

2019 HIGHLIGHTS





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INTRODUCTION

2019 was distinguished by the renewal and new populations of key European Union institutions and their setting of new ambitions to meet the existential planetary crises we have so long been fighting. In previous years we were finally successful, after a long slog, in protecting and preserving the essential instruments of nature protection in the EU, the Birds & Habitats Directives (BHD). With that achieved at long last, it remains that proper implementation and enforcement is the ongoing battlefield. Without the will in that regard, there is little way to secure the protections of birds and biodiversity to which we are so committed. In today's interconnected multilateral world, with progressive principles under sustained attack, the European Union remains standing as one of the key global pillars promoting principles to enable a sustainable and sane future.

It was therefore with no small degree of passion and energy that in the spring of 2019 the European Partnership threw itself into a broad campaign, in Partnership with LUSH, to encourage increased voter participation on behalf of the planet with a catchy campaign called #VoteNature. Powered by locally relevant nature graphics and messaging in LUSH shop windows across the continent, and echoed and reinforced through the digital space, the campaign trapped millions of eyeballs and finger clicks, and helped create a zeitgeist which resulted in record numbers of elected MEPs who support nature.

The election of Ursula von der Leyen as new Commission President, and her subsequent selection of Frans Timmermans as Executive Vice President, with, as the year unfolded, a specific and exciting portfolio to deliver a European Green Deal, lifted our hearts while knowing that we needed to further gird our loins to make the aspirational concrete. Finally, on the chessboard of key pieces, the choice of Virginijus Sinkevičius as the new European Commissioner for the Environment, Oceans and Fisheries further provided a breath of fresh air and the promise of generational change in tackling the challenges we face.

We also continued, of course, the active pursuit of critical legislative and political processes from reforming agriculture and land use, including the massive Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), to revising and addressing the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) and the new European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF). These big ticket items do not distract us, however, from diverse work supporting Partners in filing lawsuits and infringement cases against egregious violations of the Birds & Habitats Directives, national environmental and planning legislation, or other multinational convention and treaty obligations. To these efforts we maintain active efforts on behalf of fighting climate change. Effective climate action that leads to genuine greenhouse gas reduction goes hand in hand with biodiversity conservation and protection of ecosystems. We therefore particularly worked on the implementation of the new Renewable Energy Directive and implementation of the national energy plans.

Our Partners across the land push like never before, with birds as our guide, to rethink and reimagine how we live on the planet, how we use its limited resources responsibly, and how to save our world – hopefully in better shape for future generations. It is our great privilege to work with them and support them in this most essential struggle.

“As long as people will shed the blood of innocent creatures there can be no peace, no liberty, no harmony between people. Slaughter and justice cannot dwell together.”

Isaac Bashevis Singer

Angelo Caserta
Regional Director BirdLife Europe & Central Asia

BirdLife Europe & Central Asia

KEY FACTS

4,100 staff

2,000,000 members

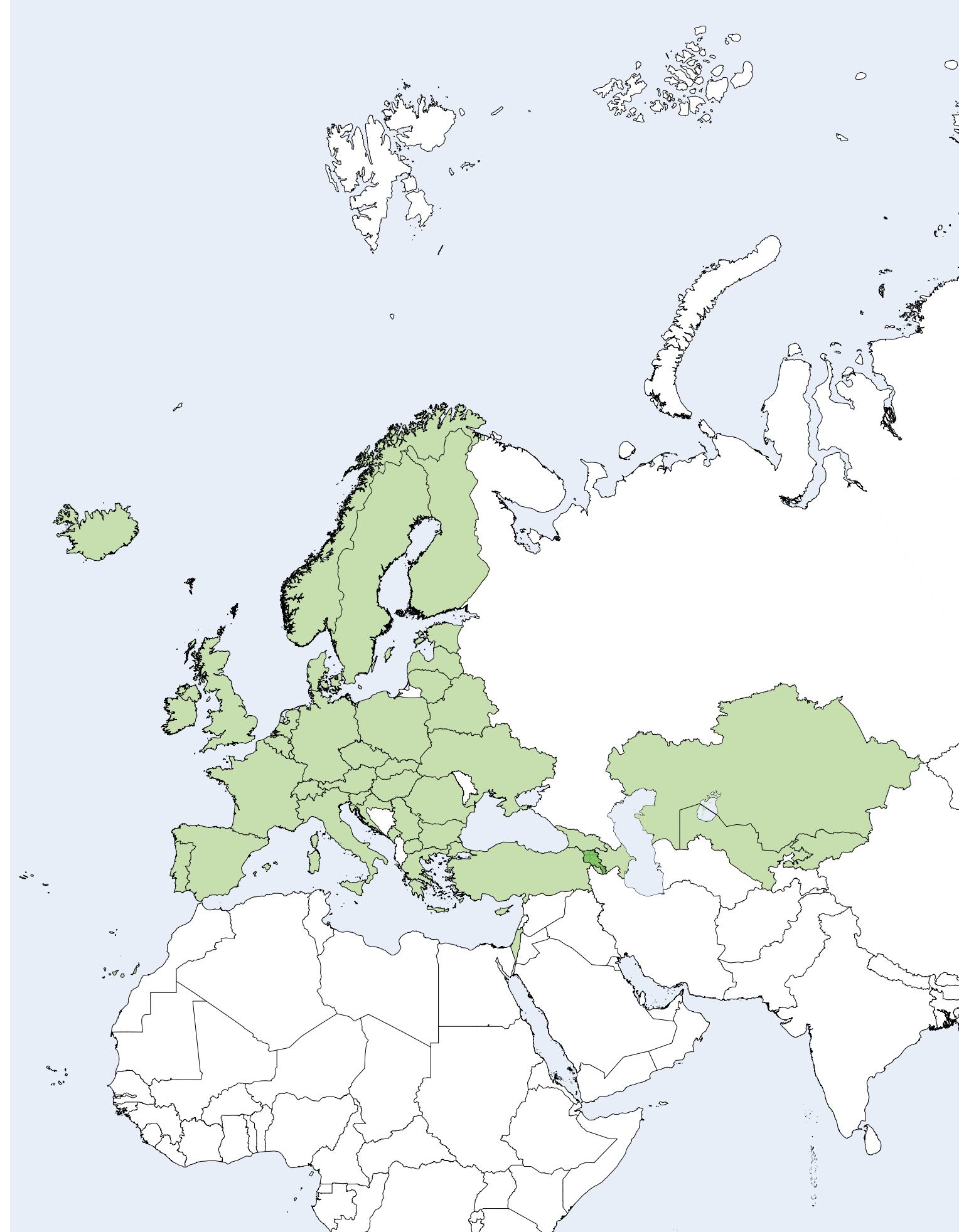
Tens of thousands of skilled volunteers

Partners own or manage more than

6,000 nature sites totalling

320,000 hectares

BirdLife Europe and Central Asia is one of six regional secretariats that compose **BirdLife International** – a world leader in bird conservation and the largest nature conservation partnership in the world. Our unique **local-to-global** approach enables us to deliver high-impact and long-term conservation for the benefit of **nature and people**. Our secretariat, based in Brussels, supports a **regional partnership of 48 national conservation organisations** across 47 countries, including all EU Member States. With more than **4,100 staff** in Europe, **two million members** and tens of thousands of skilled volunteers, BirdLife Europe and Central Asia, together with its national partners, owns or manages more than **6,000 nature sites** totalling **320,000 hectares**.



ADVOCATING FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Agriculture continues to represent one of the areas in which achieving concrete change offers enormous potential to effect improvement in the protection of birds, biodiversity and fighting climate change. One significant opportunity is in reforming how the EU spends the lavish €60 billion+ per year of its misguided Common Agricultural Policy. These monies are largely distributed to the wealthiest and largest industrial agricultural interests in Europe. Smaller, more sustainable family farms, often themselves engaged in saner and less intensive agriculture, suffer disproportionately to everyone's disadvantage.

The devastating impact of intensive, industrial monoculture agriculture destroys farmland birds, biodiversity, clean water and healthy soil. The sheer economic power of this agro-industrial lobby makes our struggle to reform the CAP and support nature-friendly farming a formidable fight.

45% of the EU's total land area is farmland. Tragically, this massive canvas is scarred by deeply unsustainable agriculture paid for by public money. The distorted outcomes include a devastating freefall in biodiversity evidenced by a staggering 57% crash in populations of farmland birds in the last four decades.

Despite the urgency of this issue, public awareness remains a key challenge. We were therefore very gratified to receive a generous grant from the European Climate Foundation to support communications and advocacy work on CAP reform. The main opportunity for this will be in the European Parliament's plenary vote scheduled to take place in 2020 so our work in 2019 consisted of laying the groundwork on many fronts.

This included contributing to ground-breaking investigatory journalism in the New York Times exploring and exposing the corruption in CAP spending, and the distortions its misguided spending creates in outcomes that destroy nature and sustainability rather than enhancing them.

Additionally, and throughout the year, we targeted key decision-makers in the European Parliament, its ENVI and AGRI Committees, the Council and Commission, to raise their awareness of the budget implications of an environmentally unfriendly CAP, but also on the inclusion of environmental stakeholders in all relevant debates.

For example, we targeted MEPs in the Agriculture Committee in advance of their vote in April through the campaign platform WeMove which received over 142,000 signatures out of the target of 175,000. And in the streets, as part of the Sustainable Food & Farming coalition, we helped organize the Good Food Good Farming Action days, which culminated in a protest with farmers and civil society organisations in October. Tractors and hay bales abounded.



Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus* ©Bahadır Yeniceri/Shutterstock

©Mariusz Szczygiel/Shutterstock

SEABIRDS AND MARINE

Marine continues to be a dynamic area in which we are engaged on multiple fronts with significant resources in our policy and conservation teams, as well as extensive Partner engagement on the ground collecting data, doing research and lobbying to inform progress, better policies and outcomes.

The public imagination has been appropriately captured by the nefarious impacts of plastic pollution. On an equally graphically disturbing front, seabird bycatch is a devastating and ugly outcome against which we work hard with fishers, their communities and governments to reduce. The pictures, of course, do not suffice for policy makers, we back them up with data, which is essential to understand the nature of the problem at national and regional levels, and to inform actions to address it. BirdLife collaborated with the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) and other regional organisations to develop a standardised methodology for the collection of bycatch data for the Mediterranean and Black Sea. Through our BirdLife Partners, these data collection and standardization efforts cover the waterfront, including Spain, Portugal, Cyprus, Lithuania, Turkey, Morocco and Tunisia among others. These seas include the Mediterranean, the Baltic Sea and the Atlantic Ocean. Alongside our Partners, we continue trialling lights night settings and scary-bird kites for gillnets continually improving the quality and accuracy of the data so fishers can be certain these tactics deliver concrete, positive outcomes for seabirds.

We also target Ministers, Commissioners and MEPs with our advocacy to achieve effective legal change. In 2019, the EU finally approved legislation to benefit nature by putting an end to harmful subsidies. Further to this,

BirdLife has strongly pursued the EU to invest money in protecting and restoring our oceans through the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) for example. In 2019, the European Parliament voted for the first time to ringfence 25% of the next EMFF to benefit marine ecosystems, the first time in history they have voted on this topic.

We continued to advocate for the designation of marine IBAs as Marine Protected Areas, part of national and European protected area systems, namely through their designation as Special Protection Areas (SPAs), as well as for the identification and implementation of effective management measures for these areas. An ecosystem based approach in an integrated maritime policy across all states will be essential to the sustainable use of marine space and resources. The BirdLife Partnership delivered analysis on the effects of threats such as oil spills on protected seabirds. In addition, we continued to advocate for the designation of high seas marine IBAs, including the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Seamount Marine Protected Area under the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR).

The voyage to this safe port is a long and challenging one, but we steer true to it with the tireless efforts of our Partners, volunteers, local communities and committed and effective political leaders at all levels.



Yelkouan Shearwater *Puffinus yelkouan* ©Agami Photo Agency/Shutterstock

IMPORTANT BIRD & BIODIVERSITY AREAS, PREVENTING EXTINCTIONS & PROTECTING MIGRATORY BIRDS

After ending 2018 on a high with the European Commission's approving of all nine of our proposed Species Action Plans (SAP) covering 16 species, we began 2019 looking to improving implementation and data collection and tracking. Increasingly, sophisticated data collection and analysis empowered by our omnipresent digital world and artificial intelligence reinforces the wonderfully effective and old-school world of banding our birds. Ongoing work to fine-tune our SAP tracking tool and its digital capacities is underway and is part of a broader effort to better integrate the various bird monitoring and site monitoring tools available. For example, BirdLife Europe and Central Asia released a mobile app and web portal named NaturaAlert. This is the first multi-platform tool, fully designed by us, focusing on citizen science and threat reporting. The web portal allows the monitoring of the threats to sites and the state of the IBAs and Natura2000 sites. It has been tested in Spain, where more than 280 observations were collected in a very short test campaign. Dashboards on the IBA status per country and the main threats at the most in danger sites are available to all users.



The Doñana National Park ©Helleo-Van Ingen

We continued as well our diverse, gold-standard work compiling, updating and analysing the best available data on European bird populations. This includes further updating and preparation of the European Red List of Birds 2020 and continued elaboration of the Second European Breeding Bird Atlas (EBBA2) due to be published in 2020.

This granular data also deeply informed our broader work on the evaluation and enhancement of biodiversity strategies. We published and widely distributed an in-depth assessment of the performance of the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020. The speed with which the new European Commission was formed, and its green mandate confirmed and accelerated, led us to a herculean effort with our Partners to prepare, in record time, a detailed position paper on a Future Biodiversity Strategy to 2030. To achieve this, we ran a massive consultation with Partners across the EU and with external experts. This extraordinary effort, of which we are justifiably proud, allowed us to produce the only complete and coherent set of detailed proposals submitted to the European Commission by civil society.

On the ground, with our Partners, we continued to support public awareness raising and case work on threatened sites. As examples of the diversity of these efforts, we provided intensive support on the Vistula Lagoon in Poland, continued supporting the follow-up of the Biłowieza forest case, the SPA border reductions in Denmark, the Limni Bay resort in Cyprus, the Doñana National Park in Spain, airport development in the Portuguese Tagus estuary, and other Natura 2000 designation issues in Portugal, as well as large scale grassland destruction in Germany and Slovenia.

We were especially gratified that after significant work by our Partner in Montenegro, CZIP, and other NGOs, we managed after many years to achieve the designation of the iconic Ulcinj Salina saltworks as a Natural Park and thus a Protected Area in mid-summer 2019. We had jointly launched a widespread social media campaign with a bespoke hashtag, #SaveSalina, for a petition ultimately signed by 100,000+ Europeans. But as long as there is no proper management of the area, the habitats are still at great risk of decay, so we will continue with our #SaveSalina campaign to fight for the management structure and measures required. Indeed, proper management plans for a site such as Ulcinj are as necessary as the full transposition and implementation of the provisions of the Birds and Habitats Directives as regards hunting and species protection.

Specifically, we supported BirdLife Malta's work on spring derogations and LPO (BirdLife Partner in France) on irregularities of hunting derogations issued by French authorities. We also supported Partners on the follow-up of their complaints on European Turtle Dove issues covering both unsustainable hunting levels and habitat degradation, not to mention SAP work on other threatened species such as the Grey Partridge, wader species, Egyptian Vulture, Eurasian Curlew, and the White-headed Duck.

2019 saw a continued commitment as well to the improved conservation of migratory birds, particularly through addressing illegal killing and other human induced mortality and through the support of wetland conservation projects around the Mediterranean. Our most high profile efforts included our extensive #Flight-forSurvival campaign. BirdLife Europe and Central Asia coordinated and supported regional and national efforts to address illegal killing across Europe, but with focused efforts at specific hotspots including Italy, Lebanon, Greece, Cyprus and Egypt. This pan-African Eurasian Flyways public facing awareness raising campaign involved both a spring and an autumn migratory season, 7 iconic species and many BirdLife Partners as listed above and others along the flyway. Less visibly, we played an active role in the consultation process of the Rome Strategic Plan on tackling illegal killing of birds (as a follow-up work of the Tunis Action plan for the period 2020-2030). We also participated at the Standing Committee Meeting of the Bern Convention in December 2019, where the Rome Strategic Plan was adopted with minor changes.

We also engaged in extensive work to support Partners to protect diverse wetlands from Tunisia to Sardinia, Albania to Montenegro. We developed an engaging public awareness campaign with our Partners called OffYourMap, which captures the diverse socio-economic, biodiversity and climate mitigation importance of these critical habitats for birds, wildlife and people.

We continued to push for the banning of lead ammunition in hunting in wetlands, long declared toxic and dangerous by EU health and chemical authorities, and yet still embraced and defended by powerful hunting lobbies.

And as 2019 drew to a close, we learned the news that our long serving and effective regional Director, Angelo Caserta, would resign. Luckily, this was not before he celebrated and promoted an important milestone, the 40th anniversary of the Birds Directive with a well-received keynote speech at the leaders' segment of the Biodiversity Stakeholder conference.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Despite the magnificent spotlight Greta Thunberg has managed to shine on the climate crisis with the Friday school strikes, with which we have shown our solidarity by joining marches in Brussels and beyond, much of our work is in less visible and even arcane policy work. Broadly speaking, this includes continued campaigns for strong climate action in harmony with nature. We have advocated for sound strategic planning and use of best practice to ensure that electricity grids, wind farms and other renewable energy infrastructures are developed rapidly but without undue biodiversity impacts.

We continue to work to improve flawed EU policies on bioenergy (biomass, biofuels and biogas) and ensure that effective policies are put in place to reduce emissions from the land use sector and agriculture whilst preserving our agro-ecosystems and cutting water pollution, soil degradation and biodiversity loss.

With the revised Renewable Energy Directive (RED) entering into force last year, we have spent considerable effort participating in assessment efforts on the implementation of its sustainability criteria, and a robust accounting framework and mitigation measures for greenhouse gas emissions. Although the RED disappointed us in many areas, we were nonetheless gratified that BirdLife Europe and Central Asia achieved the inclusion of efficiency standards for bioenergy installations and the ability for

Member States to develop further sustainability safeguards beyond the minimum standards set by the RED. From biomass sourcing to looking at land-based and marine energy grids and their potential to devastate biodiversity and birds, we fed much policy analysis and data into parliamentarians, the Commission and other relevant NGO groups, including the BirdLife Partnership. Our Partnership work includes such lateral decision-making bodies as the Birds and Habitats Directive Task Force (e.g. for wind and grids), the Agriculture Task Force (bioenergy & LULUCF) and the Marine Task Force (offshore power).

Our long-term goal is to ensure that renewable energy is adopted in a manner that does not compromise environmental and nature protection, and that limits the use of unsustainable biomass.



Honey Buzzard *Pernis apivorus* ©Erni/Shutterstock

Collared Pratincole *Glareola pratincola* ©WildlifeWorld/Shutterstock

BUSINESS, BIRDS AND BIODIVERSITY

It is now an accepted axiom that to successfully address the crises the planet faces, every sector of society must fully embrace a range of changes. Businesses have often been perceived as late bloomers to the cause. But BirdLife's engagements with the corporate world have deep roots. Our longstanding engagement in the extractives sector is one example.

In particular, we are proud of our work with HeidelbergCement and more broadly with industry associations. An exciting aspect of our work with HeidelbergCement is that it is deeply implicated not only across their industrial activities in quarries, but also connects enthusiastically with local peoples around the globe in their communities, highlighting the importance of enhancing biodiversity and the birds whose lives depend on a healthy environment.

HeidelbergCement's enthusiastic commitment to communities is powerfully evidenced in its renewed and deepened commitment to BirdLife's multinational Spring Alive program. Spring Alive 2019 saw the participation of over 74,000 children and 1,800 teachers in activities designed to raise awareness and enthusiasm for nature, birds, and biodiversity. Through a wide range of media platforms the programme reached nearly 1.3 million people. 2019 also saw the first training workshop in Africa where the leading European countries shared their experiences and knowledge to the nine participating African country coordinators.

But the collaboration with HeidelbergCement didn't stop there. We coordinated and implemented six conservation awareness and education projects within four European and two African Heidelberg Cement quarries. These events focussed on migratory birds and the role quarries can play in providing habitat for these birds if correctly managed. Projects were conducted in Romania, Poland, Georgia, Czech Republic, Morocco and Ghana.

And it's not just successful group gatherings. Behind the scenes, BirdLife works with the company's scientists and engineers to determine the real world impact of HeidelbergCement quarries on biodiversity. In 2019, we were commissioned to develop a Net Impact Methodology. Trialing commenced with HeidelbergCement quarries that will have nature and conservation impacts after use. Finally, BirdLife Europe and Central Asia continued to assist HeidelbergCement with achieving their Sustainability Commitments 2030, and developing industry leading biodiversity management practices.

At the industry level, BirdLife Europe and Central Asia strengthened its cooperation with a range of associations in the European mineral extractive sector, hosting a discussion-working group with stakeholders from across the sector to discuss species protection within quarries. We were also proud to have gained support and commitment from the Union Européenne de Producteurs de Granulats (UEPG) and CEMBUREAU to join in signing a Code of Conduct, which will see the sector commit to best management practices during the operational phase of the quarries life that would favour biodiversity.

BirdLife Europe and Central Asia's broader engagement with a range of other corporates and the business sector as a whole included participation in the EU Business@Biodiversity platform, attendance at the Madrid EU Business Summit in November and actively contributing towards the Aligning Biodiversity Measures for Business initiative at their workshops held in Brussels and in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.



Colony of Northern Gannets *Morus bassanus* ©meunier/Shutterstock

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

There is a popular truism that a chain is only as strong as its weakest link, as is a team. And because as we often say, birds know no borders, we need to be as strong as we can everywhere. Wealthier BirdLife Partners, and partners with deeper bench strength in different areas, link up with developing partners, and with us, to share their knowledge and funds and make all of us stronger together.

In 2019 the European and Central Asian Committee, those elected to help drive our regional policies and programs, approved a new Regional Partner Development Strategy that outlines a methodology to set our development priorities for 2019-2022. The strategy has helped to map Partners' support needs in an objective way and attract funding and technical assistance from supporting Partners and external donors such as the Sigrid Rausing Trust and the MAVA Foundation. A special role is played by the Regional Partner Development Initiative, funded through Partner contributions, which provides flexible investment in Partners who do not have access to development funding from other sources.

Moreover, every department in BirdLife Europe and Central Asia is now engaged in capacity development of the Partners. The Fundraising Working group and the Marine, Agriculture and Birds & Habitat Task Forces are just a few outstanding examples. The philosophy of making the Partners stronger is built into all of what we do with almost every project and partner to partner

collaboration having a capacity development component. Thanks to the MAVA Foundation, we have been able to appoint a Balkans capacity development officer to help Partners in Croatia, Serbia, Montenegro and North Macedonia strengthen their membership programs and financial position. We have also been able to invest in a CRM system for 6 Partners, the purchase of an office for the Greek Partner and a number of commercial initiatives that will allow Partners to generate more income for conservation. We also helped to secure unrestricted core funding for 6 Partners from the Sigrid Rausing Trust, which allows them to overcome their high dependence on project income and develop their programs more strategically.

But most important of all, we have seen a tremendous increase in the number of Partners helping one another, by sharing expertise, helping out financially or otherwise. In these sad and difficult times, it is heartwarming to see how much the BirdLife family members care for each other.



Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea* ©Hugh Harrop/Agami

A BIG THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Our work across Europe and Central Asia is made possible through the generous support of our donors, including BirdLife national partners and the donors that support them. Together we are truly making a difference.

THANK YOU.

HERE ARE A SAMPLE OF THE WAYS IN WHICH DONORS ARE WORKING WITH BIRDLIFE

Baltic Sea Conservation Foundation

Primarily through support to our Lithuanian Partner (LOD – Lithuanian Ornithological Society), the foundation is supporting work to address seabird bycatch in the Baltic Sea.

Cambridge Conservation Initiative (CCI) – Endangered Landscapes Programme (ELP)

A new restoration project to improve conservation and landscape management in the Iori River Valley in Georgia was launched with the support of ELP, in collaboration with our local Partner Sabuko. The project, initially scheduled for two years, has already been extended for an additional two years to continue the important work we and Sabuko are carrying out in this key biodiversity area in the Caucasus.

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Thanks to the support of GIZ, we are contributing to a project coordinated by the European Environmental Bureau to analyse the role of farming in climate change, engage stakeholders in dialogue, and share best practices; in order to contribute to a climate-friendly Common Agriculture Policy.

European Climate Foundation – ECF

The ECF supported our work on the Common Agricultural Policy ahead of the strategic vote in the European Parliament (initially scheduled for 2019, postponed to 2020) to produce an environmentally and climate responsible CAP.

European Commission – Directorate General Environment

The European Commission, through the NGO Operating Grant of DG Environment, supported BirdLife Europe & Central Asia¹ in its advocacy, conservation and communication work on biodiversity protection and nature conservation. This grant enabled us to strengthen our European Partnership both on governance and policy related issues as well as providing an effective conduit between the European Union and citizens. Other European Union funds, through the LIFE Programme and a number of competitive contracts also supported our work in 2019.

HeidelbergCement – Partnership

In completing our eighth year of collaboration, the HeidelbergCement-BirdLife partnership continues to drive impactful change in the extractives sector with innovative conservation actions and best practice commitments. With our assistance, HeidelbergCement has continued on its road as one of the industry's leaders to reduce its impacts in striving towards a biodiversity net gain.

Thanks to HeidelbergCement's generous sponsorship, our education programme, Spring Alive, which connects children and teachers across Europe and Africa through fun events and educational materials on migratory birds, was revitalized.

MAVA – Fondation Pour la Nature

MAVA supported us and our partners to deliver a concerted effort to address the appalling carnage of birds illegally killed, through trapping, shooting and poisoning, that takes place each year in particular hot spots in the Mediterranean. Through this support, BirdLife in Europe and the UK, partners across the Mediterranean and beyond, and other NGOs are joining forces with national and regional governments and key stakeholders to address this intransigent and distressing problem.

MAVA provided match funding for an EU funded LIFE project, LIFE Against Bird Crime. Other key areas of work addressed in partnership with MAVA were work to reduce the mortality of birds as a result of energy infrastructure; various projects across the Mediterranean to improve the functioning of priority wetlands, including the successful campaign to save Ulcinj Salina in Montenegro; and an international project to tackle bycatch of birds, cetaceans and turtles in fishing gear. Some of these projects are led by BirdLife Europe and Central Asia, others by BirdLife International, and others by diverse NGOs.

Oak Foundation

In response to our reporting of the shocking loss of migratory birds through illegal killing, the Oak Foundation renewed its support for on-the-ground action in Italy, Cyprus and Malta. This new three-year project is yielding valuable data, reducing incidents of illegal behaviour, upskilling local law enforcement and educating the next generation about the value of these threatened birds.

WWF Nederland

Working in partnership with Rewilding Europe, other NGOs and research agencies, this funding supports the mobilisation of rewilding principles in the EU restoration agenda to ultimately create a coherent Ecological Network in Europe.

The David and Lucile Packard Foundation

The David and Lucile Packard Foundation continued to support BirdLife's leading work, in partnership with Transport and Environment (T&E) on EU bioenergy policies, to ensure they effectively contribute to climate change mitigation while minimising adverse effects on biodiversity, ecosystems and vulnerable human populations.

THANK YOU ALSO TO THOSE DONORS WHO SUPPORTED OUR CAMPAIGNS AND THOSE WHO WISHED TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS – YOUR SUPPORT IS MOST GRATEFULLY APPRECIATED.

¹ Stichting BirdLife Europe & Central Asia – a regional secretariat of BirdLife International – is a Dutch Foundation, Stichting BirdLife Europe, and its operating office is located in Brussels.

GOVERNANCE & FINANCES

The European and Central Asian Committee, elected by the European partners, guides and advises and the BirdLife Europe and Central Asia Division (BirdLife Europe) and reports to the Global Council. The members of the Europe and Central Asia Committee until October 2018 were: Asunción Ruiz (SEO/BirdLife, Spain), Yves Verilhac (LPO, BirdLife in France), Damijan Denac (DOPPS, BirdLife in Slovenia), Gergő Halmos (MME, BirdLife in Hungary), Martin Harper (RSPB, BirdLife in the UK).

In October 2018, all Members of the ECA Committee remained unchanged and Vera Vorona (ACBK) and Philippe Funcken (Natagora) were also elected.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to acknowledge the following BirdLife Partners and their donors, who have contributed through fundraising and unrestricted financial contributions to the work of the BirdLife Europe and Central Asia Division:

BirdLife Austria; BirdLife Cyprus; BirdLife Finland; BirdLife Malta; BirdWatch Ireland; Bulgarian Society for the Protection of Birds (BSPB); Czech Society for Ornithology (CSO); Dansk Ornitologisk Forening (DOF); Drustvo za Opazovanje in Proučevanje Ptice Slovenije (DOPPS); Estonian Ornithological Society (EOS); Hellenic Ornithological Society (HOS); Hungarian Ornithological and Nature Conservation Society

(MME); Lega Italiana Protezione Uccelli (LIPU); Lëtzeburger Natur- a Vulleschutzliga (LNVL); Ligue pour la Protection des Oiseaux (LPO); Natagora; Naturschutzbund Deutschland (NABU); Natuurpunt; Ogólnopolskie Towarzystwo Ochrony Ptaków (OTOP); The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB); Schweizer Vogelschutz (SVS); Slovenská Ornitologická Spoločnosť/BirdLife Slovensko (SOS); Sociedad Española de Ornitología (SEO) – BirdLife in Spain; Sociedade Portuguesa para o Estudo das Aves (SPEA); Societatea Ornitologica Romana (SOR); Sveriges Ornitologiska Forening (SOF); Vogelbescherming Nederland (VBN); Norsk Ornitologisk Forening (NOF); Lietuvos Ornitologu Draugija (LOD).

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE (€)

INCOMING RESOURCES		RESOURCES EXPENDED	
Partners	789,727.76	Staff Cost	1,567,361.40
Grants and Donations	1,145,564.53	Travel Conference Events	126,210.44
EU Commission Funding	552,566.68	Rental Equipment & Premises	111,631.54
Grants from Corporates	265,515.03	Support Grants	635,500.02
Other Incomes	10,394.23	Professional Services	244,397.85
		Other Costs	121,561.77
		Overheads	11,896.62
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	2,763,768.23	TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	2,794,766.40

* The BirdLife International European Division is a Dutch Foundation, Stichting BirdLife Europe, and its operating office is located in Brussels.

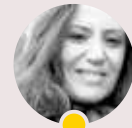
THE TEAM



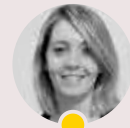
ANGELO CASERTA
Regional
Director



ELISABETH BONNET
Office
Assistant



JEANETTE FAVA
Senior Finance
Officer



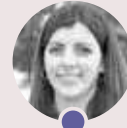
JESSICA REDAELLI
Global Events
and Administration Officer



MARINA ROLLET
Finance and HR
Administration Manager



STEFANIA MACCHIONI
Grant Writing and Donor
Management Officer



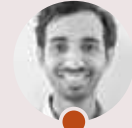
IRENE MARCHI
Fundraising
Officer



LIZ AUTON
Fundraising
Consultant



MARIANNA COLONNA
Digital Communications
Officer



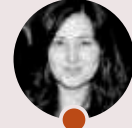
JEREMY HERRY
Editor and Campaigns
Officer



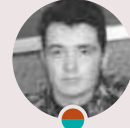
HONEY KOHAN
Media
Officer



CHRISTOPHER SANDS
Head
of Communications



GUI-XI YOUNG
Editor and Campaigns
Officer



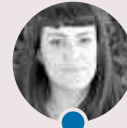
MERIJN VAN DEN BOSCH
Communications
Intern



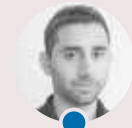
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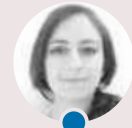
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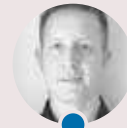
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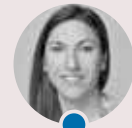
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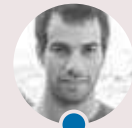
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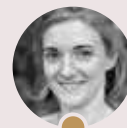
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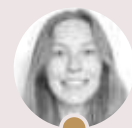
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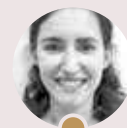
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EASTERN IMPERIAL EAGLE
Aquila heliaca
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