

Research Networking Programme – EURAPMON

Research and monitoring *for* and *with* raptors in Europe

WORKSHOP – INVENTORY OF EXISTING RAPTOR MONITORING IN EUROPE

FINAL REPORT TO ESF

SUMMARY

This EURAPMON workshop focused on the science in relation to inventory of existing raptor monitoring activities in Europe (EURAPMON Work Package 2), with particular emphasis on existing monitoring for raptors (i.e. monitoring of raptor population status and trends). Limited time was given also to inventory of monitoring with raptors (i.e. using raptors to monitor contaminants and other environmental pressures). It built on considerable preparatory work, notably: (a) development of an online **questionnaire** for inventory of monitoring for raptors (to be launched, following the workshop, on the EURAPMON website); and (b) appointment of **National Coordinators** (NCs) to support the inventory within their respective countries.

The **objectives** of the workshop were: to present preliminary overviews of current monitoring for raptors activities in each country; to present and refine as necessary the online questionnaire of existing monitoring for raptors; to bring together, brief and motivate National Coordinators; establish next steps for successful conclusion of the inventory of existing monitoring for raptors; and to discuss the approach to inventory of existing monitoring with raptors. These objectives were all achieved, through an opening plenary, 6 working sessions presenting preliminary overviews of existing monitoring for raptors for 26 countries, plenary discussion of the questionnaire, and a closing wrap up session. In addition, the meeting explored synergies with the United Nations Convention on Migratory Species, Memorandum of Understanding on Conservation of Migratory Raptors in Africa and Eurasia (Raptor MoU).

This well-attended workshop was very successful in meeting its objectives. Participants gained a common understanding of EURAPMON. They shared and discussed overviews of existing monitoring for raptors for 26 countries (covering over 90% of the territory covered by EURAPMON). The online inventory was presented and refined and a roadmap was agreed for successful completion of the inventory. An approach to the inventory of monitoring with raptors was developed. Important synergies were identified with the Raptor MoU. The workshop was a vital step towards successful conclusion of the inventory of existing monitoring for raptors in Europe and thus a vital step in establishing a sound analytical basis for remaining EURAPMON work packages. It brought together, briefed and motivated NCs who will play a vital role in ensuring as comprehensive a response as possible to the EURAPMON questionnaire, and who can play a vital role in expanding the network to a wider range of participants, and in contributing to the success of work package 2 and subsequent work packages.

OVERVIEW OF SCIENTIFIC CONTENT AND DISCUSSION

This EURAPMON workshop focused on the science in relation to inventory of existing raptor monitoring activities in Europe (EURAPMON Work Package 2), with particular emphasis on existing monitoring for raptors (i.e. monitoring of raptor population status and trends). Limited time was given also to inventory of monitoring with raptors (i.e. using raptors to monitor contaminants and other environmental pressures).

This inventory work is of fundamental importance to EURAPMON as it underpins other work packages (WP3 Analysis of user needs; WP4 Identification of priorities; WP5 Sharing of best practice; WP6 Capacity-building; WP7 Development of a European-level database).

The workshop built upon considerable preparatory work, notably:

- development of an online **questionnaire** for inventory of existing monitoring for raptors (to be launched, following the workshop, on the EURAPMON website); and
- appointment of **National Coordinators** to work with EURAPMON to support the inventory of existing monitoring for raptors within their respective countries (by the start of the workshop, National Coordinators had been appointed for 33 countries covering over 90% of the EURAPMON territory, with good prospects that most other countries will be covered).

The **objectives of the workshop** were to:

- present preliminary overviews of current monitoring for raptors activities in each country;
- present the online questionnaire of existing monitoring for raptors;
- bring together, brief and motivate National Coordinators;
- establish steps for successful conclusion of the inventory of existing monitoring for raptors;
- discuss the approach to inventory of existing monitoring with raptors;
- assess implications of the above for the assessment of user needs (WP3) and database development (WP7), building on the 2010 EURAPMON workshop outcomes.

The workshop consisted of plenary and working sessions designed to meet these objectives.

The **Opening Plenary Session** involved a welcome address from the Manuel Campos, Counselor of the Presidency of the Autonomous Community of Murcia and from the workshop hosts Antonio Garcia-Fernandez and Emma Martinez-Lopez (University of Murcia). Guy Duke, EURAPMON Chair, presented an overview of EURAPMON, an update on state-of-play, and the workshop objectives. This was followed by an introduction to the inventory of existing monitoring for raptors in Europe (work package 2) and of the online questionnaire designed for this inventory, by Andras Kovacs. Bert van Hattum presented the proposed approach to inventory of existing monitoring with raptors. Finally, Guy Duke presented an overview of the appointment of National Coordinators and their role.

The opening plenary was followed by 6 **Working Sessions**, in which the newly appointed National Coordinators (23 attending, 2 represented by colleagues, Norway presentation

presented by Sweden) presented preliminary overviews of existing monitoring for raptors for 26 countries. These sessions were organised by geographic region:

- Southern Europe: Portugal, Spain, Italy, Malta, Greece
- Central Europe: Germany, Poland, Slovak Republic, Austria, Hungary
- Northern Europe: Sweden, Norway, Finland, Estonia, Latvia
- South-Eastern Europe: Romania, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia
- Western Europe: Ireland, Belgium, France
- New Independent States east to the Urals: Russia, Belarus and Georgia

Each national presentation followed more-or-less the same structure, covering:

- **Main players:** Who are the main actors in monitoring for raptors in your country? Which are the main countries with which you collaborate? Who are the main data users and for what purpose do they use the data?
- **National coverage:** Is there national coordination? Is there a national monitoring network? How comprehensive, or patchy, is monitoring across the country?
- **Key species and key issues:** Which are the key species addressed by monitoring in your country? What are the key issues (threats) addressed? For which, if any, of these species and issues might your country benefit from international networking?
- **Strengths and weaknesses:** What are the main strengths and weaknesses of monitoring for raptors in your country? What are the main gaps (species, regions, threats...)? Are there specific areas of weakness for which your country might benefit from international sharing of good/best practice?
- **Priorities, capacity-building:** What are the priorities to strengthen monitoring for raptors in your country? What are the main capacity-building needs to strengthen monitoring for raptors in your country?

Discussion addressed a range of challenges to the inventory and to monitoring itself, some specific to individual countries, others common to one or more regions.

A **Penultimate Plenary Session** included:

- **Consideration, in more detail, of the questionnaire for inventory of existing monitoring for raptors and a road map to completion of the inventory.** Participants suggested some refinements.
- **A presentation on the state of play of implementation of the UNEP Convention on Migratory Species Memorandum of Understanding on Conservation of Migratory Birds of Prey in Africa and Eurasia (Raptor MoU) and potential for important synergies with EURAPMON.** Next steps for implementation of the Agreement include: (i) establishment of guidelines for national and regional strategies; (ii) the promotion of national and regional strategies; (iii) capacity-building workshops, and (iv) a meeting of the signatories (MOS1 – late 2012) which will develop a new strategic plan for implementation of the Agreement. Synergies with EURAPMON include: (1) UNEP/CMS can encourage signatories to incorporate EURAPMON monitoring in national/regional strategies; (2) CMS and Raptor MoU websites can publicise the EURAPMON inventory; (3) EURAPMON National Coordinators can link with Raptor MoU focal points to enhance monitoring; (4) EURAPMON and Raptor MoU can work together to promote international cooperation

for migratory species with eruptive population dynamics (e.g. hawk owl, snowy owl); (5) Raptor MoU can showcase EURAPMON at the first Meeting of Signatories (MoS1) in late 2012; (6) Raptor MoU and EURAPMON can work together to promote international species action plans, e.g. for Egyptian vulture.

- ***Presentation and discussion of the approach to be taken for the inventory of monitoring with raptors*** (this had been developed in the meeting sidelines by a sub-group of participants).

The ***Closing Session*** involved a closing address from Carmen Sandoval, Director for EU and Foreign Affairs, Autonomous Community of Murcia, a brief wrap up and outline of next steps from Guy Duke, EURAPMON Chair, and closing thanks from the hosts, Antonio Garcia-Fernandez and Emma Martinez-Lopez.

The workshop presentations will be posted to the EURAPMON website. The accompanying papers, and a summary of the discussion, are being collated in workshop proceedings to be made available on the EURAPMON website.

ASSESSMENT OF RESULTS AND IMPACT ON FUTURE DIRECTION OF THE FIELD

The workshop was very successful in meeting its objectives. It was very well attended, with 56 participants from 27 countries, including from 12 of the 15 EURAPMON funding countries, from 8 of the other 14 ESF member countries, and from 7 of the 16 other countries within the territory covered by EURAPMON (but not members of ESF). There was in addition a participant from the UN Convention on Migratory Species (the official responsible for the CMS Agreement on Conservation of Migratory Birds of Prey).

Participants gained a common understanding of EURAPMON and of the state-of-play of the programme. They shared and discussed overviews of existing monitoring for raptors for 26 countries (covering over 90% of the territory covered by EURAPMON), including: (i) the main players for monitoring, and the main end-users for monitoring data; (ii) the existence and extent of national coverage; (iii) key species and key issues, (iv) strengths and weaknesses, key gaps, (v) priorities to strengthen monitoring, capacity-building needs. These overviews provided an excellent qualitative context to complement the forthcoming, more structured and detailed, questionnaire-based inventory. Discussion highlighted a wide range of challenges and issues of relevance to EURAPMON work packages on inventory, user needs, good practice and capacity-building.

The online inventory itself was presented and refined with participant input, building understanding and ownership of the methodology. The 23 National Coordinators (and representatives of NCs from 2 other countries) were fully briefed on their role with regard to facilitating responses to the questionnaire within their respective countries, and a roadmap was agreed with National Coordinators for successful completion of the inventory. Participant input was obtained to inform further development of the inventory of existing monitoring with raptors.

As a bonus, important synergies were identified between EURAPMON and the United Nations Convention on Migratory Species Memorandum of Understanding for the Conservation of Migratory Birds of Prey in Africa and Eurasia. This should help extend the impact of EURAPMON beyond its European territory to the much wider area covered by the Raptor MoU.

The workshop was a vital step towards successful conclusion of the inventory of existing monitoring for raptors in Europe (EURAPMON work package 2), and thus a vital step in establishing a sound analytical basis for remaining EURAPMON work packages.

Perhaps most importantly the workshop brought together, briefed and motivated National Coordinators who will play a vital role in ensuring as comprehensive a response as possible to the EURAPMON questionnaire, and who can play a vital role in expanding the network to a wider range of participants, and in contributing to the success of work package 2 and subsequent work packages.

European Science Foundation
Research Networking Programme

EURAPMON
Research and monitoring for and with raptors in Europe

WORKSHOP ON INVENTORY OF EXISTING RAPTOR MONITORING IN EUROPE

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Centro Educativo del Medio Ambiente (CEMACAM), Torre Guil, Sangonera La Verde, Murcia, Spain
Thursday 9th to Friday 10th February 2012

FINAL 6/2/12

| Time | SESSION/Topic | Speaker |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| TUES 7TH FEBRUARY 2012 | | |
| 21.00-24.00 | Steering Committee dinner | |
| WEDS 8TH FEBRUARY 2012 | | |
| 09.30-13.30 | EURAPMON STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING (Closed session) | |
| 13.30-14.30 | Lunch | |
| 14.30-17.30 | EURAPMON STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING (Closed session) | |
| 18.30-20.30 | WORKSHOP REGISTRATION | |
| THURSDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2012 | | |
| 09.00-09.30 | WORKSHOP REGISTRATION | |
| 09.30-11.00 | OPENING SESSION | Chair - Antonio Garcia Fernandez |
| 09.30-09.40 | Welcome - Workshop hosts | Antonio G Fernandez, Emma Martinez Lopez |
| 09.40-09.50 | EURAPMON overview/update, workshop objectives | Guy Duke |
| 09.50-10.10 | Introduction to WP2 Inventory, questionnaire | Andras Kovacs |
| 10.10-10.25 | Introduction to Questionnaire - Inventory of Monitoring with raptors | Bert Van Hattum |
| 10.25-10.40 | Appointment and role of National Coordinators | Guy Duke |
| 10.40-11.00 | Discussion | |
| 11.00-11.30 | Refreshments | |
| 11.30-13.15 | S EUROPE - Preliminary national overviews of existing monitoring for raptors | Chair - Janusz Sielicki |
| 11.30-11.45 | Portugal | Andreia Dias |
| 11.45-12.00 | Spain | Jose Antonio Sanchez Zapata |
| 12.00-12.15 | Italy | Arianna Aradis |
| 12.15-12.30 | Malta | Edward Bonavia |
| 12.30-12.45 | Greece | Dimitrios Bakaloudis |
| 12.45-13.15 | Discussion - inventory challenges and solutions, S Europe | |
| 13.15-14.30 | lunch | |
| 14.30- | C EUROPE - Preliminary national overviews of existing monitoring for raptors | Chair - Ulo Vali |
| 14.30-14.45 | Germany | Ubbo Mammen |
| 14.45-15.00 | Poland | Janusz Sielicki |
| 15.00-15.15 | Slovak Republic | Miroslav Dravecky |
| 15.15-15.30 | Austria | Anita Gamauf |
| 15.30-15.45 | Hungary | Andras Kovacs |
| 15.45-16.00 | Discussion - inventory challenges and solutions, C Europe | |
| 16.00-16.30 | refreshments | |
| 16.30-18.30 | N EUROPE - Preliminary national overviews of existing monitoring for raptors | Chair - Bert Van Hattum |
| 16.30-16.45 | Sweden | Peter Hellstrom |
| 16.45-17.00 | Norway | tba |
| 17.00-17.15 | Finland | Berti Sauroala |
| 17.30-17.45 | Estonia | Rein Nellis |
| 17.45-18.00 | Latvia | Janis Reihmanis |
| 18.00-18.30 | Discussion - key inventory challenges and solutions, N Europe | |

| FRIDAY 10th FEBRUARY | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--|
| 09.30-11.15 | SE EUROPE - Preliminary national overviews of existing monitoring for raptors | Chair - Alessandro Andreotti |
| 09.30-09.45 | <i>Romania</i> | Szilard Daroczi |
| 09.45-10.00 | <i>Bulgaria</i> | Svetoslav Spasov |
| 10.00-10.15 | <i>Slovenia</i> | Al Vrezec |
| 10.15-10.30 | <i>Croatia</i> | Vlatka Dumbovic Mazal & Kresimir Mikulic |
| 10.30-10.45 | <i>Bosnia</i> | Ena Simic |
| 10.45-11.15 | Discussion - inventory challenges and solutions, SE Europe | |
| | | |
| 11.15-11.45 | <i>Refreshments</i> | |
| | | |
| 11.45-13.00 | W EUROPE - Preliminary national overviews of existing monitoring for raptors | Chair - Al Vrezec |
| 11.45-12.00 | <i>Ireland</i> | Allan Mee |
| 12.00-12.15 | <i>Belgium</i> | Glenn Vermeersch |
| 12.15-12.30 | <i>France</i> | Jean-Paul Urcun |
| 12.30-13.00 | Discussion - inventory challenges and solutions, W Europe | |
| | | |
| 13.00-14.15 | <i>Lunch</i> | |
| | | |
| 14.15-15.30 | NIS east to the Urals - Preliminary national overviews of existing monitoring for raptors | Chair - Pertti Saurola |
| 14.15-14.30 | <i>Russia</i> | Vladimir Galushin |
| 14.30-14.45 | <i>Belarus</i> | Valery Dombrovski |
| 14.45-15.00 | <i>Georgia</i> | Alexander Abuladze |
| 15.00-15.30 | Discussion - inventory challenges and solutions, NIS east to the Urals | |
| | | |
| 15.30-16.00 | <i>Refreshments</i> | |
| | | |
| 16.00-17.15 | Towards completion of the inventory and beyond - monitoring for raptors (parallel session 1) | Chair - Andras Kovacs |
| | Optimising questionnaire response rates | |
| | Road map to inventory completion | |
| | Key issues and challenges arising from the regional sessions | |
| | | |
| 16.00-17.15 | Towards completion of the inventory and beyond - monitoring with raptors (parallel session 2) | Chair - Bert Van Hattum |
| | Optimising questionnaire response rates | |
| | Road map to inventory completion | |
| | | |
| 17.15-18.15 | CLOSING SESSION | Chair - Antonio Garcia Fernandez |
| 17.15-17.30 | Feed-back from parallel sessions | Andras Kovacs, Bert Van Hattum |
| 17.30-17.45 | Wrap-up, next steps | Guy Duke |
| 17.45-18.15 | Discussion | |

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

| | |
|------------|---|
| KEY | SC = EURAPMON STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBER |
| | SC Expert = Steering Committee Expert Adviser |
| | Green = National Coordinator (WP2 Inventory for Raptors) |
| | Red text = National Coordinator (not attending) |

| COUNTRY | NAME | POSITION | ORGANISATION |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Funding countries | | | |
| <i>Denmark</i> | | | |
| <i>Estonia</i> | Ulo Vali (SC) | Senior Researcher | Estonian Univ Life Sci |
| | Rein Nellis | Nature Cons. Biologist | Env. Board |
| <i>Finland</i> | Pertti Saurola (SC) | Researcher emeritus | Finnish Museum NH |
| <i>Hungary</i> | Andras Kovacs (SC) | External expert | MME BirdLife Hungary |
| <i>Italy</i> | Giacomo dell'Omo | | Ornis Italica |
| | Arianna Aradis | Researcher | ISPRA |
| | Alessandro Andreotti (SC) | | ISPRA |
| | Michele Panuccio | | MEDRAPTORS |
| | Giuseppe Lucia | PhD student | Cibio, Univ Alicante |
| <i>Luxembourg</i> | Gilles Biver (SC) | | BirdLife Luxembourg |
| <i>Netherlands</i> | Bert Van Hattum (SC) | Senior Scientist | IVM |
| | Paola Movalli (Coordinator) | Coordinator | EURAPMON |
| | Nico Van Den Brink | Senior Scientist | Alterra |
| <i>Norway</i> | Torgeir Nygard | Senior Researcher | NINA |
| <i>Poland</i> | Janusz Sielicki (SC) | VP | Soc Wild Animals Falcon |
| <i>Portugal</i> | Andreia Dias | Exec Coord Osprey Reintro Project | CIBIO |
| | Luis Palma (SC) | | CIBIO |
| <i>Romania</i> | Szilard Daroczi (SC) | Project Coordinator | Milvus Group Assoc. |
| <i>Slovenia</i> | Al Vrezec (SC) | Research Associate | Nat. Inst. Biol. |
| <i>Spain</i> | Antonio Garcia-Fernandez (SC) | Head of Toxicology | Univ Murcia |
| | Emma Martinez-Lopez | Assist Prof | Univ Murcia |
| | Jose Calvo | Professor | Univ Murcia |
| | Silvia Espin Lujan | PhD student | Univ Murcia |
| | Pilar Gomez-Ramirez | Researcher | Univ Murcia |
| | M Victoria Jimenez-Franco | PhD student | Univ Murcia |
| | Mario Leon-Ortega | PhD student | Univ Murcia |
| | Jose Martinez | Collaborator researcher | Univ Murcia |
| | Laura Ramon Vaquero | PhD student | Univ Murcia |
| | Aida Salas Alarcon | PhD student | Univ Murcia |
| | Maria Paz Aldeguez Aldeguez | PhD student | Univ Murcia |
| | JuanMa Perez-Garcia | Research assistant | Avda Universidad |
| | Jose Antonio Sanchez Zapata | Profesor | Univ Miguel Hernandez |
| | Fernando Escribano | Vet | DG Medio Ambiente |
| | Pedro Jiminez | | Univ Murcia |
| | Francisco Soler-Rodriguez | Professor | Univ of Extremadura |
| | Alejandro Onrubia | Biologist | Fundacion Migres |
| | Beatriz Martin | Biologist | Fundacion Migres |
| | Rafael Mateo | Professor | CSIC-UCLM-JCCM |
| <i>Sweden</i> | Peter Hellström | Graduate Student | Stockholm Univ |
| <i>UK</i> | Guy Duke (SC Chair) | Chair/Board Member | EURAPMON/JNCC |
| | Richard Shore (SC Expert) | Professor | CEH |
| Part-funding country | | | |
| <i>France</i> | Jean-Paul Urcun | Coordinator | Reg Obs Bird Migration |

| Other ESF member countries (non-funding) | | | |
|---|-------------------------|--|---|
| Austria | Anita Gamauf | Head of Ornithology | Museum Nat. History |
| Belgium | Glenn Vermeersch | Senior Scientist | INBO |
| Bulgaria | Svetoslav Spasov | Project Manager Life+ Save the Raptors | BSPB/BirdLife Bulgaria |
| Cyprus | | | |
| Czech Republic | Vasek Beran | Chief Biolog. Dept | Town Museum Usti nad Labem/ALKA wildlife |
| Germany | Ubbo Mammen (SC Expert) | head | MEROS |
| | Oliver Krone | Scientist | Leibniz Inst. Zoo & Wildlife Research |
| Greece | Dimitrios Bakaloudis | Lecturer | Tech Ed. Inst. Kavala |
| Iceland | | | |
| Ireland | Allan Mee | Chairman | Irish Raptor Study Group |
| Lithuania | | | |
| Slovak Republic | Miroslav Dravecky | Biologist - raptor specialist | Raptor Protection of Slovakia |
| Switzerland | | | |
| Turkey | | | |
| Non-ESF countries | | | |
| Armenia | | | |
| Azerbaijan | Elchin Sultanov | Director | Azerbaijan Ornithological Society |
| Belarus | Valery Dombrovski | Head on Laboratory | Inst. Zool. |
| Bosnia | Drazen Kotrosan | Head | Natural History Museum of Croatia |
| | Ena Simic | Project manager | Ornithological society 'Our Birds' |
| Croatia | Dumbović Mazal Vlatka | Head Vertebrates Section | State Inst. Nature Protection |
| | Kresimir Mikulic | Executive Director | Association BIOM |
| Georgia | Alexander Abuladze | Senior Researcher | Inst. Zoology |
| Israel | | | |
| Kosovo | | | |
| Latvia | Janis Reihmanis | Project Manager, Expert | Latvian Fund for Nature |
| Macedonia | | | |
| Malta | Edward Bonavia | National Raptor Coordinator | BirdLife Malta |
| Moldova | | | |
| Montenegro | | | |
| Russia | Vladimir Galushin | Professor | Moscow State Univ |
| Serbia | | | |
| Ukraine | Maxim Gavilyuk | Assoc Prof | Cherkasy Nat Univ/Ukrainian BOP Res. Centre |
| | Sergey Domashevsky | Nat Expert BOP | Ukrainian BOP Res Centre |
| International organisations | | | |
| UNEP/CMS | Nick Williams | Programme Office (Raptors) | UNEP/CMS |