

A long-tailed hummingbird with iridescent green and black feathers is perched on a thin, dark branch. Its long, thin beak is extended upwards. The background is a soft-focus forest scene with brown and green tones. A large, white, curved graphic element is on the left side of the slide.

**Safe Flyway meeting**

**2 June 2026**

Ideas that fly.

# WHO WE ARE

## ESSENTIAL FACTS

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- First environmental NGO in Lebanon
- Established in 1986
- ...A... national, non-geographic, non-sectorial, non-political environmental NGO
- BirdLife partner in Lebanon
- First IUCN member in Lebanon
- World leader in Hima revival to conserve the IBA's and KBA's



## Our mission

SPNL AIMS TO PROTECT NATURE, BIRDS AND BIODIVERSITY OF LEBANON TO ENSURE SUSTAINABLE USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES THROUGH THE HIMA APPROACH.



# SPNL pillars of establishment

## **Two pillars:**

- Establishment of protected area system.**
- Contribution to the organization of hunting in the country.**

# HUNTING PROBLEM

- Hunters shoot on anything that flies
- Regardless of species, season, time, tools,....
- Even migratory soaring birds



- **2<sup>nd</sup>** most important flyway
- **400** recorded bird species
- **291** regularly occurring
- **100%** bird species illegally killed
- **2.6 million IKB per year**



Social hobby embedded within our culture. 5

# PARTNERSHIP WITH CABS

1 to 11 Sept 2017

Joint CABS / SPNL operation 'Safe Haven':  
documenting acts of illegal hunting before  
hunting season



# ANTI POACHING UNIT - APU

- Established April 2018
- Identify violations
- Prosecute violators in collaboration with ISF



# ANTI POACHING UNIT - APU

APU is working on several fronts in order to promote hunting law enforcement:

- establishing contact & partnerships with hunter groups.
- Establishing partnership with internal security forces.
- Organizing patrolling missions to identify and document hunting violations.
- Organizing awareness sessions with schools, youth,....& Shooters.
- .....
- Organizing alternative activities to hunting & IKBs.



# CONCEPTS OF APU

Launched its easy and clear equation that is close to the mentality of the hunter and the environmentalist together, which shows the difference between (hunter/shooter) - (prey/bird) - (responsible hunting/irresponsible hunting),

## HUNTER

practices responsible sustainable hunting, and hunts prey that is permitted to be caught during the hunting season. He must adhere to the specified numbers for each trip.



## SHOOTER

he does the opposite, and uses illegal methods of hunting, such as nets and lime sticks, lighting trees at night, and luring birds with bird sound machines.

# Safe Flyway 3

## 36 months

Project duration (2023-2025)

## 3 blackspots

Project implementation

## Conservation

### 20 new Himas

Declared during the project

### 26 Himas

GIS mapped & WDPA adopted

### ~6.5%

Of Lebanon's territory conserved

## Education

### 1,240 students (1200)

SNOW programme

### 233 youth (90)

Homat Al Hima

## Outreach

### 66 hunters (20)

Changed behavior

### 1680 people reached (1500)

behavior change

### 69 Hima police trained (60)

Capacity building

### 49 injured migratory birds (20)

### 463 violation cases (150)

held by ISF in collaboration with APU





# Main Drivers of Success

- Continued collaboration with independent environmental advocates and responsible hunters.
- APU focused on maintaining robust connections with ISF leaders.
- Successful awareness campaigns and workshops engaged diverse audiences.
- Conducted joint enforcement missions with ISF and police
- Promoted sustainable hunting alternatives (e.g., archery, photography).
- Signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the CABS and the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) to combat illegal wildlife trade.
- In several cases, documented violations were referred to judicial authorities, demonstrating progress from field detection to legal accountability.



# Main Challenges

- political and/or religious leverage to avoid any repercussions for their actions.
- The aggressive nature of the Lebanese people during the difficult economic times.
- Economic situation that has been escalating in the country since 2017; in addition to the security situation in South Lebanon.
- The lack of enough funding for the Internal Security Forces rendering them unable to move around the blackspots freely
- The outbreak of war in Lebanon and the resulting security risks forced the suspension of on-ground activities from the end of September onward. Therefore, restricted access to certain areas due to safety concerns hindered the APU's ability to carry out field missions.

**ANTI-POACHING UNIT**  
وحدة مكافحة الصيد الجائر

القتل الجائر يدمر الصيد والطبيعة

**قسم الصياد المستدام**

لأنني ابن الطبيعة والعارف بكاناتها...  
لأنني مؤمن بأن الصيد هو نعمت سخرها الله لنا أقسم بالله  
وبشرطي ومعرفتي وقناعاتي ألا أكون سوى :  
صياد حارس للطبيعة  
وحرص على توالفها  
اصطاد ما يؤكل  
من الطيور المسموح بصيدها  
ولا أقتل لأجل القتل  
أحافظ على الطيور المفقودة بالأنراض  
لا أستلزم أساليب ممنوعة في الصيد  
أسألكم بتوجيه كل شخص  
حول الأماكن التي يمكن الصيد  
عن الطبيعة وطورها  
ومضرا بسمعة الصيادين  
وأعلاقات هوايتك الصيد.

**أنت شريك في مكافحة الصيد الجائر**

**CALL**

- قوى الأمن الداخلي 112 أو إرسال صور  
ومعلومات موثقة على خدمة (بلغ) موقع  
lebisf و www.isf.gov.lb  
- وزارة البيئة : 1789  
- وحدة مكافحة الصيد الجائر APU عبر صور  
ومعلومات موثقة على 81/329199

مركز الشرق الأوسط للصيد المستدام

# URGENT NEEDS

Support APU work through tools, equipment and running cost.

Establish model RHAs per each Mohafazat.

Support work on injured MSB birds rescue.



**Middle East Sustainable Hunting Center**  
وحدة مكافحة الصيد الجائر  
ANTI - POACHING UNIT

**ASSAD ADEL SERHAL WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY PRIZE**  
جائزة أسعد عادل سرحال لتصوير الحياة البرية

**أبطال صيد الربيع بندقية الكاميرا**  
الصيادون المشاركون في المسابقة  
حسب الترتيب الأبجدي

أندره ثابت - إيلي كرم - بيتر ليشع - تسولاك هركليان  
جاد بو رقول - خليل نعم - ربيع صالحه - روني خوري  
سامر حلواني - شادي سعد - طوني بجاني - ظافر النخلاوي  
محمد حيمور - ميلاد خالد - هديل حية

تنتهي المسابقة في حزيران  
نصوت لهم في تموز على صفحة المسابقة facebook  
Middle East Sustainable Hunting Center  
نحتفل بالفائزين ونوزع لهم الجوائز النقدية في آب 2021 خلال حفل خاص

**MSB** Maintaining Conservation of Migratory Scaring Birds In its Key Productive Sectors Along The Rift Valley-Red Sea Flyway

**gef** **UNDP** **BirdLife INTERNATIONAL** **MAVA**

# PARTNERSHIP



- To protect these amazing beneficial creatures.

Thank you



Samy Azar®  
WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY



**SPNL**  
homat al hima