



LIFE Against Bird Crime - Delivering the EU Biodiversity Strategy: Awareness and Capacity Building against Bird Crime in Priority Flyway Countries

LIFE17 GIE/NL/000599



[Project description](#) [Environmental issues](#) [Beneficiaries](#) [Administrative data](#)

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Project description:

Background

Illegal activities such as killing, trapping or trading birds still occur in many EU countries, with several countries identified as particular hotspots. In addition, widespread illegal practices outside the EU impact directly on migratory species within the EU. This forms a threat to the attainment of the objectives of the Birds Directive and the first target of the EU biodiversity strategy, which aims to improve the conservation status of EU species.

Objectives

The long-term goal of the four-year project is to significantly reduce the illegal killing, trapping and taking of birds in the EU and neighbouring Mediterranean region.

Specific objectives include:

- Expand and improve knowledge on the illegal killing of birds (IKB) in the target region, in order to identify and promote strategic actions within and beyond the scope of the project;
- Raise awareness and stimulate public demand to stop IKB;
- Support increased international and national advocacy efforts to ensure political commitment and technical capacity to enforce actions to end IKB;
- Design and implement pilot projects with key stakeholders in priority countries to demonstrate, share and promote effective approaches to

- reduce illegal killing and taking of birds;
- Contribute towards achieving the objectives of the Birds Directive, the EU roadmap for combating illegal killing, trapping and trade of birds, and the EU 2020 biodiversity strategy;
- Maintain and strengthen the networks of civil society organisations and stakeholder groups working together to address IKB.

Expected results:

- A better understanding of the scale, impact and causes of illegal killing of birds (IKB) through systematic monitoring in priority countries including Cyprus, Greece, Italy and Croatia;
- Secretariats from international conventions and the European Commission put pressure on national governments to take action to end IKB;
- Governments monitor and report on IKB cases to the Convention on Migratory Species, Bern, and the European Commission;
- Governments are committed to end IKB;
- The general public along the African-Eurasia flyway expresses support to stop IKB, with supporting actions against IKB, more exposure to nature education and increased awareness of IKB. The campaign reaches 3 000 000 people, 40 000 people respond to calls for action;
- Targeting potential end users of IKB leads to reductions in illegal behaviour or reduction in demand;
- National legislation and enforcement structures are adequate or improving;
- Reduction in the numbers of birds being illegally killed per year in demonstration sites in priority countries. 50-100 000 fewer birds killed or a 30% reduction in birds killed.

Results

[Top](#)

Environmental issues addressed:

Themes

Species - Birds

Information - Governance - Awareness raising - Information

Information - Governance - Improved legislative compliance and enforcement

Keywords

migratory species, monitoring, public awareness campaign

Target EU Legislation

- Nature protection and Biodiversity
- Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (01.06.1982)
- Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals - CMS (01/11/1983)
- COM(2011) 244 final “Our life insurance, our natural capital: an EU biodiversity strategy to 2020 ...
- Directive 79/409 - Conservation of wild birds (02.04.1979)

Natura 2000 sites

Not applicable

[Top](#)

Beneficiaries:

Coordinator	Stichting BirdLife Europe
Type of organisation	NGO-Foundation
Description	Stichting BirdLife Europe is a Dutch non-profit organisation. It works to protect birds and biodiversity by focusing on species, sites and habitats, ecological sustainability and public engagement. Stichting BirdLife Europe coordinates the activities of 49 member organisations throughout Europe and Central Asia, including all EU28 countries.
Partners	BirdLife International, United Kingdom BirdLife Cyprus, Cyprus Lega Italiana Protezione Uccelli - LIPU Onlus, Italy Association BIOM, Croatia Hellenic Ornithological Society, Greece

[Top](#)

Administrative data:

Project reference	LIFE17 GIE/NL/000599
Duration	01-SEP-2018 to 28-FEB -2022
Total budget	1,827,689.00 €
EU contribution	1,088,026.00 €

Project location

Groningen(Nederland) Friesland(Nederland)
Drenthe(Nederland) Overijssel(Nederland)
Gelderland(Nederland) Flevoland(Nederland)
Noord-Brabant(Nederland) Limburg(Nederland)
Utrecht(Nederland) Noord-Holland(Nederland)
Zuid-Holland(Nederland) Zeeland(Nederland)

[Top](#)

[Project description](#) [Environmental issues](#) [Beneficiaries](#) [Administrative data](#)
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