



# BirdLife International Partnership Contributions in Eradicating Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Birds

Samantha Lee

Global Flyways Programme manager –  
BirdLife International

Workshop on National IKB Action Plans: North Africa

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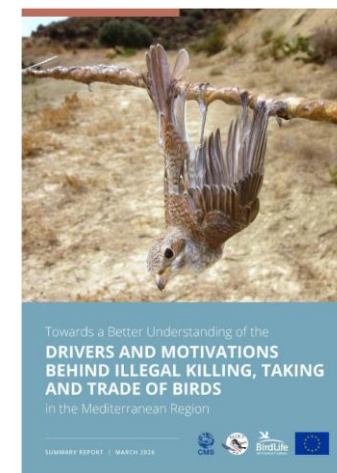


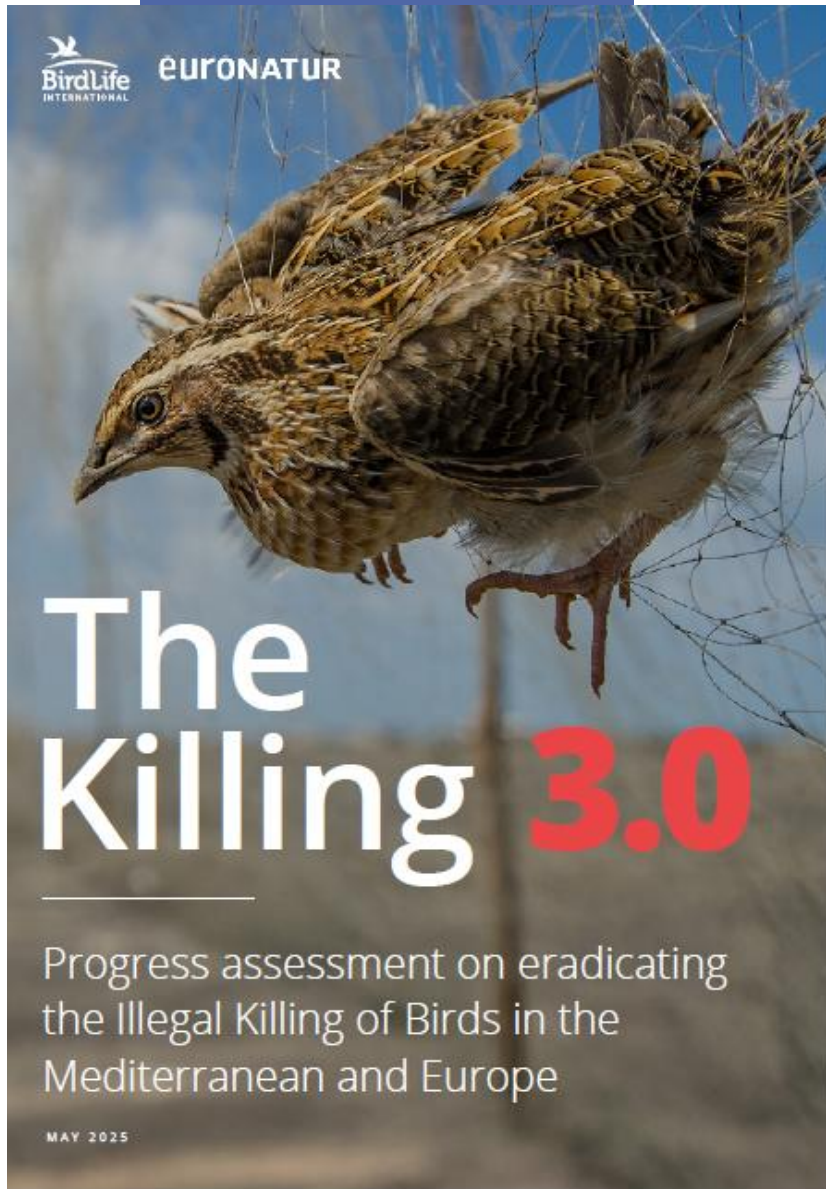


<https://sowb.birdlife.org/>

## Overview – BLI & IKB

- BirdLife International – addressing IKB for over 100years
- 2018 & 2026 Global Flyways Summit & Nairobi Declaration
- Increased efforts in the Mediterranean region since 2004:
  - Mediterranean -wide project since 2017
  - Raised over 11.5 million Euros
  - 17 publications over past decade
- Raptors MOU Technical Advisory Group & Saker Falcon Task Force

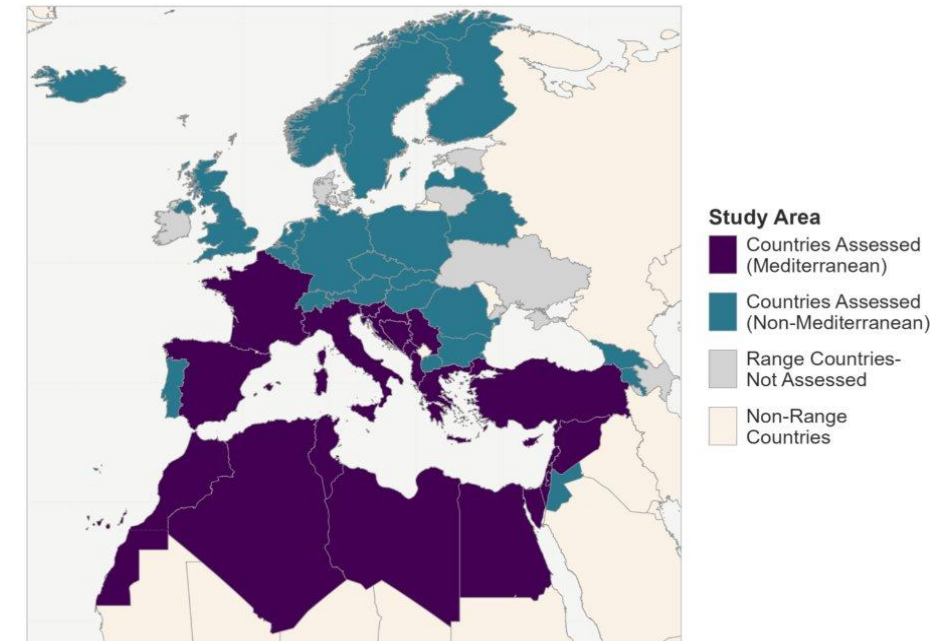




# The Killing 3.0 (2025)

- Assessed 46 countries with a deeper dive into 22 Mediterranean countries.
- Only 8 out of 46 countries are on track for the 50% reduction by 2030.
- IKB trends have improved over the past 5 years

Individual country datasheets available



<https://datazone.birdlife.org/publications/the-killing-3> including national datasheets

# Safe Flyways – 2022-2026



- €5.2 million
- Region-wide effort to tackle IKB in the Mediterranean, involving,
  - 21 Countries,
  - 27 national and international project Partners
  - National stakeholders (incl. governments, hunting associations, academics, CSOs)



- Closely aligned to RSP objectives

# Project Approach

## RSP Objectives 1 & 4



### On the ground prevention

- Monitoring of IKB hotspots
- Joint detection of IKB

## RSP Objective 3



### Policy & Legislation

- Evidence-based policy recommendations
- Providing expertise for government-led National IKB Action Plans
- Supporting progress on international commitments

## RSP Objective 4



### Enforcement & Judicial process

- Training for officials
- Cross-border knowledge exchange
- Supporting legal cases

## RSP Objective 1



### Behaviour change

- Raising awareness of IKB issue
- Increasing understanding of reasons behind IKB
- Education & targeted engagement activities

# Our Partners: Nature Conservation Egypt

## National activities

- **Developing a strong evidence base:** Ongoing monitoring of key locations, including Mediterranean Waterbird Network.
- **Piloting social behaviour change approaches:** Advanced understanding of IKB motivations and drivers, piloting an SBC approach that engages community leaders and explores alternative livelihoods
- **Strengthening National policy:** 2-year ministerial ban on hunting in Lake Nasser.
- **Foundations for a new National Action Plan and effective implementation:** Recently established multi-stakeholder national taskforce and roadmap



## Nature Conservation Egypt

- More than a decade of experience on IKB
- Technical experts and advocacy specialists



## IKB Status in Egypt

Estimated levels IKB: 5,400,000 birds annually

Trend: Slight increase (5 to 24%)

IKB issues: illegal shooting, trapping and trade

Pressure: economic hardship increased subsistence hunting (exacerbated by COVID)

## Recommendations:

- 1) Update and implement a National Action Plan including sustainable natural resource management
- 2) Increase understanding of IKB across government authorities
- 3) Strengthen legislations, supported by effective penalties
- 4) Increase inter-agency collaboration

# Our Partners: Association Les Amis Des Oiseaux

## National activities

- **Building the evidence-base to tackle IKB:** Initiating systematic monitoring of IKB to provide robust baseline data and long-term trends
- **Establishing strong institutional partnerships, national coordination & collaboration:** Established national stakeholder steering committee & framework partnership agreement with DGF
- **Strengthening legislation:** As members of the Advisory Commission on Hunting and Game Conservation (CCCCG)
- **Raising awareness:** Raising the profile of IKB through a press conference with Green Compass association and multiple media outlets



## Association Les Amis Des Oiseaux

- Knowledgeable advisors on policy
- Technical experts in monitoring techniques



## IKB Status in Tunisia

Estimated levels IKB: 139,00 birds annually

Trend: No significant change

IKB issues: illegal shooting, trapping and trade

Pressure: Economic hardship, unsustainable hunting levels

## Recommendations:

- 1) Develop & implement a National Action Plan
- 2) Sufficiently resource hunting brigades
- 3) Train & equip enforcement and judiciary officials
- 4) Focus efforts in IKB blackspots

# Our Partners: Groupe de Recherche pour la Protection des Oiseaux au Maroc (GREPOM)

## National Activities

- **Policy improvements: Annual hunting decree revised:** Removal of 4 species from the national “hunnable species list”.
- **Regional leadership on tackling Goldfinch IKB:** National awareness campaign and cross-partner collaboration
- **Building the evidence-base to tackle IKB:** Supported by TRAFFIC & BLI Social Behaviour Change(SBC) experts to research the motivations & drivers of IKB and design a targeted SBC approach
- **Strengthening national stakeholder understanding of IKB:** Over 100 participants attended a series of workshops coordinated by GREPOM



## GREPOM

- Technical leads on capacity building initiatives
- Trusted collaborator with government agencies



## IKB Status in Morocco

Estimated levels IKB: 74,400 birds annually  
Trend: Slight reduction (-5% to -24%)  
Pressure: illegal trapping and trade

## Recommendations:

- 1) Strengthen control & surveillance of IKB
- 2) Accelerate the “hunting licence examination” process
- 3) Build capacity of control authorities
- 4) Ensure strict application of the “Procedure for Regulating the Capture, Removal from the Wild, and Possession of the European Goldfinch
- 5) Application of appropriate penalties for IKB crimes
- 6) Increase civil society involvement in combating IKB

# The Nairobi Declaration: Flyways for the Future (2026)

## Calls to Action

- A commitment to promote **understanding** of the **importance of flyways** to people and nature,
- **Stronger cooperation** among stakeholders to protect migratory birds and their sites across terrestrial, coastal, and marine flyways.
- All existing international environmental commitments to be translated into **national actions**, involving all parts of society to protect migratory birds and the places they need,
- Immediate action to secure funding for flyway conservation.

Reduction of IKB is embedded into the BirdLife strategic outcomes and a key flyways objective



## Next Steps & Priorities

- Accelerate Partner contributions to national efforts to reach RSP targets
- Continuing to actively engage with CMS task forces (MIKT, SWAITB, ITTEA)
- Supporting the development of a new 10-year framework for the Mediterranean region
- Undertaking a repeat independent assessment of progress towards targets
- Providing best practice guidelines for SBC approaches to tackle IKB
- Closing critical knowledge gaps & facilitating knowledge exchange



THANK YOU!