

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	<i>Portugal</i>	Andreia Dias
11.45-12.00	<i>Spain</i>	Jose Antonio Sanchez Zapata
12.00-12.15	<i>Italy</i>	Arianna Aradis
12.15-12.30	<i>Malta</i>	Edward Bonavia
12.30-12.45	<i>Greece</i>	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
14.30-14.415	<i>Germany</i>	Ubbo Mammen
14.45-15.00	<i>Poland</i>	Janusz Sielicki
15.00-15.15	<i>Slovak Republic</i>	Miroslav Dravecky
15.15-15.30	<i>Austria</i>	Anita Gamauf
15.30-15.45	<i>Hungary</i>	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	<i>Sweden</i>	Peter Hellstrom
16.45-17.00	<i>Norway</i>	tba
17.00-17.15	<i>Finland</i>	Berti Sauroala
17.30-17.45	<i>Estonia</i>	Rein Nellis
17.45-18.00	<i>Latvia</i>	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