

Joint meeting of the Bern Convention Network of Special Focal Points on Eradication of Illegal Killing, Trapping and Trade in Wild Birds and the CMS Intergovernmental Task Force on Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean

Valencia, Spain, 7-9 June 2022

Assessing trends of IKB numbers through proxies: rescue centers and other official data



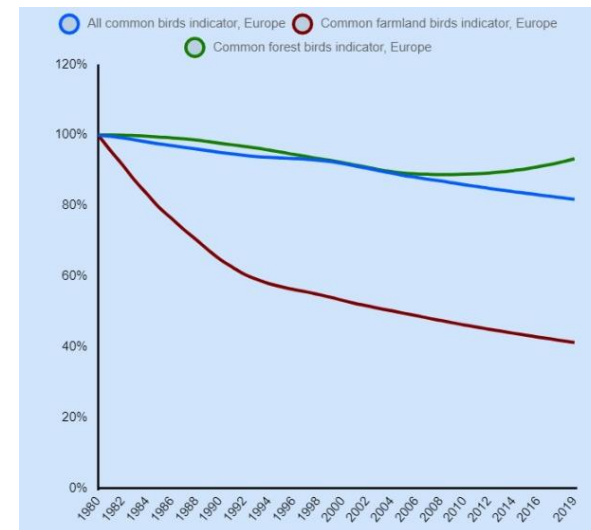
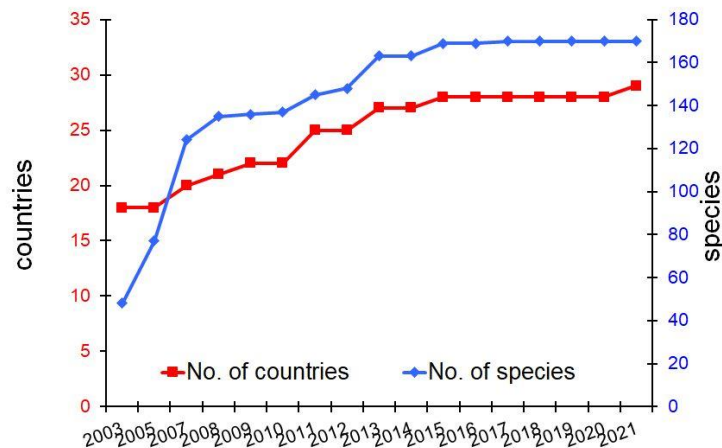
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SETTING THE SCENE

THERE IS AN INHERENT DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING POPULATION DATA AND STATISTICS ON WILDLIFE

- Observed vs existing (plenty scientific literature)
- Large-scale monitoring programs are highly positive (PECBMS) but also criticized in relation to methodologies for “key” species

Increasing number of both countries providing data and species covered by the PECBMS



TOTAL NUMBERS/GENERAL ESTIMATES IS EVEN MORE DIFFICULT

- Need to perform repeats of estimates with a given periodicity
- A greater likelihood of including biases

SETTING THE SCENE

AS AN ILLEGAL ACTIVITY, IT IS EXTREMELY COMPLEX TO OBTAIN RELIABLE AND ROBUST DATA ON IKB

DIFFERENT FACTORS MODULATE ACCURACY OF DATA:

- **DIFFERENT IKB ACTIVITIES WITH DIFFERENT METHODS AND DETECTABILITY:**
 - Shooting
 - Illegal trapping (nets, limesticks, birdcalls, snares, clamps...)
 - Poisoning
- **MONITORING EFFORT IN THE FIELD AND CASE REGISTRATION (STATISTICS)**
- **EXTENT OF CONFLICT AREAS AND BIRD RICHNESS/ABUNDANCES**



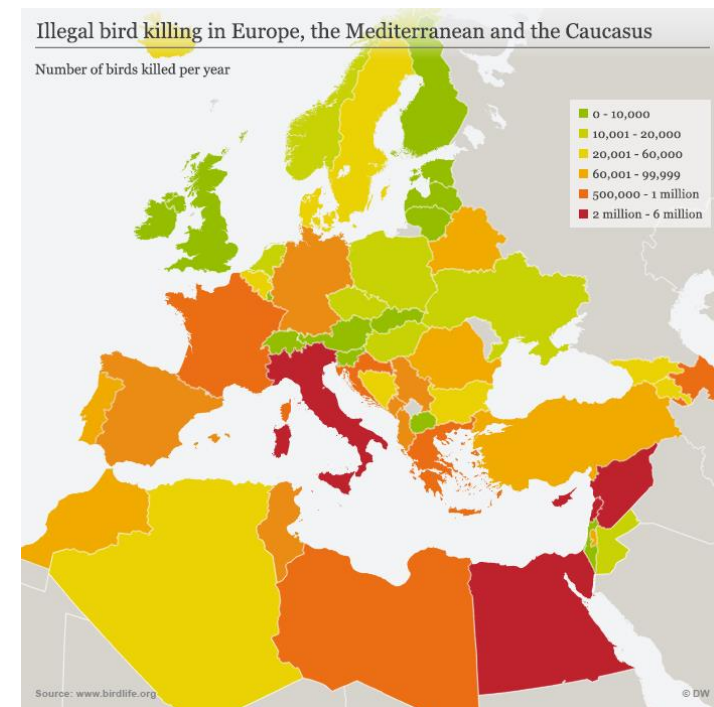
ROME STRATEGIC PLAN AND PAPER ON BASELINE AND METHODOLOGY

**Main GOAL of RSP 2020-2030: reduction of IKB at least 50%
(overarching vision is to eradicate IKB)**

**RSP: Comprise ACTIONS TO REDUCE IKB + SELF-ASSESSMENT (progress in each
country/member)**

**PRIORITY: know the trend of IKB impact closely
linked to implementation of RSP/other rules**

**Global numbers offer initially a global picture
but not necessarily related to the
effectiveness and efforts made to implement
RSP**



OPTIONS FOR METHODOLOGY

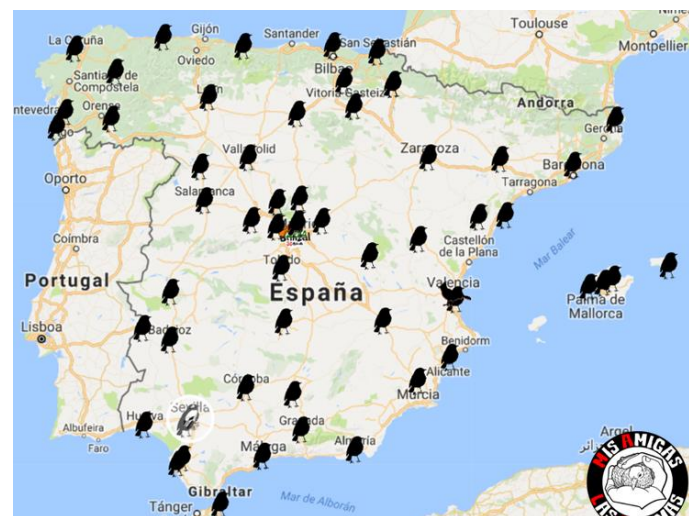
- a) Estimate the full scale and magnitude of IKB. Several methods:**
 - Review available data and decide on a methodology
 - Regular ad-hoc survey of IKB activities/impact accross an appropriate scale
 - BirdLife International estimates

- b) Indicators of scale to allow tracking and progress (without extrapolating to national scale). Several methods:**
 - Review available data and decide on a methodology
 - Establish a regular survey accross an appropriate scale

THE SPANISH EXPERIENCE

Selection of Option B) Indicators/proxies selected due to:

- Difficulty in national estimates of all IKB sources and situations (vaste country, different authorities, lack of specific resources, etc)
- Take advantage of ongoing monitoring programs
- Prioritize knowing trends and effectiveness of measures



THE SPANISH EXPERIENCE

Methodology:

- **NUMBER OF ADMISSIONS TO RESCUE CENTRES RELATED TO IKB ACTIVITIES**
- **In a given year (2019) for 2020 Scoreboard**
- **Currently, approx. 40 rescue centers operating in Spain: managed by authorities or private with collaboration agreements**
- **But extrapolating to national situation:**
 - **Information provided by 17 comunidades autónomas (managers of rescue centers)**
 - **But not all communicate data: 5 in 2018 (30%) and 9 in 2020 (53%)**
 - **Need to ensure involvement of all regions to increase accuracy**
- **Unknown situation of rescue centers in other countries (sample, collection of data and causes of admissions, etc)**

THE SPANISH EXPERIENCE

Methodology:

- NUMBER OF ADMISSIONS TO RESCUE CENTRES RELATED TO IKB ACTIVITIES

2019	Marzo/Mayo	Junio/Agosto	Septiembre/Noviembre	Diciembre/Febrero	Total
<i>España (extrapolación para el conjunto de regiones)</i>	1902	3077	2455	1088	8522
Aragón	50	19	28	36	133
Islas Canarias	3	1	2	0	6
Castilla-La Mancha	24	39	30	35	128
Cataluña	847	1449	1124	414	3834
Galicia	20	25	13	7	65
Comunidad de Madrid	6	14	6	10	36
Región de Murcia	27	28	27	14	96
La Rioja	0	7	4	7	18
Comunidad Valenciana	30	47	66	53	196

THE SPANISH EXPERIENCE

Other options of methodology assessed:

- Poisoning numbers
- Good series (1992-2017) thanks to NGOs collecting official data
- A mean of 850 birds/year poisoned, but decreasing in recent years
- Proportion of poison cases in relation to admissions is around 12-18%
- But data not available yearly for poison birds
- Administrative/judicial cases
- This information is included in Scoreboard Q4, not for national numbers
- Overlap with data of rescue centers at least partially





Thank you!!



GOBIERNO
DE ESPAÑA

MINISTERIO
PARA LA TRANSICIÓN ECOLÓGICA
Y EL RETO DEMOGRÁFICO