

Life for the Egyptian vulture: two projects with one aim

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Photo: F. Robiller



The Egyptian vulture



adult



juvenile



A flagship species: cultural values



It is unique: uses tools



Photo: D. Fajardo

Functions

Natural sanitary officer



Umbrella species



Indicator for environmental (and ours) 'health status'

What is happening with the species?

IUCN Red listed species (Endangered)

Global population: 21,900 – 30,000 mature ind.

- In Europe has decreased by **50% in the last 50 yrs**
- **Disappeared from:**
 - Austria
 - Slovenia
 - Bosnia
 - Herzegovina
 - Croatia
 - Romania
 - Moldova
 - Ukraine
 - Serbia



Photo: T. Prohl

What we do to **SAVE** him?



Photo: K. Hristov

New LIFE+ project on the Egyptian Vulture

Urgent measures to secure survival of the Egyptian vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*) in Bulgaria and Greece

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THE RETURN OF THE NEOPHRON

The Egyptian vulture on the Balkans and along the migration road.

URGENT MEASURES TO SECURE THE SURVIVAL OF THE EGYPTIAN VULTURE IN BULGARIA AND GREECE

BSPB participated in a meeting about bird crime

06.12.2012



UPDATED LOCATION OF TAGGED VULTURES



Aim:

Prevent extinction of the
species from the Balkans



Photo: K. Hristov

Research activities



Monitoring



Toxicological and DNA analysis



Study on the diet



Telemetry

Direct conservation actions



Nest guarding



DoerrBolyGuard

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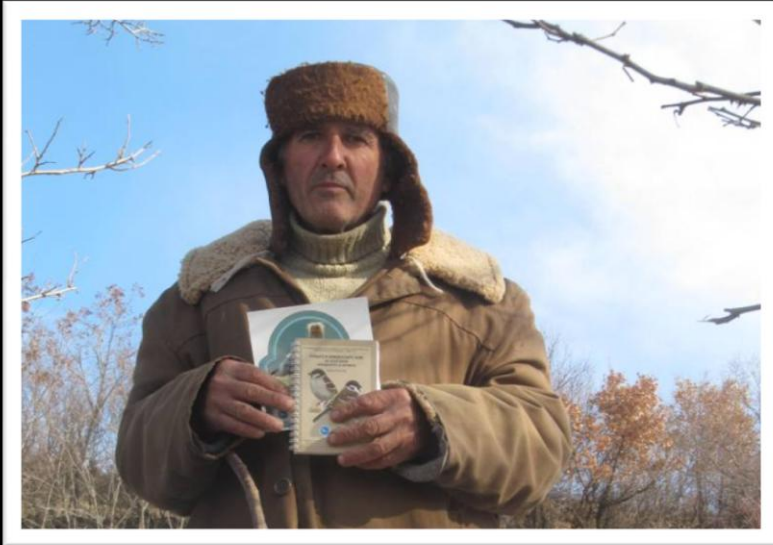
Supplementary feeding

Niche improvement



Insulation

Indirect conservation: education and communication



Implementing AE measures



Bird crime



Network against poisoning



Rising public awareness

Research and conservation of the Egyptian Vulture : challenges at trans-continental level

- What we need?
 - Urgent measures to secure the species
- How we can achieve that?
 - More research – scientifically based evidences about the problems
 - Close communication and collaboration between all involved organizations, institutions and authorities at trans-continental level
 - Good will in decision makers to build and implement such measures
 - Human and financial capacity to apply the measures

Egyptian vulture along the Eastern Mediterranean migration flyway

1. Research – gaps in our knowledge:

- Migration flyway
- Habitat use
- Numbers and dynamics of migrating and wintering birds
- Physiological condition
- Threats analysis along the flyway and in wintering grounds



Photo: I. Damyanov

2. Opportunities for decision making on species conservation:

- Egyptian vulture experts e-mail group
(already launched)
- International Egyptian vulture conference
(August 2013, Bulgaria)
- Species Flyway Action Plan
(will be initiated in 2013)



3. Collaboration and capacity building:

- **Collaboration at regional level**
 - *Common research and conservation projects between countries*
- **Collaboration at continental level**
 - *e.g. EU programmes (LIFE+)*
- **Collaboration at trans-continental level**
 - *Europe*
 - *Middle East*
 - *Africa /Egypt, Ethiopia, Chad, Sudan/*





Capacity building in Chad, Sudan and Ethiopia for research and conservation of the wintering Balkan population

Period: September 2012 – August 2013

Action steps:

1. Training seminar in Ethiopia
(09.01.2013 – 19.01.2013)
2. Small granted research projects
3. Training seminar in Bulgaria
(August 2013)



Training seminar in Ethiopia

- **Theoretical part**

(Addis Ababa, 9-10.01.2013)

- **Field practices**

(C and N Ethiopia, 11-19.01.2013):

- Observation of wintering and breeding Egyptian vultures



Supporting post-training surveys

- **Period:** Feb-Aug 2013
- **Priority:** Balkan population wintering areas
- Small project grants



Training seminar in Bulgaria

- Period: July - August 2013
- Place: Madzharovo, Bulgaria
- Participants to be invited: Conservationists from Sudan, Chad, Ethiopia, Somalia and Djibouti.

As a satellite event of international Egyptian vulture conference
(to be announced: August 2013, Bulgaria)



Thank you for your attention!



Acknowledgements



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