

Newsletter 2008/1



WWW.EBCC.INFO

The latest news about monitoring and atlas work in Europe

The 17th of March 2008 is an important date in the history of the EBCC. On this date, we became an Association under Dutch law, following the decision taken by the delegates at the EBCC conference in Chiavenna in April 2007. This new status will allow the EBCC to work more efficiently and effectively in promoting its goals. However, for the delegates, very little will actually change.

The newsletter you are now reading contains brief information about what happens within the EBCC. The newsletter is in line with our aim to strengthen our joint work and for the Board to keep delegates informed of the affairs of the Association. It is sent to all EBCC delegates and also made available on the EBCC homepage. If you have news to share with the other EBCC delegates, please write to the Newsletter editor.

The backbone of the EBCC is the delegates. Each country in Europe should have two delegates, each representing key organisations in that country dealing with atlas and monitoring work. You can find the latest list of delegates on the EBCC homepage. Presently, 37 countries are represented by two delegates. There is one delegate confirmed for Belarus, Croatia, Iceland and Serbia. There are no delegates yet for Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Liechtenstein. If you have information about potential delegates for the latter nine countries, please contact the

The European Birds Census Council (EBCC) is an association of like-minded expert ornithologists co-operating in a range of ways to improve bird monitoring and atlas work and thereby inform and improve the management and conservation of birds populations in Europe. Each European country can be represented by two delegates.

EBCC Delegate Officer Åke Lindström
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The flagship of the EBCC is the Pan-European Common Bird Monitoring Scheme (PECBMS). More than 20 European countries contribute national species trends for a large number of species. Via the creation of European species trends, several different bird indicators are produced, some of which have been adopted by the EU as official indicators. The next indicator update is scheduled for May 2008, including data from 2006. Data were received from one new country, Bulgaria. Included is also an enlarged and updated dataset from Estonia. National data providers will be contacted later this spring concerning new data provision, including the 2007 data. The project coordinator is Petr Voříšek
euromonitoring@birdlife.cz

Conference proceedings from the EBCC meeting in Kayseri, Turkey in 2004 are unfortunately not yet printed, for personal capacity reasons. The EBCC board has the topic high on its priority list to ensure that publication takes place as soon as possible.

Following the EBCC 2007 Conference in Chiavenna, Italy, 40 papers have been submitted for publication in the proceedings. The process is going ahead very smoothly and 22 of them have already been fully reviewed by referees. The other 18 are still under process. The publication is scheduled by the end of 2008 in the Italian journal *Avocetta*.

The next EBCC conference will be held in Cáceres, Extremadura, Spain, in 2010. Preliminary dates are 22-27 March. The host of the conference is SEO, the Spanish Ornithological Society. Contact person: Juan Carlos del Moral jcdelmoral@seo.org

The first board meeting of the EBCC as an association was held in Koprivshtitsa, Bulgaria on 25-26 April 2008. Present were 7 of the 10 board members, plus observers from the BTO, BirdLife, the SEED BI project (see more on this page) and SEO. Minutes of the board meeting will soon be sent out to all delegates.



Participants in the April 2008 EBCC Board meeting in Bulgaria. Lower row: Svetoslav Spasov, Anny Anselin, Virginia Escandell, Lorenzo Fornasari, Hans-Günther Bauer, Richard Gregory. Upper row: Ruud Foppen, Åke Lindström, Ian Burfield, Lluís Brotons, David Noble.

On the EBCC homepage you can find lots of useful information about the work

of the EBCC. There are of course the basic facts about the EBCC as an organisation, useful references, downloadable software, and the latest news and publications from PECBM. On the Country Reports pages, you can find information about national bird atlases and monitoring projects, including details of methods, number of plots, contact persons and recent publications. Please check if information is provided for your own country and give us an update! The EBCC atlas is also available using an interactive tool. Do have a look at: www.ebcc.info

Bird Census News is the journal of the EBCC. Bird Census News reports on the developments in census and atlas work in Europe, from the local to the continental scale, and provides a forum for discussion of methodological issues. It is sent out to all EBCC delegates and published as a pdf on the EBCC homepage. In the latest issue (2007/2), you can read a review of the large-scale generic population monitoring schemes of Europe, urban ornithological atlases in Italy, and a census of heron and cormorant colonies in Bulgaria. Please send your contributions to the editor Anny Anselin anny.anselin@inbo.be

The SEED project (Support Eastern Europeans to Develop Bird Indicators) is active in Belarus, Macedonia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Turkey and Bulgaria and aims at strengthening these countries' capacity to run successful national Common Bird Monitoring schemes (CBM). The work in 2007 included several national training workshops and the first surveys running in several of the countries. More info on our homepage.



EBCC is an Association under Dutch law

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