



# the return RAPTORS Of the Neophron



**Egyptian Vulture Flyway Action Plan** 

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MoS2, 5-8.10.2015, Trondheim













LIFE+ project "The Return of the Neophron" (LIFE10 NAT/BG/000152) www.LifeNeophron.eu



## Once upon a time...













## What is to be a vulture nowadays?









## At the edge of extinction









## LIFE+ проект "Помощ за египетския лешояд"







### LIFE+ проект "Помощ за египетския лешояд"

Период: 2011-2016

Партньори: БДЗП, HOS, WWF &

**RSPB** 

Цел: да предотврати изчезването на египетския <u>лешояд</u> от България и Гърция

www.LifeNeophron.eu

















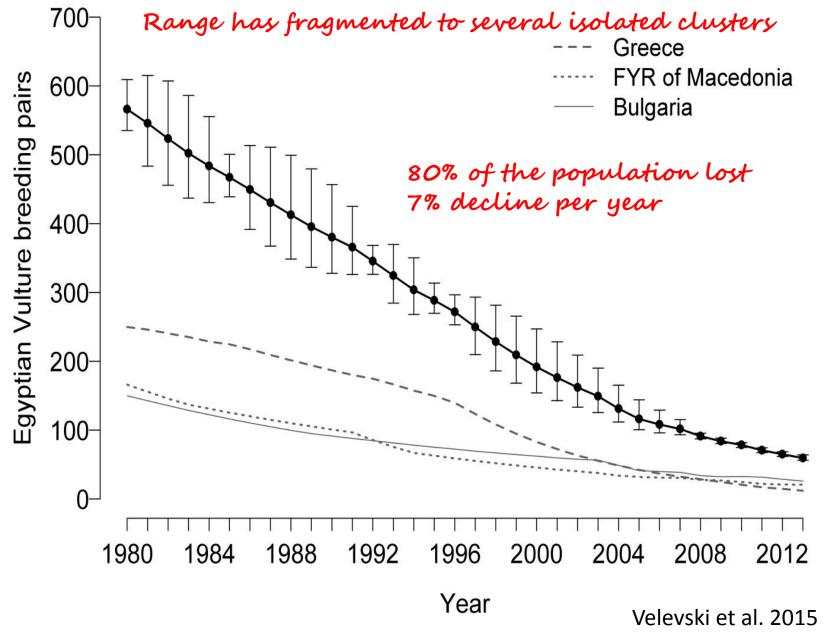






## Status on the Balkans in the last 30 years







## Why?





#### Hypotheses:

- Emigration? (low probability)
- · Decreased productivity
- · Increased mortality on breeding sites or along flyway

And what are the factors behind this?



#### What we have found?



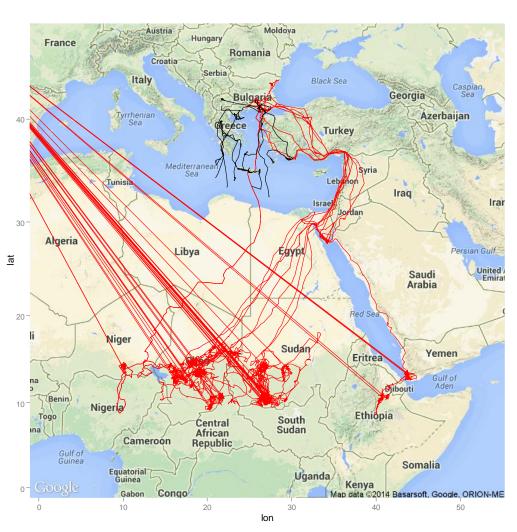
- Productivity similar to the mean in Europe
- Habitat model there is no strong environmental factor effect on territory occupancy and breeding success
- Diet no diet limitations on reproductive output
- Poisoning is threat No1 on the Balkans but has no systematic effect all over the range (while trends are similar)
- Toxicological and genetic studies did not find evidence for bad health condition of the population

NB: Population declines could be caused by adult and juvenile mortality away from breeding grounds



## Threats along the Flyway





- Natural barriers (the sea)
- Poisoning

   (to control feral dogs;
   and by poachers)
- Electrocution
- Direct persecution

   (traditional medicine;
   transmitters)



## EVFAP Meeting, Sofia 2015







Range: Balkans, Central Asia, Middle East,

**Africa** 

Aim: draft the EVFAP

Attendees: 70 people from 33 countries





#### Outcomes





- Methodology: questionnaires, WG
- Shared knowledge: gaps, threats, priorities, actions
- Declaration: ensure fundraising for EVFAP, network sustainability and delivery of the conservation outcomes agreed
- Coordinating group set: 5 members (CU Raptors MoU coordinating)
- EVFAP draft: still under preparation









- EVFAP draft ready (October 2015)
- Comments from stakeholders
   (November 2015)
   available at www.LifeNeophron.eu
- Comments from CMS (December 2015)
- Final EVFAP draft ready and start of its distribution (January 2016)



## Thank you for your attention!





# Will our children know what is an Egyptian vulture? THE RESPONSIBILITY IS TO ALL OF US!

