

# The European Network against Environmental Crime (ENEC)

**EU Forum of Judges for the Environment** Bolzano, 30-31 October 2015











## Project to create a European Network against Environmental Crime

**Objective:** The main aim of the project is to improve the implementation and application of the Directive 2008/99/EC on the protection of the environment through criminal law.

**Beneficiary partners:** 





(Coordinator)







**Funding:** The project is funded by the Criminal Justice Support Programme of the European Union.



**Implementation period**: 1/4/2014 a 1/4/2016

#### We are BirdLife International







- As the world's largest nature conservation Partnership BirdLife has more than 13 million members and supporters.
- BirdLife Partner organizations worked with 7,475 local groups, including action at 2,750 Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas; and our work involved 2.7 million children.
- BirdLife Partners managed or owned 1,553 reserves or protected areas covering 4.3 million ha of natural areas globally.
- BirdLife Partners receive hundred of reports of environmental offences investing significant financial and human resources in fighting environmental crime

#### Main objectives to be achieved

- 1) Assess the degree of implementation of Directive 2008/99/CE in the EU
   Member States national legislation and practice
- 2) Bring together legal and other practitioners who work in the fight against environmental crime
  - Strength the work of BirdLife Europe partners in the fight against environmental crime
  - Facilitate the exchange of information and the experience of legal and other practitioners in working to prevent or prosecute this type of crime
- 3) Integrate BirdLife activities against environmental crime with those of other networks and international institutions involved in the protection of the environment

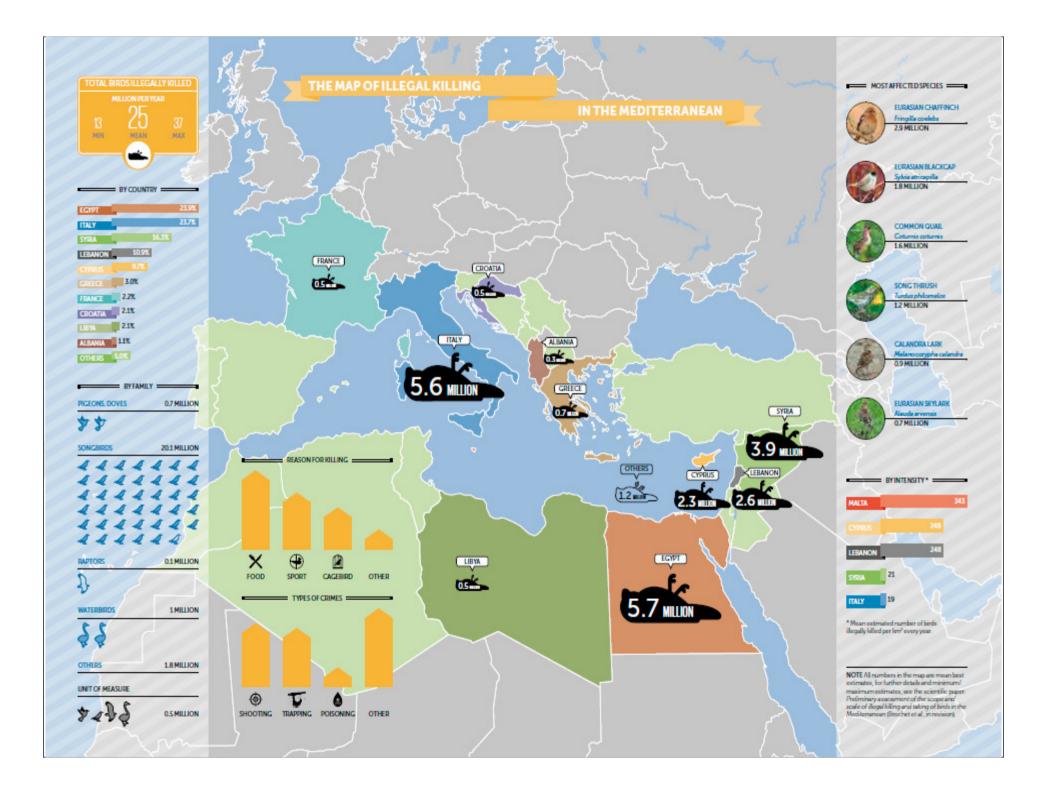
## I European Workshop on Environmental Crime: Illegal killing and taking of birds

- First meeting of the ENEC members (Madrid, February 2015)
- 18 EU MS represented
- Exchange information and experiences in the fight against illegal killing and taking of birds
- Analyze the legal regulation framework of illegal killing and taking of birds from the point of view of European criminal law
- Establish recommendations to EU authorities and MEAs (CMS, Bern Convention, etc) on how to tackle illegal killing and taking of birds from a legal perspective



## What is IKB?





#### Recommendations to eliminate illegal killing and taking of birds. Legal perspective

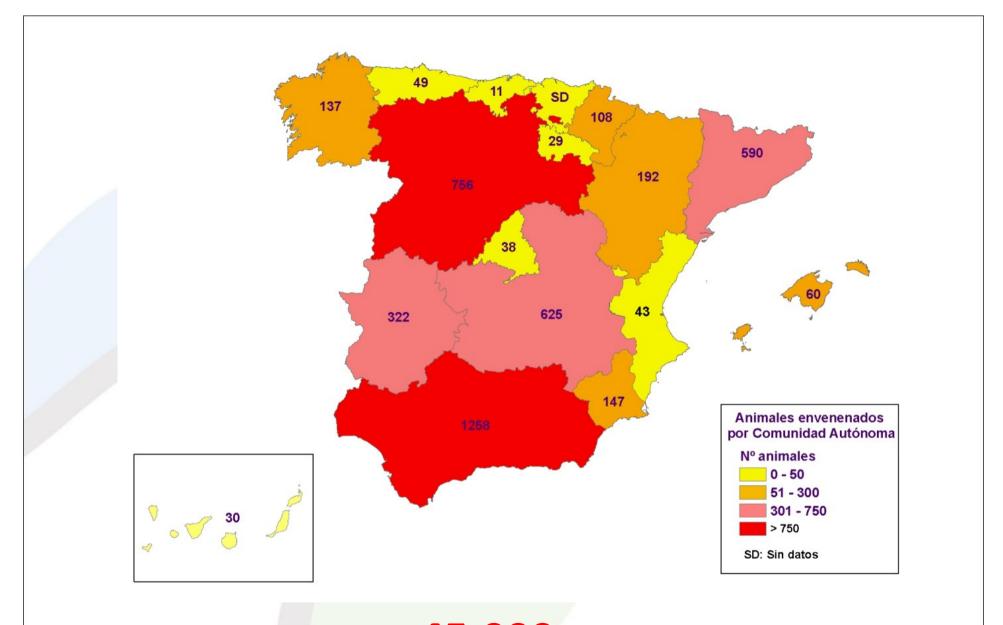
- Assessment of the implementation of protection for species listed under Article 2(b)
  of Directive 2008/99/EC in national penal law.
- Harmonisation of criminal sanctions in the different EU Member States.
- Training, specialization and awareness of judges, prosecutors, inspectorates, enforcement officers and lawyers on the seriousness of illegal killing and taking and its consequences on biodiversity conservation.
- Legal recognition to the legitimacy of NGOs to take action in courts of law in cases of crimes against wild fauna
- Improving the implementation of the Birds and Habitats Directives as necessary legal instruments to protect wildlife against illegal killing and catching
- Information exchange, cooperation and networking between legal professionals.

#### II European Workshop on Environmental Crime: Wildlife poisoning

- 2nd meeting of the ENEC members (Barcelona,6th November 2015)
- Representation from 19 EU MS, ENPE, EUFJE, FACE or CMS
- This workshop will focus on the review of a draft "European Action Plan to prevent risk from poison-baits". The document proposes a series of measures to eradicate the use of poisoned-baits in the EU and to adopt measures for reducing the effects of this illegal practice in the countryside

# What is wildlife poisoning?





Only in Spain more than **45.000** animals have been killed by poison-baits between 2005-2010



The use of poison-baits is the most widely used predator eradication method worldwide

#### Next steps

 Study to assess the degree of implementation of Directive 2008/99/CE in the EU (December 2015)

 III European Workshop on Environmental Crime: Habitat destruction (Edinburgh, 26 Feb 2016)



## More information: http://lawyersfornature.org/

Carmen Naves
RSPB

<u>Carmen.Naves@rspb.org.uk</u> <u>@Aitana78</u> David de la Bodega Zugasti SEO/BirdLife

ddelabodega@seo.org
 @David\_Bodega

