

Report of the EUROBATS Secretariat  
to the 45<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee to  
CMS



**Agreement Membership**

The Secretariat has been informed that Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina as well as Serbia are in an advanced stage of acceding to the Agreement.

**Outreach**

The various volumes of the EUROBATS Publication Series and Leaflets continue to be highly demanded:

- French and German versions of the Publication Series No. 6 (Guidelines for consideration of bats in wind farm projects – Review 2014) will be published in December 2016.
- A special new publication will be launched also in December 2016 at the occasion of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Agreement.

The International Bat Night continues to be successful and growing every year again all over the Agreement area. Reports of events are available on the EUROBATS website.

**Special Projects**

In 2016 the Secretariat was able to finance and co-ordinate the following projects through the Eurobats Projects Initiative:

- Survey of distribution and conservation status of bats in Armenia
- *Plecotus sardus* on Sardinia (Italy)
- Capacity building for the development of the guidelines for wind farm construction based on field study in Macedonia
- The „Carol” line: Assessing the importance of 150+ deserted bunkers for the conservation of the Romanian-Hungarian cross-border bat fauna (Romania)
- *Nyctalus lasiopterus* in the far north? Population size and habitat use of a maternity colony in the Pripiat floodplains in the south of Belarus

Most of these projects became possible thanks to voluntary contributions from Germany, Luxembourg and Switzerland.

### **Synergies and Common Services among CMS Family Instruments.**

Following a meeting with the UNEP Executive Director on this topic, the Executive Secretaries of CMS, AEWA and EUROBATS have started a consultation process and are developing a work plan on possible synergies. In addition, they are having a monthly meeting on administrative issues concerning the whole CMS Family.

In order to address bottlenecks arising from the new finance administration system UMOJA, EUROBATS staff members have taken up active roles in the procurement and travel administration processes for the CMS Family. In the past month alone approximately 40 staff working hours have been dedicated to this.

### **EUROBATS Meetings in 2016**

The 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Advisory Committee has taken place in Zandvoort, Netherlands from 18 to 22 April 2016.

The 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee has taken place in Bonn, Germany on 18 May 2016.