



Proposal for Striped Hyena Inclusion in CMS and in the 2026-2031 Program of Work for the Central Asian Mammals Initiative

Presenter: Fattokhov Khursand (CEP),
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Agenda

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CMS Contribution to Conservation and Sustainable Use

Global Platform

For conservation of migrating animals and their habitats.

Transboundary Cooperation

CMS supports cross-border collaboration.

Legal Framework

For coordinated conservation measures across migration ranges.



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National Status of the Hyena



Historical Range

Once common in southwestern Tajikistan's plains and foothills.

Population Data

Without CMS listing, the striped hyena risks disappearing from much of its range—current conservation measures remain inadequate to prevent regional extinction.

Current Status

This species' low charismatic appeal has led to its chronic underrepresentation in conservation funding priorities.

Striped hyena (*Hyaena hyaena*) is listed in the Red Data Book of the Republic of Tajikistan with the conservation status CR (Critically Endangered)



Global Status of the Hyena

1

IUCN Red List

Listed as Near Threatened in 2014.

2

Data Deficiency

Significant lack of data on hyena numbers and distribution.

3

Population Estimate

5,000 - 10,000 individuals is a rough estimate without real proof.

Due to data deficiencies and population uncertainty, the striped hyena's current global assessment might require reevaluation.

Roughly 30 individuals remain in southeastern Tajikistan (based on camera traps, tracks, and local reports)

Hyenas clean ecosystems by consuming carrion, reducing disease spread (e.g., livestock carcasses)

Threats to Striped Hyenas

Poaching without justification by hunters

Capturing hyena cubs as exotic pets

Killing for body parts (vagina, anal glands etc.) due to northern traditions

Decline of large wild cats (leopards, tigers)

Retaliatory killing due to human-hyena conflict

Decline in natural prey availability

Human population growth

Cultivation of new lands

Increased use of livestock guardian dogs

Insufficient cross-border co-operation



Rationale for CMS and CAMI Inclusion

The hyena maintains multiple transboundary populations, demonstrating the species' frequent migratory behavior.

Transboundary populations in Central and South Asia:



Tajikistan–Afghanistan
TAJ–Uzbekistan



Turkmenistan–Iran
TKM–Afghanistan



Uzbekistan–Afghanistan
UZ–Turkmenistan
UZ–Tajikistan

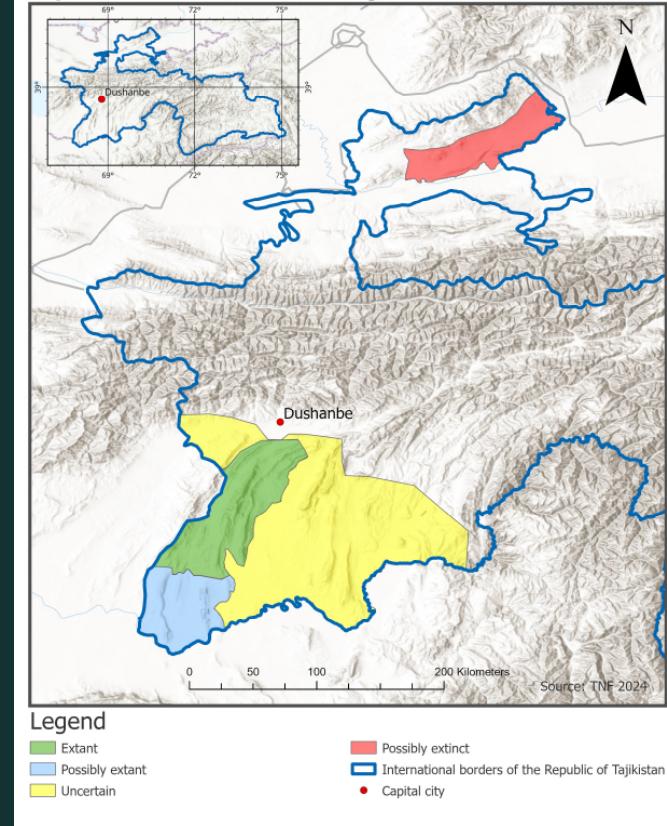


Iran–Iraq
IRA–Afghanistan
IRA–Pakistan

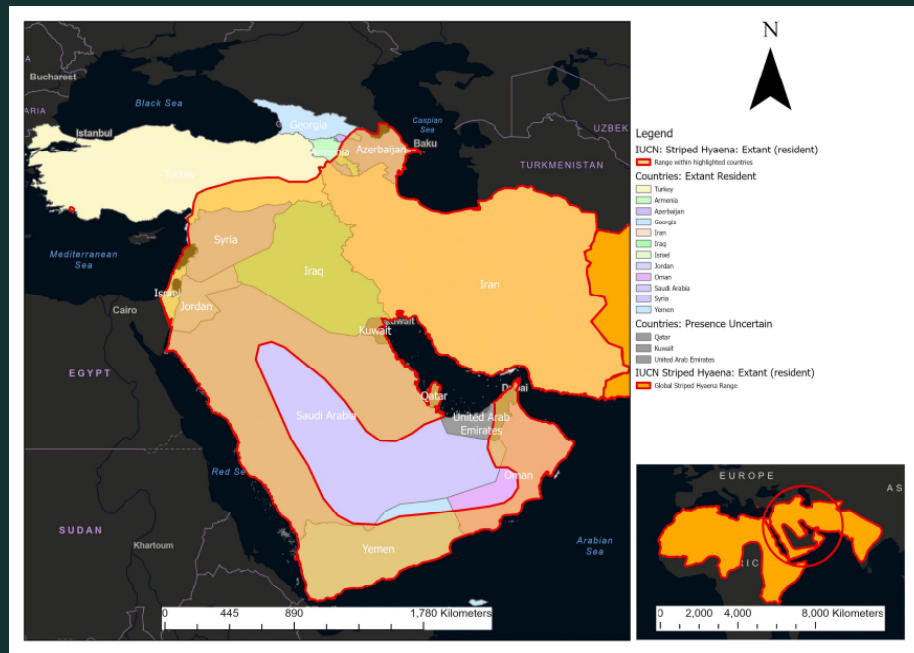


Afghanistan–Iran
AFG–Pakistan

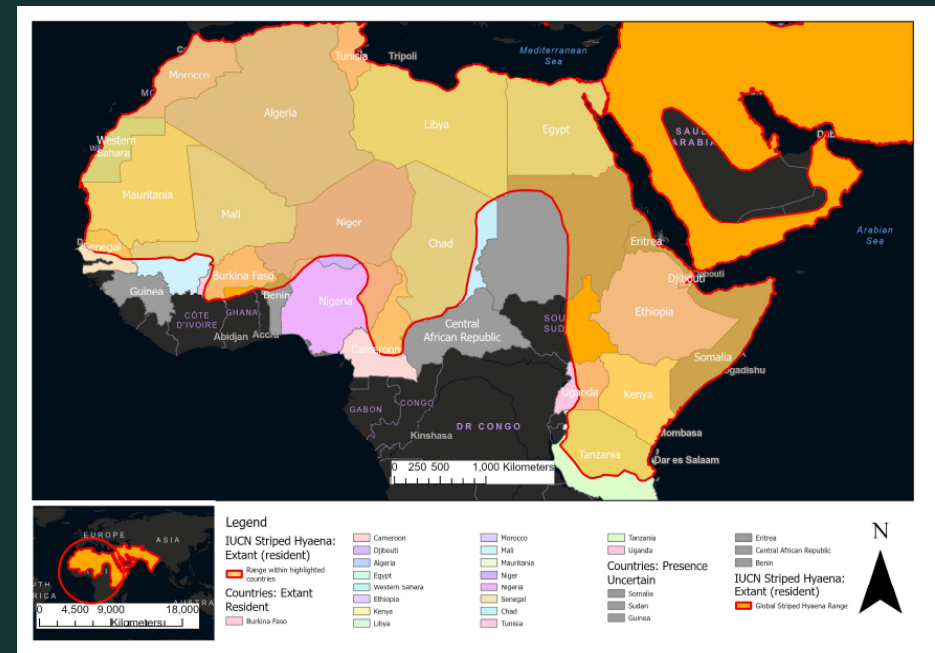
Estimated distribution of striped hyena habitat in Tajikistan



Rationale for CMS and CAMI Inclusion



Middle East



Africa



Long-term goals and objectives for species conservation



Inclusion in CMS
and CAMI

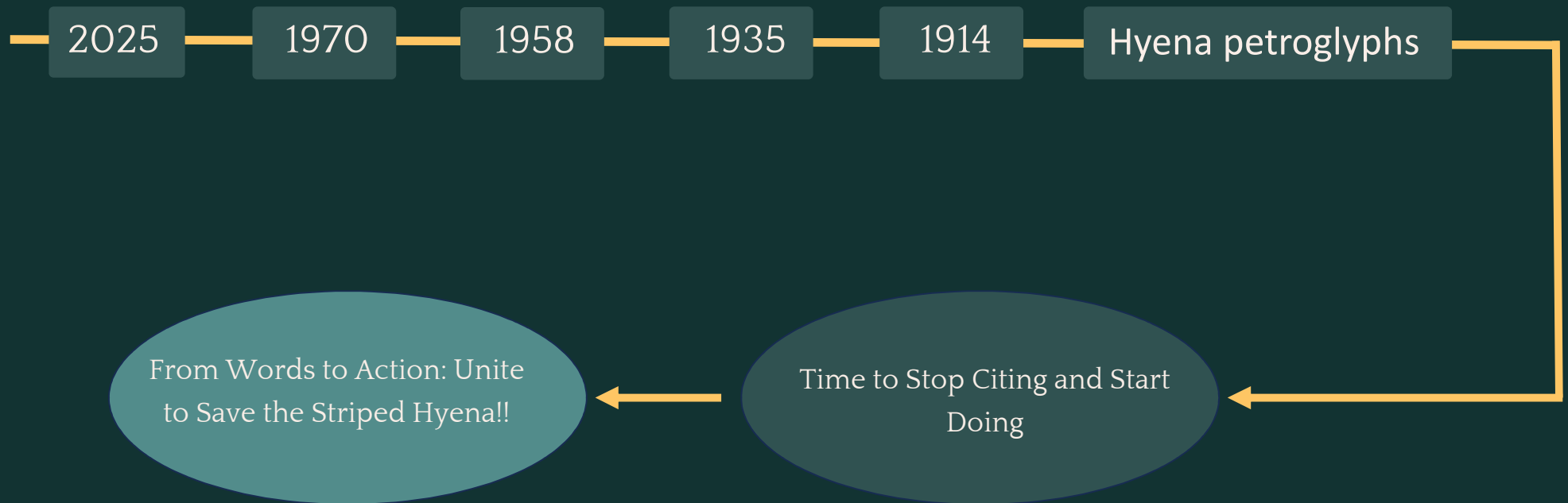


CITES Upgrade for a
Stricter Control



IUCN Red List
Status Assessment

Action Plan for Hyena Conservation



Securing a Protected Future for the Striped Hyena



The striped hyena faces significant threats. Inclusion in CMS and CAMI is essential. This inclusion will promote conservation efforts. Protecting this species and its habitat requires global cooperation.