

Newsletter 2013/1



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.

The EBCC Board met again in Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain (19–20 March 2013). Key points discussed were the upcoming EBCC conference in Romania and the second European Breeding Bird Atlas (EBBA2). In connection to the Board meeting, a workshop was held for EBBA2 national coordinators, including a session about the 'European Red List of Birds' (run by BirdLife, ETC and EBCC).

The 19th EBCC Conference will take place on 16–21 September 2013 (main days 17–20) in Cluj, Romania. More than 130 abstracts for talks and posters have been submitted. Decisions on acceptance will be sent out in April. Based on the abstracts, we look forward to yet another exciting conference! Registration for attending the conference will open soon. Deadline for early registration is 15 June. This date is also the deadline for any further poster abstracts. Please check for more information on www.EBCC2013.ro. Contacts: Zoltán Szabó szabodz@gmail.com (organisation) and Verena Keller verena.keller@vogelwarte.ch (scientific programme).

Who will host the EBCC conference in 2016? The EBCC Board would be happy to receive suggestions from potential organisers for this key event for EBCC. Contact: Ruud Foppen ruud.foppen@sovon.nl

The European Bird 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 bird populations in Europe. Each European country can be represented by two delegates.

Many EBCC delegates take a very active part in EBCC activities, others are less active. The upcoming EBCC Annual General Meeting during the Cluj conference is a good opportunity to update and revise the status of EBCC delegates. The Board therefore encourage delegates and their national organizations to evaluate the status of their delegates, especially in relation to their capacity to contribute to the EBCC, and to provide suggestions for changes to Åke Lindström (Delegate Officer) by 15 August.

The Pan-European Common Bird Monitoring Scheme (PECBMS) is now producing European population indices for the period up to 2011, which include data from two new countries: Romania and Luxembourg. Further financial support for PECBMS from the European Commission is expected from July 2013.

The 2nd European Breeding Bird Atlas (EBBA2) is making progress due to the efforts of Sergi Herrando and Petr Vorisek who have been working on a part time basis for the atlas coordination, together with the chair of the Atlas Steering Committee (ASC), Verena Keller. Work has focused mainly on establishing a list of national contact persons and providing support to

east and southeast European countries, where the largest gaps in data exist. Around 30 participants from these countries met in Barcelona in mid March to discuss data collection at national level (see photo).



The ASC met recently in Barcelona to discuss methodological aspects as well as fundraising, which remains a key concern. The ASC chair is:
verena.keller@vogelwarte.ch.

Bird Census News, the EBCC's own journal has since the last issue changed to a new format (A4 size, colour graphs and pictures) available only in a digital version (PDF). It has received positive responses from delegates and other readers. Thanks to Anny Anselin, BCN will continue to report on developments in census and atlas work in Europe, from the local to the continental scale, and provide a forum for discussion. The next issue is due in April 2013. You can find all issues of BCN on:
<http://www.ebcc.info/index.php?ID=41>
Editor: anny.anselin@inbo.be

A new EBCC Board will be elected at the EBCC General Meeting during the conference in Cluj in 2013. EBCC Delegates are invited to suggest suitable names. Proposals for a Board member should be accompanied by a letter of support from two EBCC Delegates, as well as a letter confirming his/her willingness to act as a Board member. Send your suggestions to Ruud Foppen: ruud.foppen@sovon.nl. The EBCC Board will before the AGM send out

information about whom among the present Board stands for a new period, who steps down and the names of new candidates.

Short news... from the bird census world

- **The huge task of producing a first breeding bird atlas of Russia** is making good progress. A small secretariat is building up at the Zoological Museum in Moscow and some basic funding is secured. Data has so far come from 61 observers, covering 174 of the 1800 atlas squares. Data from another 421 squares are promised and on-line reporting platforms are being tested.
- **The long-awaited new German breeding bird atlas ADEBAR** is now in its final stages and will be going to press this summer.
- **The new Dutch wintering and breeding bird atlas** has started its first field season: more than 1000 of the 1650 5x5km squares are already claimed by volunteers and in the first of three winters more than 600 squares were counted.

Action points... This is where we ask Delegates and associates to contribute to the work of EBCC. We look forward to your contribution!

- **Please check the EBCC website** www.ebcc.info for important information on EBBA2, such as general atlas instructions, species lists, etc.
- **The next EBCC Annual General Meeting** will take place in Cluj 19 September 2013 during the EBCC conference. If you have any issues to be addressed, please contact: ruud.foppen@sovon.nl