



LIFE09 NAT/ES/000533 “INNOVATION AGAINST POISON”

*«Innovative Actions Against Illegal
Poisoning in EU Mediterranean
Pilot Areas»*

Cordoba, 14-17 November 2012



S. Xirouchakis & M. Probonas





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**«Innovative Actions Against Illegal Poisoning in EU
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<http://www.gypaetus.org>



<http://www.quercus.pt/scid/webquercus/>



<http://www.ceai.pt/index.html>



<http://www.arcturos.gr/>

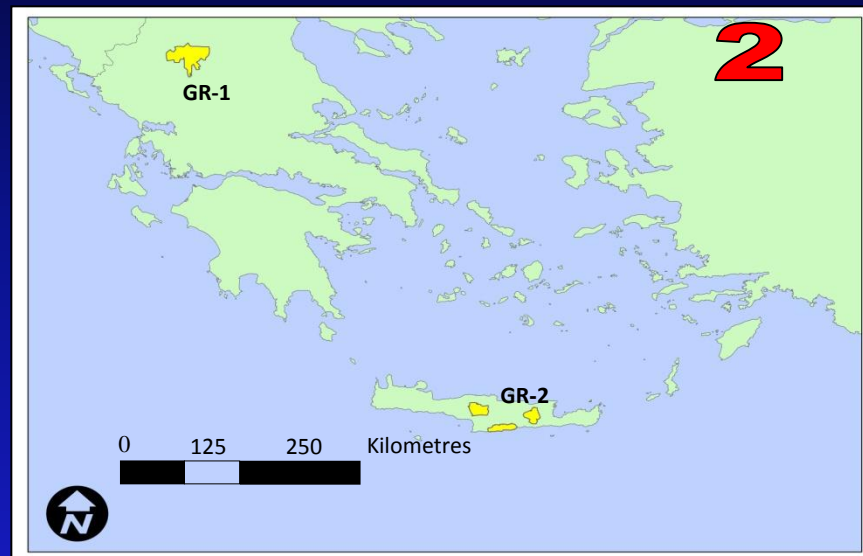
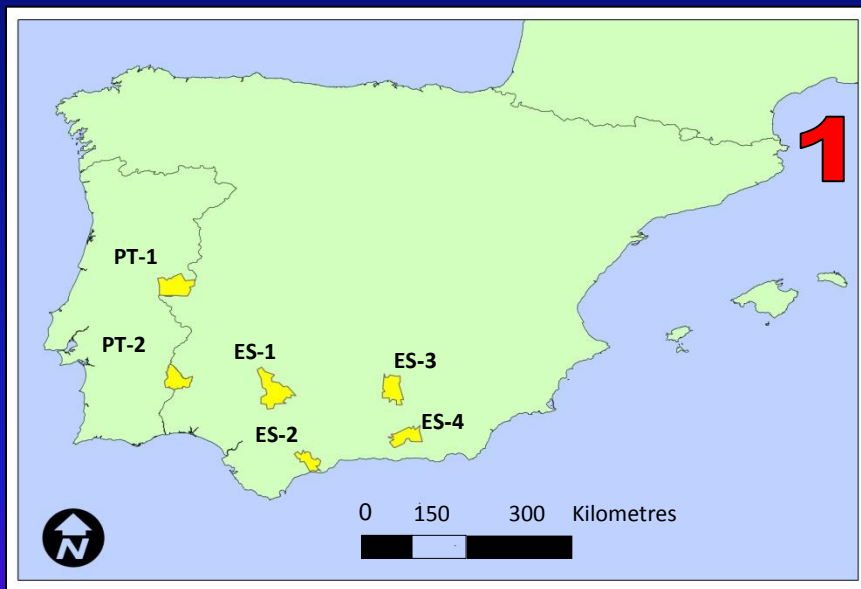


<http://www.nhmc.uoc.gr/>

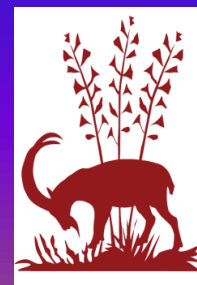


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MINISTRY OF
ENVIRONMENT
ENERGY &
CLIMATE
CHANGE





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Breakdown of NHMC's Budget

Budget breakdown categories	Budget (€)		% of total eligible costs
	<i>Total cost (€)</i>	<i>Eligible cost (€)</i>	
Personnel	244.267,00	244.267,00	40,10%
Travel and subsistence	66.135,00	66.135,00	10,86%
External assistance	79.276,00	79.276,00	13,01%
Durable goods			
<i>Infrastructure</i>	0,00	0,00	
<i>Equipment</i>	20.335,00	10.168,00	1,67%
Consumables	95.440,00	95.440,00	15,67%
Other costs	77.811,00	77.811,00	12,77%
Overheads	36.106,00	36.106,00	5,93%
TOTAL	619.370,00	609.203,00	100,00%



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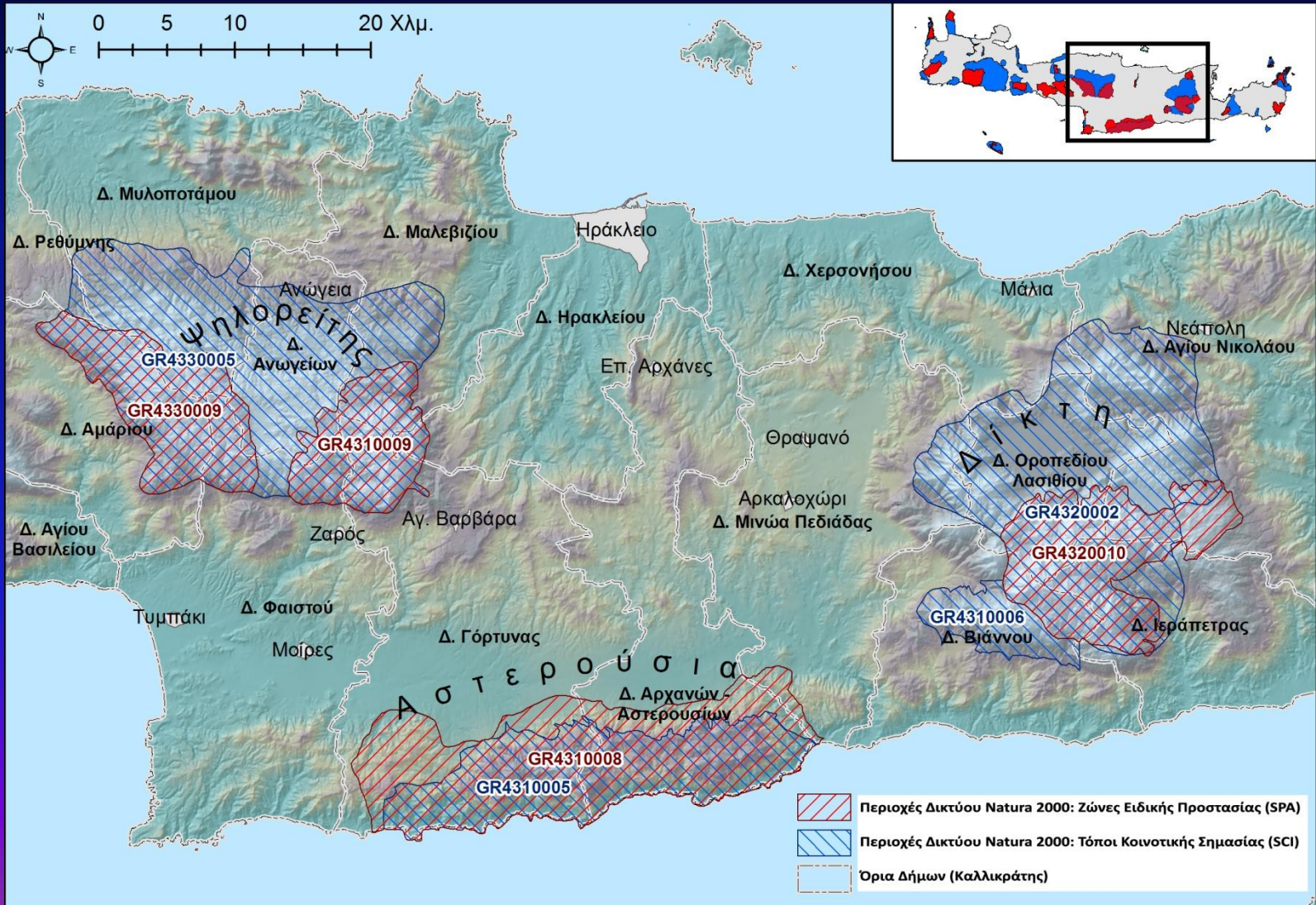


Pilot Area GR-2 (Crete)





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Psiloritis



Asterousia Ori



Dikti





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ACTIONS

A. PREPARATORY ACTIONS, ELABORATION OF MANAGEMENT PLANS AND/OR ACTION PLANS





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A1. Analysis of the preoperational conditions in the pilot areas

- Study of the preoperational conditions in GR-2 (November 2011).
- Questionnaires – translation – modifications.
- Collection & analysis of the pilot area data.
- Field work & survey polls to stockbreeders/ hunters/ municipalities/
government officials/ general public.
- Analysis in specific data forms.



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ANALYSIS OF THE PREOPERATIONAL CONDITIONS IN PILOT AREA GR-2 (Crete) Reporting Date 07/09/2011



Compiled by:
Stavros Xirouchakis, Biologist Ph.D.
Micahlis Probonas, Physicist Ph.D.
Stamatina Nikolopoulou, Physicist M.Sc.

Natural History Museum of Crete
Heraklion November 2011

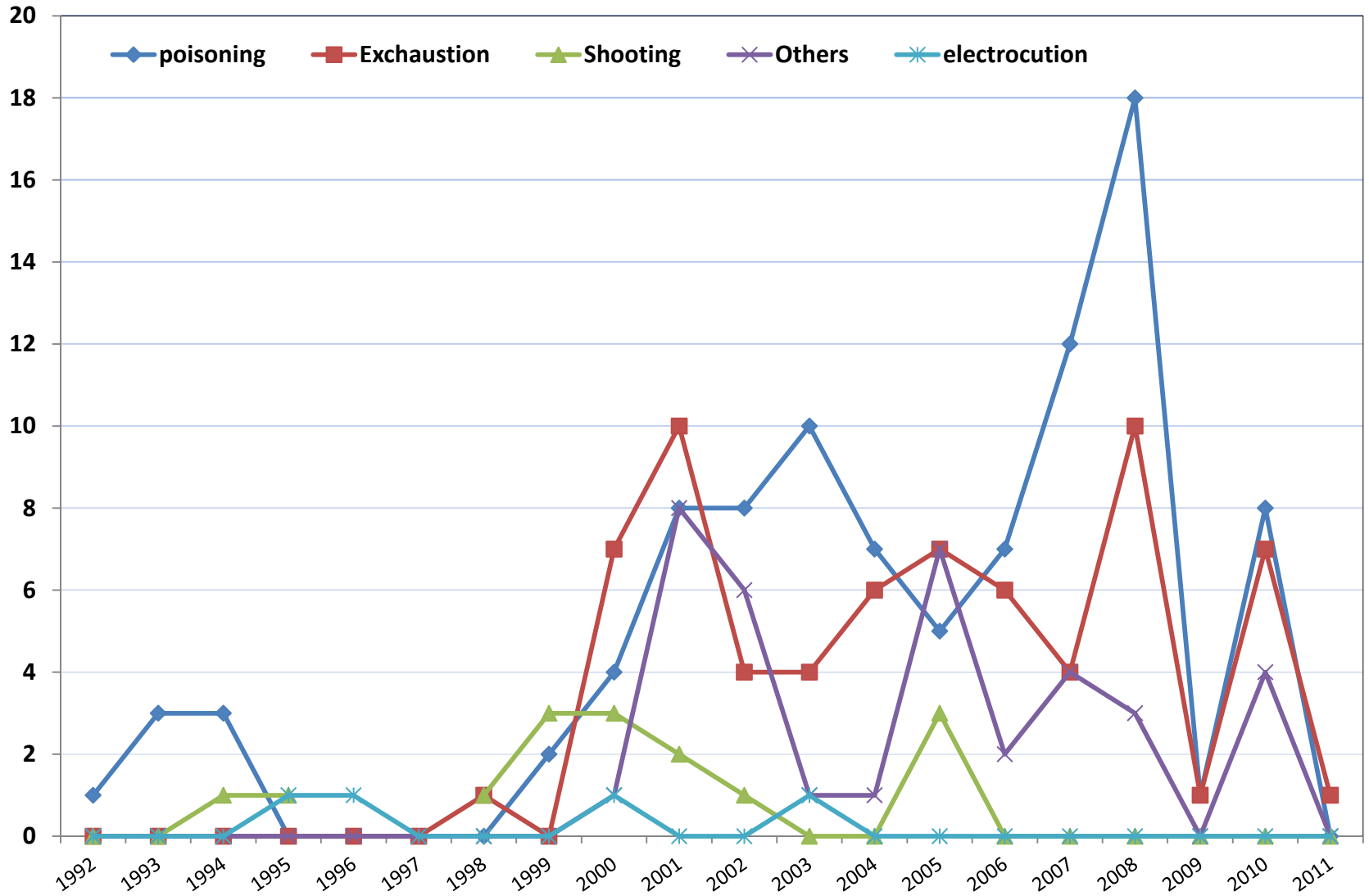


Analysis and report of the preoperational conditions (Action A1)

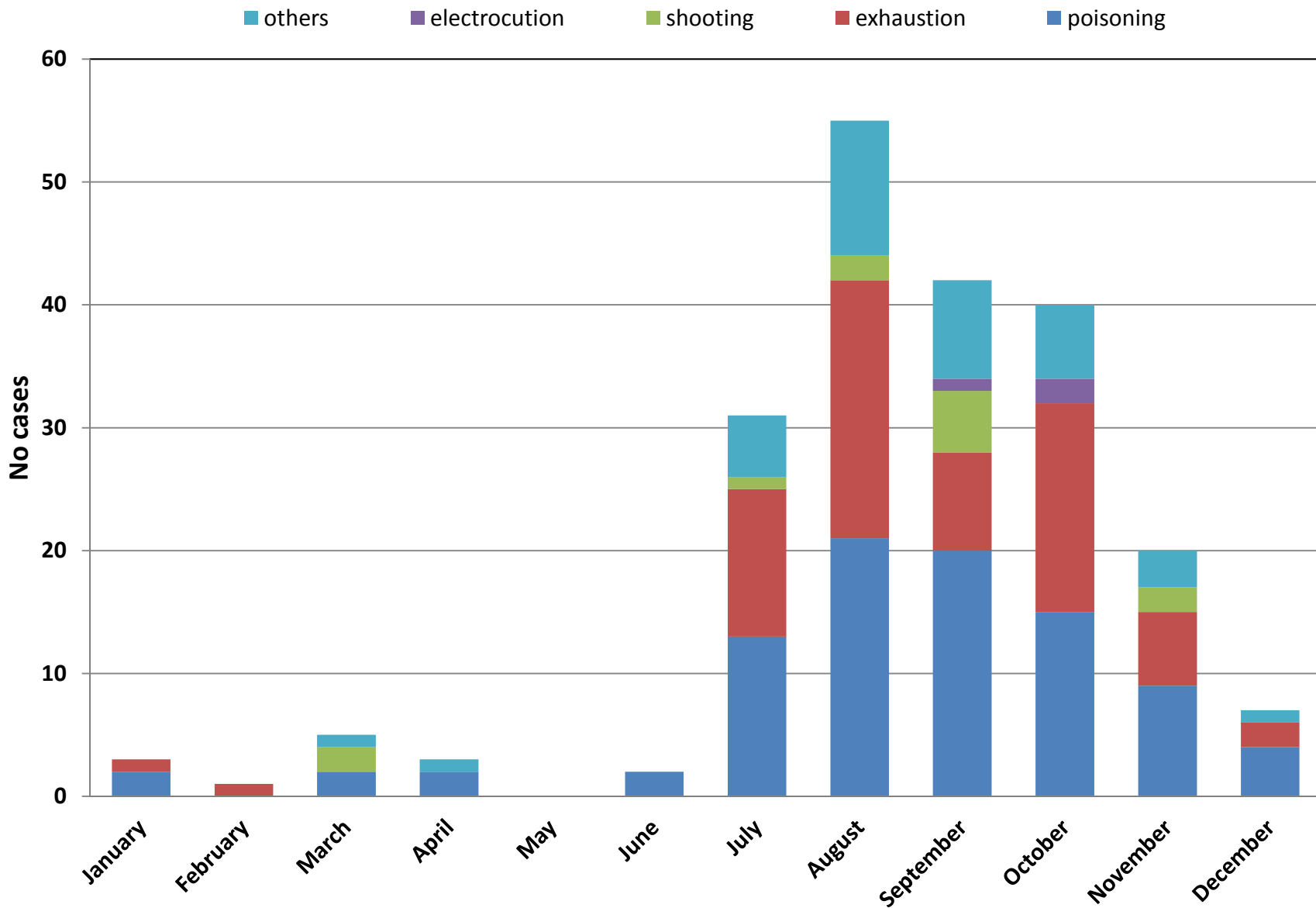
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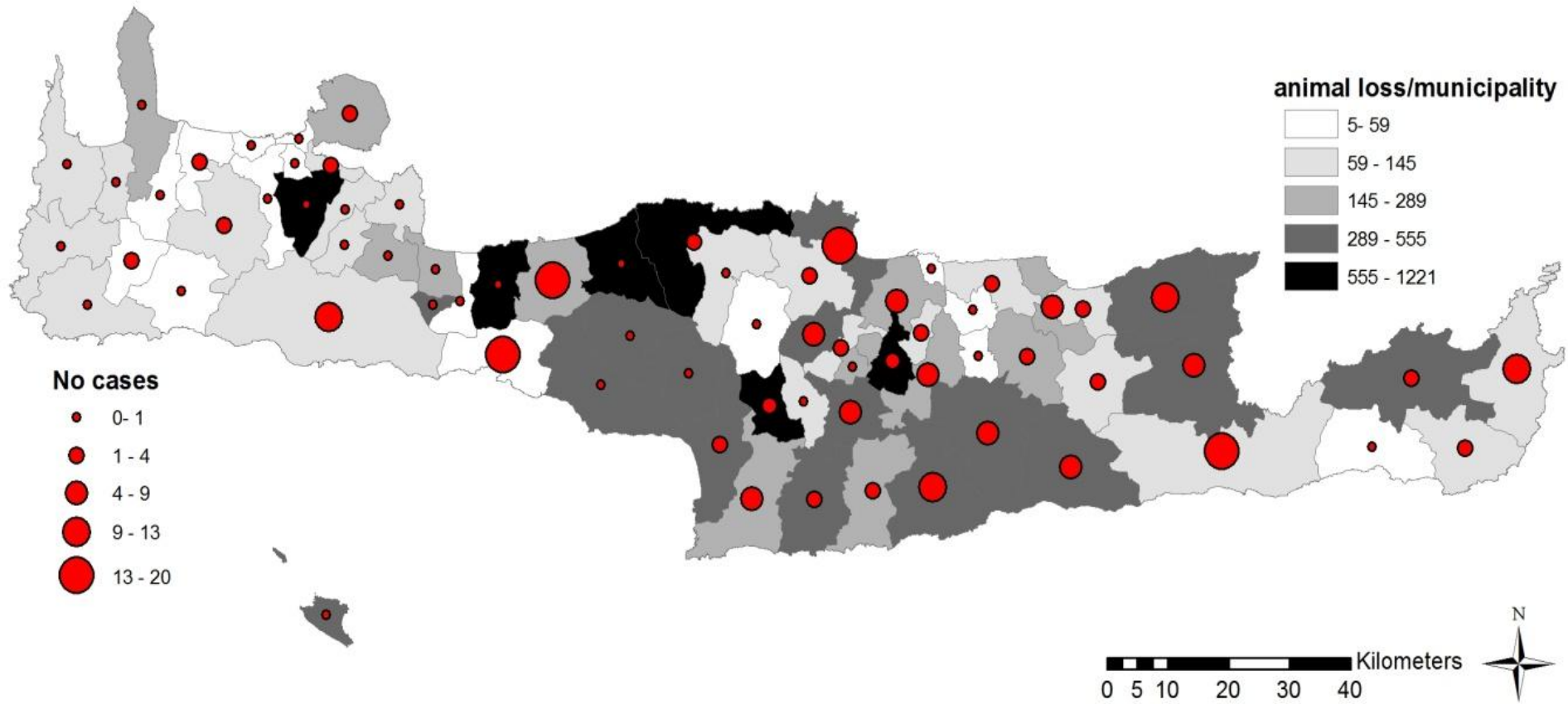
Mortality causes of griffon vultures in Crete (1992-2011)



Annual pattern of Griffon vulture mortality in Crete



Number of poisoning incidences & livestock loss (2000-2008)





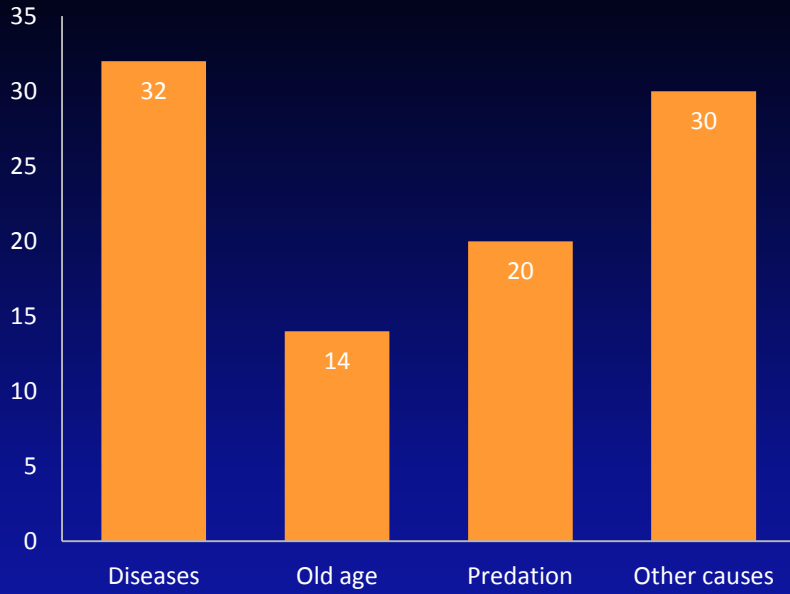
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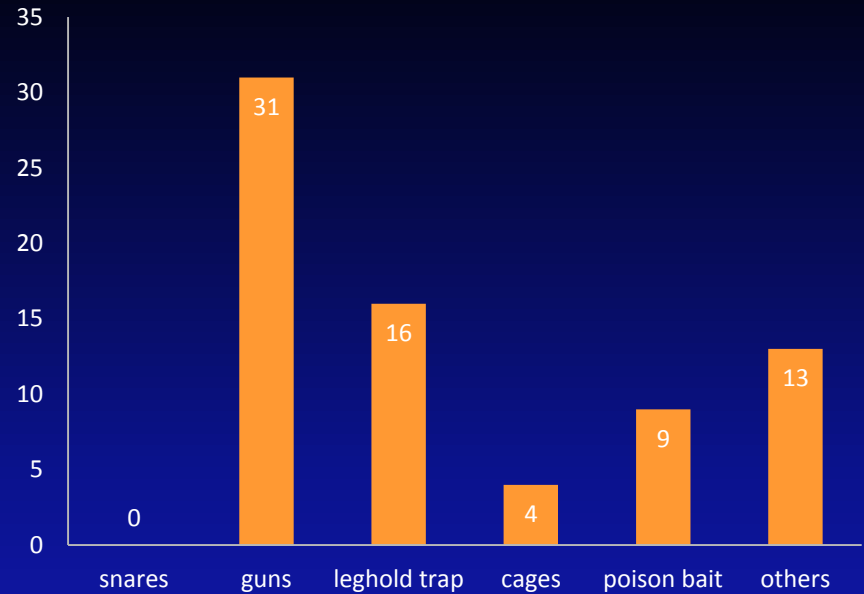
A3. Design and round of proposals to potential members of the “European Network of Stockbreeders Against Illegal Poisoning (ENSAIP)”

- Visit of stockbreeders exploitations in pilot area (GR-2) and information about the project / ENSAIP (50 direct meetings).
- Cooperation with the *Group of Stockbreeders-Producers “Cretan Mitata”* and the *Association of Professional Stockbreeders of Heraklion Prefecture*.
- Questionnaires distributed to more than 110 stockbreeders in the pilot area (96 questionnaires collected).
- Selection of 30 stockbreeders + 2 Associations to join ENSAIP – written agreement and commitment to join ENSAIP.

Stockbreeders: If you have suffered any loss last year for which cause?



Stockbreeders: If you have had losses due to predation, which methods would you use to avoid them?



Stockbreeders: Which hunting method is the most effective to minimize the effects of predation?





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A4. Design and round of proposals to potential members of the “European Network of Municipalities Against Illegal Poisoning (ENMAIP)”

- Information about the objectives of the project and ENMAIP to all Municipalities (total number: 12) of the pilot area.
- Communication with most Municipalities of the pilot area about the objectives of this action.
- Letter addressed to Mayor and relevant contracts of commitment to be agreed and signed by the Municipality Board.
- Ten (10) municipalities have agreed and joined ENMAIP.
- Efforts for involvement of the remaining two (2) municipalities.



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A5. Design and round of proposals to potential members of the “European Network of Hunting Areas Against Illegal Poisoning (ENHAIP)”

- Information about the objectives of the project and ENHAIP to several hunters in the pilot area.
- Communication and meeting with the 1st Hunting Federation of Crete and Dodecanese (AKOKD) for cooperation in the implementation of this action.
- Agreement for cooperation with AKOKD was signed.
- Seven (7) Hunting Associations also joined the ENHAIP network.
- 47 questionnaires from hunters have been collected and processed.
- Efforts for more members in ENHAIP (17 Hunting Associations).



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A6/ D4. Development of the contents of technical guidelines

➤ Contents and texts for the 3 guidelines are still in progress:

- ❖ *“Guidelines for the Control of Predation in Hunting Areas”*
- ❖ *“Guidelines for the Control & Management of Feral Dogs and Cats”*
- ❖ *“Guidelines for Predation Minimization in Livestock Farms”*



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A7. Establishing a methodology for the monitoring of the use of poison through bioindicator species in the pilot areas

- Trapping & tagging (permission from Ministry).
- Selection of target species: Bearded Vulture, Griffon Vulture, Common Buzzard, Beach Marten, Long-eared Owl, Common Raven and Golden Eagle.





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A8. Trapping & tagging of bioindicator species

Bio-indicator Species	Tag Type	Number	Company	Situation	Next steps
<i>Gyps fulvus</i>	Wing tags	100	UoC (Self-made)	Equipment already available	Trapping, monitoring
<i>Gyps fulvus</i>	Wing tags	50	Maquia® for wildlife (Spain)	Equipment already purchased	Trapping, monitoring
<i>Gyps fulvus</i>	PVC color rings	110	Interrex S.C. (Poland)	Equipment already purchased	Trapping, monitoring
“Vultures”	VHF Transmitters	10	Biotrack Ltd. (United Kingdom)	Equipment already purchased	Trapping, monitoring
“Vultures”	VHF Transmitters	5	Sirtrack Ltd. (New Zealand)	Equipment already ordered	Trapping, monitoring
<i>Gyps fulvus</i>	VHF/UHF-GPS Transmitters	1	Vectronic Aerospace GmbH (Germany)	Equipment already purchased	Trapping, monitoring
<i>Corvus corax</i>	VHF Transmitters	10	Sirtrack Ltd. (New Zealand)	Equipment already purchased	Trapping, monitoring
<i>Corvus corax</i>	PVC Color rings	50	Interrex S.C. (Poland)	Equipment already purchased	Trapping, monitoring
<i>Asio otus</i>	VHF Transmitters	10	Biotrack Ltd. (U.K.)	Equipment already purchased.	Trapping, monitoring
“Vultures”	Telemetry receiver R-1000	1	Communications Specialists (USA)	Equipment already purchased	Monitoring



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A8. Trapping and tagging of bioindicator species

➤ Tagged species:

2 *Gypaetus barbatus* ✓

14 *Asio otus* ✓

4 (+17) *Gyps fulvus* ✓

➤ Trapping cages (*Gyps fulvus*, *Corvus corax*) ✓





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ACTIONS

C. CONCRETE CONSERVATION ACTIONS





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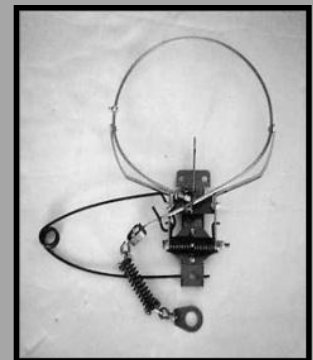


**C1. Anti-illegal poisoning tools addressed to livestock owners:
“European Network of stockbreeders against illegal poisoning
(ENSAIP)”**

**C2. Anti-illegal poisoning tools addressed to Municipalities:
“European Network of Municipalities against illegal poisoning
(ENMAIP)”**

**C3. Anti-illegal poisoning tools addressed to Hunting Areas:
“European Network of Hunting Areas against illegal poisoning
(ENHAIP)”**

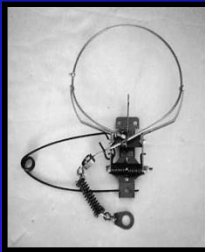
- Trapping cages for feral dogs and cats
- Communicate with people in ENSAIP, ENMAIP, ENHAIP – consulting for feral control management



Alternative methods for predator control

Participation in NETWORKS

- ❖ Dissemination of traps for predator control
- ❖ Habitat & game management
- ❖ Dissemination of microchips for domestic dogs
- ❖ Legal advice
- ❖ Public awareness material
- ❖ Technical guides
- ❖ Public talks
- ❖ School talks
- ❖ Educational excursions
- ❖ Technical seminars





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C4. European Canine Team

- The European Canine Team visited Crete during the period 18-30 October 2011 (1st visit of ECT in Crete).
- The main objectives were: a) **detection** of the illegal use of poisoned baits in Crete, b) **assessment** of the effectiveness of trained dogs in meeting this illegal activity and c) **documentation** of poison impact.
- The European Canine Team was consisted by 2 dog trainers and 4 dogs (Labrador and Belgian Malinois pedigrees).
- They visited areas with intense hunting activity and tried to detect dead animals & baits.
- The whole operation was monitored and supported by the local Forestry Departments and Hunting Associations.



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C4. European Canine Team

- The areas were selected according to the instructions of the Hunting Associations reliant on the losses of hunting dogs and on the use of poisoned baits during the last 2 years.
- Overall, the trained dogs detected ***11 dead animals: 1 marten (*Martes foina*), 2 domestic cats (*Felis catus*), 6 hunting dogs (*Canis familiaris*) and 2 hedgehogs (*Erinaceus concolor*), and identified 6 poisoned baits and one snare.***
- The conclusions of these inspections and the on-the-spot fieldworks indicated that the use of poisoned baits is mainly used by: **a)** stockbreeders to control small mammals and hunting dogs that they prey or scatter the flocks, **b)** hunters at the hunting areas in order to discourage the hunting activity, due to competition or dispute and **c)** beekeepers against bee predators (e.g. wasps).





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C4. European Canine Team

- The second visit of ECT in Crete took place during the period 20-31 October 2012.
- The European Canine Team was consisted by 1 dog trainer and 3 dogs (German shepherd).
- Overall, the trained dogs detected ***31 dead animals: 1 griffon vulture (*Gyps fulvus*), 8 martens (*Martes foina*), 8 domestic cats (*Felis catus*), 12 dogs (*Canis familiaris*) and 2 hedgehogs (*Erinaceus concolor*). Moreover, the dogs identified 45 poisoned baits in different areas.***
- It is peculiar that, close to a poisoned bait it was found a dead snake (*Telescopus falax*), which will be examined to ascertain the cause of its death.
- The number of **dead poisoned animals** found in these surveys is **three-fold** the number of poisoned animals discovered in 2011 by ECT (11 dead animals in total). At the same time, the **poisoned baits** that were found during this year’s inspections are **seven-fold** compared to the findings of October 2011.



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ACTIONS

D. PUBLIC AWARENESS & DISEMMINATION OF RESULTS





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D1. Communication and Public Awareness Plan Implementation

- Corporate image of the project (acronym)
- Exchange of advertising banner with other LIFE projects
- Newsletter in Greek: 3 issues (March, June, September)
- Mailing list of the project: 275 receivers of information material.
- Communication with media in local and national level.
- Six (6) press releases during June 2011-September 2012 and 62 publications about the project (objectives and actions, visit of European Canine Team and results, free telephone line 800, meeting of the National Monitoring Team etc.).
- Two (2) appearances in local radio & one (1) in TV station.





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D2. Production of divulgation, dissemination and awareness rising material for the general public, stakeholders and the three Networks

- Poster about illegal poisoning (GR-1 and GR-2; 500 copies each).
- Flyer about illegal poisoning (GR-1 and GR-2; 500 copies each).
- 16-pages’ booklet about the project, the objectives, the pilot areas in Greece, the actions and the expected results (common for GR-1 and GR-2 pilot areas) [3,000 copies].
- T-shirts, cups and bags: 1,200, 400 and 100 items, respectively.
- Preparation of brochures for ENSAIP, ENMAIP and ENHAIP [750 copies per network and pilot area (GR-1 and GR-2)].
- Identification plaques for participants in the three different networks, i.e. ENSAIP, ENMAIP and ENHAIP, have been produced.

Πρόγραμμα LIFE+ Βιοποικιλότητα:
«Καινοτόμες Δράσεις για την Αντιμετώπιση
της Παράνομης Χρήσης Δηλητηριασμένων
Δολωμάτων σε Μεσογειακές Πιλοτικές Περιοχές
της Ευρωπαϊκής Ένωσης»
(LIFE09 NAT/ES/000533)



Η ζωή δεν είναι δηλητήριο Προστάτευσε την άγρια ζωή της Κρήτης

800 11 020202

ΤΗΛΕΦΩΝΟ ΕΠΙΚΟΙΝΩΙΑΣ (ΧΩΡΙΣ ΧΡΕΩΣΗ ΑΠΟ ΣΤΑΘΕΡΟ)
ΓΙΑ ΚΑΤΑΓΓΕΙΛΕΣ ΠΑΡΑΝΟΜΗΣ ΧΡΗΣΗΣ ΔΗΛΗΤΗΡΙΑΣΜΕΝΩΝ ΔΟΛΩΜΑΤΩΝ

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της Παράνομης Χρήσης Δηλητηριασμένων
Δολωμάτων σε Μεσογειακές Πιλοτικές
Περιοχές της Ευρωπαϊκής Ένωσης»
(LIFE09 NAT/ES/000533)


Ενημερωθείτε για το πρόγραμμα στο:
lifeagainstopoison.wordpress.com, www.arcturos.gr



Μη δίνεις φόβη Κράτα τη ζωή στα βουνά Άγρια ζωή, κομμάτι της ζωής μας

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ΤΗΛΕΦΩΝΗΣΕ ΤΩΡΑ ΔΩΡΕΑΝ ΓΙΑ ΝΑ ΚΑΤΑΓΓΕΙΛΕΙΣ
ΤΗΝ ΠΑΡΑΝΟΜΗ ΧΡΗΣΗ ΔΗΛΗΤΗΡΙΑΣΜΕΝΩΝ ΔΟΛΩΜΑΤΩΝ

ΑΡΚΤΟΥΡΟΣ  Μαζί κρατάμε τη ζωή στα βουνά





Πρόγραμμα **LIFE+ Βιοποικιλότητα**: «Καινοτόμες Δράσεις για την Αντιμετώπιση της Παράνομης Χρήσης Δηλητηριασμένων Δολωμάτων σε Μεσογειακές Πιλοτικές Περιοχές της Ευρωπαϊκής Ένωσης»
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*Η ζωή δεν είναι δηλητήριο
Προστάτευσε την άγρια ζωή της Κρήτης*



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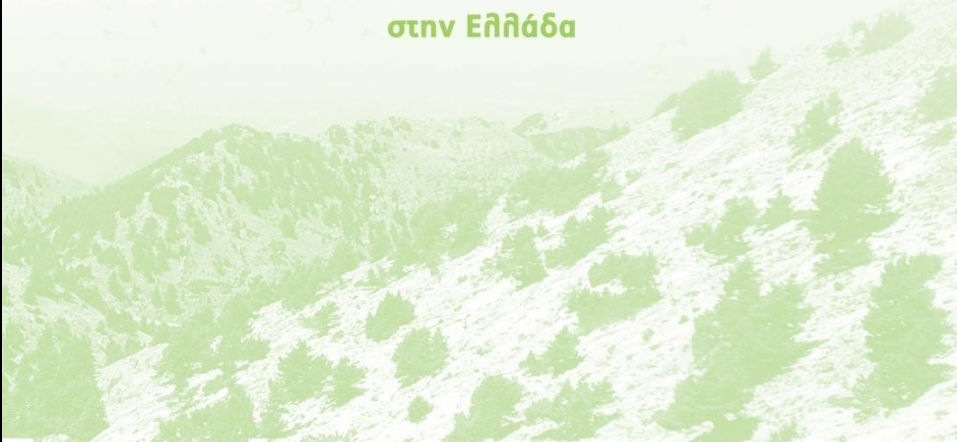
ΤΗΛΕΦΩΝΟ ΕΠΙΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΑΣ (ΧΩΡΙΣ ΧΡΕΩΣΗ ΑΠΟ ΣΤΑΘΕΡΟ)
ΓΙΑ ΚΑΤΑΓΓΕΛΙΕΣ ΠΑΡΑΝΟΜΗΣ ΧΡΗΣΗΣ ΔΗΛΗΤΗΡΙΑΣΜΕΝΩΝ ΔΟΛΩΜΑΤΩΝ



«Καινοτόμες Δράσεις για την Αντιμετώπιση της Παράνομης Χρήσης Δηλητηριασμένων Δολωμάτων σε Μεσογειακές Πιλοτικές Περιοχές της Ευρωπαϊκής Ένωσης»
(LIFE09 NAT/ES/000533)



ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΔΡΑΣΕΩΝ
για την αντιμετώπιση της παράνομης χρήσης
δηλητηριασμένων δολωμάτων
στην Ελλάδα





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D3. Divuligation activities for local stakeholders and the general public

- Public talks, lectures & round tables.
- Talks addressed to schoolchildren (30 during year 2012).
- Summer Project Open Days.
- European Canine Team public demonstration (30 October 2012): press conference + presentation to public bodies / organizations.





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D5. Project web site development and maintenance

- The website of the project has been designed by FG.
(<http://www.lifeagainstpoison.org/>)
- The NHMC provides information and news about the project in its website (<http://www.nhmc.uoc.gr/museum/new-programs>).
- Facebook profile introduced on May 2012.
(<http://www.facebook.com/pages/LIFE-Against-Poison-Crete>)
- Keep the national information updated for Crete.





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Home Contact

- LIFE Programme
- Life Innovation Against Poison
- Partners
- Actions
- Timeline
- Downloads

Freephone Against Poison

News

[01/05/2012]
Celebrating the 20th Anniversary of LIFE programmes

Join our activities to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the LIFE programme, EU's funding instrument for the environment and conservation initiatives.
 ICELEBRA EL XX ANIVERSARIO DEL PROGRAMA LIFE CON NOSOTROSI - EN ESPAÑOL

[13/03/2012]
Technical assistance for members of the European Network of Hunters Against Poison

Hunters members of ENSAIP turned to the technicians of the LIFE project "Innovation against poison" to find solutions to a problem with the captive breeding of rabbits in an enclosure designed for restocking in the field. EN ESPAÑOL

[02/03/2012]
Environmental crime with International dimensions in the Strait of Nestos

Six NGO together with two Management Bodies of Protection Areas, denounce one of the largest poisoning episodes in Greece which ended with six poisoned rare large birds of prey. The birds were found around of two wild horses shot dead in the Straits of Nestos, an area of outstanding importance at a European level for the protection of large predators and part of the Natura 2000 network. This is the most serious poisoning incident affecting birds of prey in recent years and exposes Greece worldwide. [ελληνικά](#)

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Pilot Areas



Calendar

<<	March 2012	>>				
Lu	Ma	Mi	Ju	Vi	Sa	Do
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Legends: Today
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 Holiday

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UNIVERSITY OF CRETE





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Museum programs

Innovative Actions against Illegal poisoning in EU Mediterranean Pilot Areas LIFE09 NAT/ES/000533



Start date: 1 Oct 2010

End date: 30 Sep 2015

Budget: 619,370.00 €

Scientific responsible:
Xirouchakis Stavros

Program site:
<http://www.lifeagainstpoison.org/>


Europe faces illegal poisoning once more by selecting for co-financing the international *LIFE + Biodiversity* project on: *Innovative actions against illegal poisoning in EU Mediterranean Pilot Areas* (LIFE09 NAT/ES /000533), led by the Spanish *Fundación Gypaetus* (FG), with the Portuguese partners *Quercus* and *Centro de Estudos da Avifauna Ibérica* (CEAI) and the Greek partners *Arcturos* and the *University of Crete – Natural History Museum of Crete* (NHMC).

The project has an overall budget of 5.660,886.00 € and will be developed from 2010 to 2015 (period: 1/10/2010 – 30/09/2015) in the following 8 pilot areas of the European Union.


The project is co-financed by the European Commission – DG Environment with a total amount of 2,730,790.00 €, while other co-financers of the project – apart from participating associated beneficiaries – are the *Consejería de Medio Ambiente de la Junta de Andalucía* (Andalusian Environmental Government), the *Câmara Municipal de Idanha-a-Nova* (Portugal) and the Greek Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change.

The main goal of the project is to evaluate and spread the effectiveness of several **innovative actions** based on voluntary agreements with the main rural groups related with illegal poisoned baits fight (municipalities, hunters, extensive stockbreeders, etc.). Thanks to the **demonstrative character** of the foreseen actions, it is expected to relevantly improve the current anti-illegal poisoning strategies and so diminish the biodiversity loss related with this malpractice at EU level. One of the main goals of the project is to assess objectively, in one hand, the most effective actions to fight illegal poisoning for each context – including the factors influencing it – and, in the other hand, the real evolution of this threat along the development of the project in each pilot area. Regarding to this, some specific actions are designed to develop methodologies and indicators related with illegal poisoning activity and impact assessment.

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



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



LIFE Against Poison Crete
Στα πλαίσια των δράσεων Α3 και C1, πραγματοποιήθηκε χθες Πέμπτη 1 Νοεμβρίου 2012, συνάντηση εργασίας των υπευθύνων του προγράμματος Σ. Ξηρουχάκη και Μ. Προμονά με μέλη του Δ.Σ. της Ομάδας Παραγωγών Κτηνοτρόφων "Κρητικό Μπύτα". Αντικείμενο της συνάντησης ήταν τα αποτελέσματα της μέχρι


Σε 158 άτομα αρέσει το **LIFE Against Poison Crete**.


 Vava


 Δημήτρης


 Popi


 Yannis


 Giannis

 Liadaki


 Kostas

 Kyriakos

 Mina

 Margarita

[Προσθήκη κοινωνικής δικτύωσης Facebook](#)

Related News Title	Post date
 <p>Modification of conference dates of the International scientific congress on the illegal use of poison baits in the natural environment: Effects on biodiversity and society</p>	<p>Monday, 5 November, 2012 - 13:25</p>





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D8. Information & telephonic advice for the three Networks

- The free telephone line operates since late August 2011 (**800 11 020202**) during office hours on week days (08.30-16.30).
- Press releases were delivered at the beginning of its operation.
- Dissemination of the free line operation through the information material (posters, flyers, 16-pages booklet etc.).
- Free information and telephonic advisement for Networks against poisoning (mainly ENSAIP and cases of poisoning of domestic animals).



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ACTIONS

E. OVERALL PROJECT OPERATION & MONITORING





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E3. National Monitoring Committee (NMC)

- The National Monitoring Committee was constituted as a body in late 2011 (October – December 2011).
- Members in the NMC are the following public bodies and/or stakeholders: University of Crete – NHMC, Arcturos, Ministry of Environment, Energy & Climate Change (YPEKA), Decentralized Administration of Crete – DG Forests & Rural Affairs, Forest Department of Trikala, Decentralized Administration of Thessaly & Sterea Ellada – Forest Department of Kalampaka, Municipality of Kalampaka, Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Kalampaka, Trikala Development Agency (KENAKAP S.A.), 1st Hunting Federation of Crete & Dodecanese (AKOKD), Hellenic Ornithological Society (HOS)
- The 1st Meeting of the NMC took place in Kalampaka, 21-22 February 2012.



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E3. National Monitoring Committee (NMC) *[continued]*

- Particular reference was made in serious consequences caused by this illegal practice, both in biodiversity & public health.
- Many suggestions were made for various local and special pilot actions in synergy with all stakeholders, aiming at the maximization of awareness of productive groups and inhabitants of pilot areas for illegal poisoning, as well as actions in the field of environmental education.





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E4. Evaluation of poisoning cases between regional / national level and the pilot project areas: a quantitative and qualitative comparison.

- Set up of a **Working Group for Poisoned Baits** - Environmental NGOs and bodies (Hellenic Ornithological Society (HOS) & Arcturos) in the framework of relevant LIFE projects that are under implementation.
- The 1st Meeting of the Working Group of Environmental NGOs and Bodies for Poisoned Baits took place in Athens, on 21/06/2012.
- The 2nd Meeting took place in Athens, on 5/10/2012.



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E6. Evaluation of illegal poisoning activity in the pilot areas by means of monitored bioindicator species.

- Wildlife (target species) population monitoring.
- Data collection of general aspects and behaviour.
- Sufficient documentation.
- Proper evaluation has yet to be assessed.





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General conclusions

- 1. The establishment of the three Networks**
- 2. The set up of the National Working Group**
- 3. Documentation & impact assessment: European Canine Team, Radio tagging bioindicator species, toxicological analysis**
- 4. The production of technical guides & educational material**
- 5. Habitat management for game species**
- 6. Alternative methods for predator (“pest”) control.**





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**Thank you very much
for your attention**



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