

Vulture Multi-species Action Plan, Vultures & Poisoning

Vultures are still dying from poisoning,
but the Vulture Multi-species Action Plan is working!

Side event Tuesday, 18 February 2020, 12:45 – 13:30, Room 5



- **Ivana Jelenic, Head Sector of Biodiversity and Strategic Affairs, Ministry of Environment and Energy, Croatia (EU term presidency)**
- **Rubén Moreno-Opo, Conservation Action Unit, Ministry for the Ecological Transition, Spain**
- **André Botha, Manager: Vultures for Africa Programme, Endangered Wildlife Trust**
- **Jovan Andevski, VCF programmes manager**
- **Yana Velina, senior expert Biodiversity Division, Nature Protection Service Directorate, Ministry of Environment and Water, Bulgaria**



Main messages

- Poisoning is the biggest threat to vultures worldwide (Vulture MsAP)
- It is still killing thousands of vultures every year – in Africa, in South America, in south and southwest Asia, also in Europe
- Drivers: human-wildlife conflict (carnivores); Locally sentinel poisoning, trade for vulture parts
- A lot of work is happening all over the world, and in some places starting to produce good results (e.g Spain, some positive news from Africa)
- Poisoning is an environmental crime, and should therefore be treated as such
- Involvement of Government agencies crucial – enforcement, criminal investigation, judiciary
- National strategies and working groups needed, three pillars
 - 1) Improve information & knowledge (protocols, toxicological labs)
 - 2) Strengthen prevention & deterrence (NGOs, enforcement)
 - 3) Optimize persecution of the crime (enforcement, judiciary)

