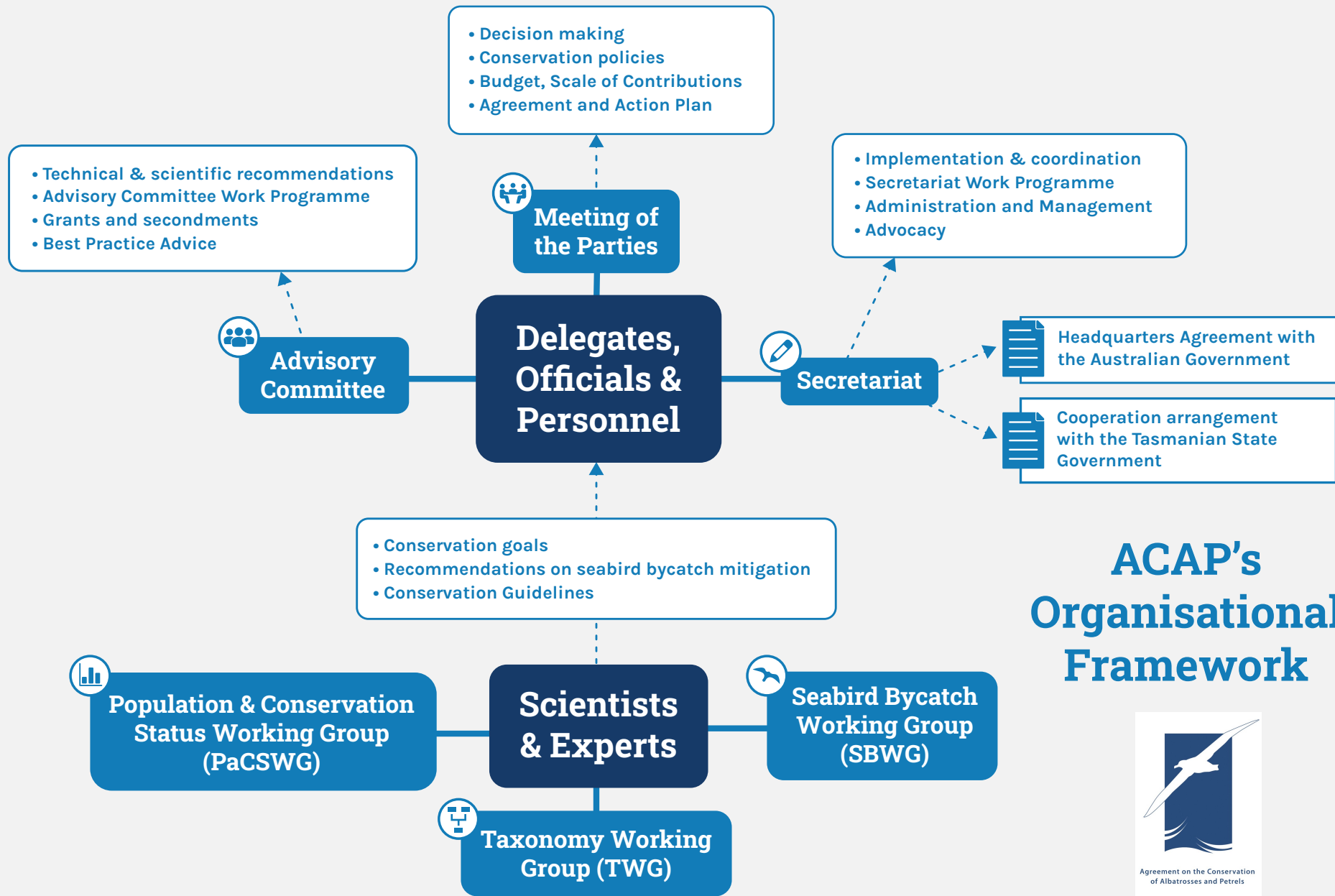


GECI / Felix Jimenez

Multilateral Engagement: UN, FAO, CMS, RFMOs, CCAMLR



Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (European Commission). 2022. [Regional fisheries management organisations of which the EU is a member](#). DOI: 10.2771/073752



ACAP Resources

Conservation Guidelines and other outreach material

Seabird bycatch mitigation advice

Data collections guideline

Safe handling and release guidelines

Mitigation factsheets

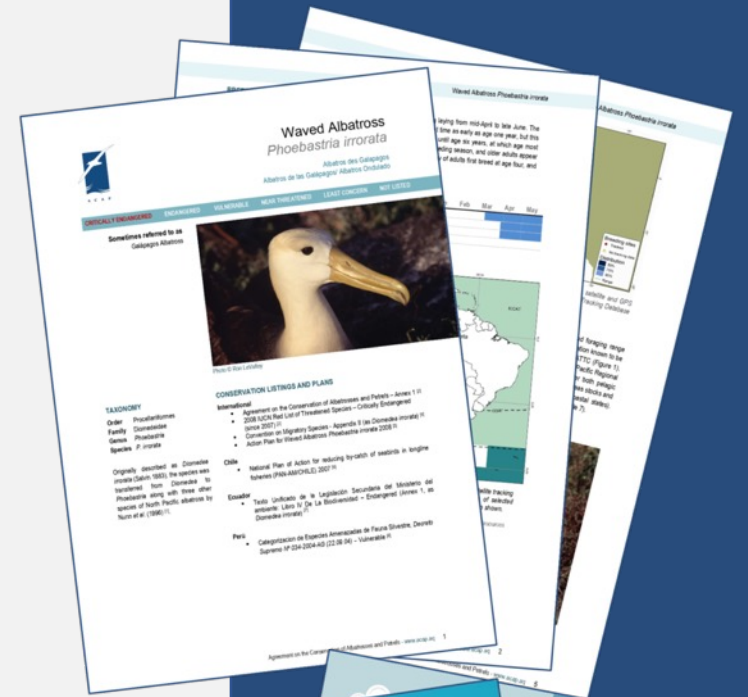
Species assessments

Species identification guides

Sampling guidelines

Light pollution guidelines

And more..... <http://www.acap.aq>



ACAP CAPACITY BUILDING

Small Grants

2023: Instituto del Mar del Perú

Enabling mitigation measures in the southern Peruvian artisanal longline fleet targeting sharks to reduce the bycatch of albatrosses and petrels

Secondments

2023: Brazil (IMAP) – IAPC7

Training workshop offered to Parties representatives, and other relevant stakeholders, on the risks and biosecurity measures applied to ACAP Species in the context of the High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza (HPAI H5N1)



Jolene Giacinti, Veterinary Epidemiologist and Wildlife Health Specialist, Environment and Climate Change Canada



Ralph E. T. Vanstreels, Latin America Program, Karen C. Drayer Wildlife Health Center, University of California - Davis, USA (based in Argentina)

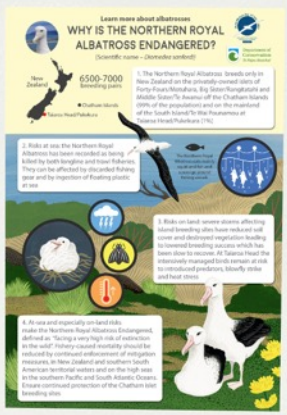


Patricia Pereira Serafini, Federal University of Santa Catarina & National Centre for Wild Birds Conservation & Research –CEMAVE/ICMBio/MMA/Brazil



Amandine Gamble, Department of Public and Ecosystem Health, Cornell University, USA

The four members of the ACAP HPAI H5N1 Intersessional Group who will be facilitating the HPAI workshop at IAPC7



#WORLDALBATROSSDAY

19 JUNE

Themes

- 2020: Eradicating Island Pests
- 2021: Ensuring Albatross Friendly Fisheries
- 2022: Climate Change
- 2023: Plastic Pollution
- 2024: Marine Protected Areas



OPPORTUNITIES

Taking into account ecosystem impacts of fisheries

New international instruments:

- Kunming-Montreal Global Diversity Framework
- BBNJ agreement (not yet in force)

Electronic monitoring development

Phase 2 of the FAO ABNJ Common Oceans Tuna Project

Analysis of gaps between RFMO Conservation Management

Measures & ACAP BPA



Peter Ryan

OPPORTUNITIES ACAP PARTIES

Planned & future eradications/habitat restoration projects



South Africa: “Mouse-Free Marion – Sponsor a hectare”
<https://mousefreemarion.org>



France: Planned eradication project on Amsterdam Island



New Zealand: additional eradications on Auckland Island



United Kingdom: Gough Island mouse eradication

Further development of action plans for species/regions



THANK YOU



ACAP'S influence will increase if we can expand the community of champions for albatrosses and petrels. Traversing the globe, often far out to sea, they are for some, invisible birds and their plight is little known. ACAP's newly developed communications strategy will increase awareness of these spectacular species and highlight what can be done to end the conservation crisis they face. We all have a role to play in this vital endeavour.

ACAP Executive Secretary, Dr Christine Bogle and ACAP
Advisory Committee Chair, Dr Michael Double
ACAP: Achievements in the First 20 Years



World Albatross Day 2024 poster design by Geoff Tyler