This EURAPMON Workshop on Inventory of Existing Raptor Monitoring in Europe was held in Murcia, Spain, on Thursday 9th and Friday 10th February 2012.

The workshop focused on the science in relation to EURAPMON Work Package 2, inventory of existing raptor monitoring activities in Europe, and thereby advanced progress with this Work Package. The inventory is of fundamental importance to the EURAPMON programme as it underpins other programme work packages on analysis of user needs, identification of priorities, sharing of best practice, capacity-building, and development of a European-level database.

EURAPMON has developed two questionnaires to carry out this inventory of existing raptor monitoring activities in Europe, one related to monitoring for raptors (focusing on raptor populations status and trends), and another on monitoring with raptors (focusing on using raptors to monitor contaminants and other environmental pressures). The former questionnaire will be launched on the EURAPMON website shortly. The latter will be issued via mailing list contacts.

In advance of the workshop, EURAPMON launched a call for National Coordinators to work with EURAPMON, within their respective countries, to ensure as comprehensive a response as possible to these questionnaires. National Coordinators were appointed (so far for 29 countries covering over 90% of the EURAPMON territory) and invited to the workshop. The National Coordinators were requested to present, at the workshop, a preliminary overview of the raptor monitoring activity in their respective countries.

The objectives of the workshop were to:

- present preliminary overviews of current raptor monitoring activities in each country;
- present online questionnaires of existing monitoring activities;
- bring together, brief and motivate ‘National Coordinators’ who will play a vital role in ensuring as comprehensive response as possible to these questionnaires;
- establish steps for successful conclusion of the inventory;
- 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. Further details are given in the workshop report to ESF. Papers derived from this workshop providing an overview of monitoring in 25 European countries were published in a special issue of Acrocephalus (Issue 33) which are now available on EURAPMON webpage [2].

- Workshop announcement [3]
- Workshop papers [4]
- Workshop report [5]

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