

Newsletter 2010/1



WWW.EBCC.INFO

The latest news about monitoring and atlas work in Europe

This newsletter is sent to all EBCC delegates and made available on the EBCC homepage. Please contribute by sending news items to the Newsletter editor.

A highlight in the EBCC activities is the EBCC conference which is held about every three years. This newsletter is dominated by the happenings at the 2010 meeting.

"Monitoring, indicators and targets"



BIRD NUMBERS 2010

The 18th EBCC conference was held on 22–26 March 2010 in Cáceres, Extremadura, Spain, jointly organised by SEO/Birdlife, the Spanish Ornithological Society, and the EBCC. More than 250 persons from 40 countries and four continents participated in a most pleasant, productive and well-organized meeting.



Former EBCC Chairman Richard Gregory addressing the conference participants.

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

Scientific data on bird monitoring and atlas work was presented in 9 plenary talks, 78 oral presentations and 96 posters during three conference days. The complete abstract report can be downloaded from

www.seo.org/EBCC2010. The high profile of the conference was confirmed by the visit of the Spanish Minister of Environment.

There was also a much appreciated mid-conference excursion. Although the Spanish weather was “not very cooperative”, the participants were still able to see large numbers of exciting birds on the plains as well as in Monfrague NP, and there were also plenty of opportunities for social interactions.

The EBCC Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held during the conference on 24 March, in the presence of 34 EBCC delegates and another 25 (non-voting) conference participants. This is the first AGM of the EBCC since it became an association under Dutch law.

The activities over the last three years were summarized by the outgoing Chairman Richard Gregory, whose report was circulated to all participants and will be published in Bird Census News.

Three new **EBCC delegates** were elected by the AGM: Nidal Issa (France), Guido

Tellini Florenzano (Italy) and Dragan Simic (Serbia). We welcome them gladly!

The following **new EBCC Board** was elected: Ruud Foppen (Netherlands) as Chairman, David Noble (UK) as Vice Chairman, Hans-Günther Bauer (Germany) as Secretary, Åke Lindström (Sweden) as Delegate Officer, Anny Anselin (Belgium) as BCN Officer, Lluís Brotons (Spain), Henning Heldbjerg (Denmark), Mikhail Kalyakin (Russia), Oskars Keiņš (Latvia) and Verena Keller (Switzerland). The new Board will meet for the first time in The Netherlands on 10–13 November 2010.

A special EBCC Award was presented to Jeremy Greenwood for his outstanding achievements in raising EBCC's profile and reputation.

The next conference may be held in Romania in 2013.

The AGM ended with the new Chairman, Ruud Foppen, thanking Richard Gregory for his hard work and commitment in bringing EBCC forward, not least through the development of PECBMS.

The production of a new Breeding Bird Atlas for Europe was discussed in Cáceres, by almost 100 of the conference participants. Working out the level of detail, ambition and integration of different data, ranging from available atlases to monitoring programs and web-based data collection tools will be the main challenge ahead. More information will be distributed in due time to all coordinators, to gather further opinions on the possibilities taking the project forward. An Atlas working group was formed, please contact: ruud.foppen@sovon.nl.

The Pan-European Common Bird Monitoring Scheme (PECBMS) team has computed updated European species indices for the period up to 2008. A leaflet 'Population Trends of European Common Birds 2010' has been produced and the new trends are available at the EBCC homepage. Contact: Petr Voříšek (EuroMonitoring@birdlife.cz) or Jana Škorpilová (skorpilova@birdlife.cz).

The proceedings of the 2007 Conference in Chiavenna, Italy are to be published partly in an upcoming issue of *Avocetta* and partly in *Bird Census News*.

For other contributions to the next issue of Bird Census News, contact Anny Anselin (anny.anselin@inbo.be).



from the bird census world

- A new programme on Research and Monitoring for and with **Raptors** in Europe (EURAPMON) has been launched. Funded by the European Science Foundation (ESF), this 5-year programme aims to strengthen raptor research and monitoring to deliver biodiversity, environmental and human health benefits. For more information and contacts, see: <http://www.esf.org/eurapmon>
- **A workshop on the methods and ways** to develop a national farmland bird indicator in Cyprus was organised by BirdLife Cyprus in April. The PECBMS team was invited to the workshop to provide expertise on how to set up a high profile monitoring scheme to obtain reliable outputs to deliver an FBI or species population trends, in general.

On the EBCC homepage www.ebcc.info you can find more useful information about EBCC and all its activities.



EBCC is an Association under Dutch law

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