



Antipoisoning activities in Bulgaria to enforce raptors conservation in the country

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Bulgarian Society for the Protection of Birds



Bulgarian Society for
the Protection of Birds



Why poisoning?

A long-time recorded threat, estimated
app 2300 poisoned vultures since 1998!



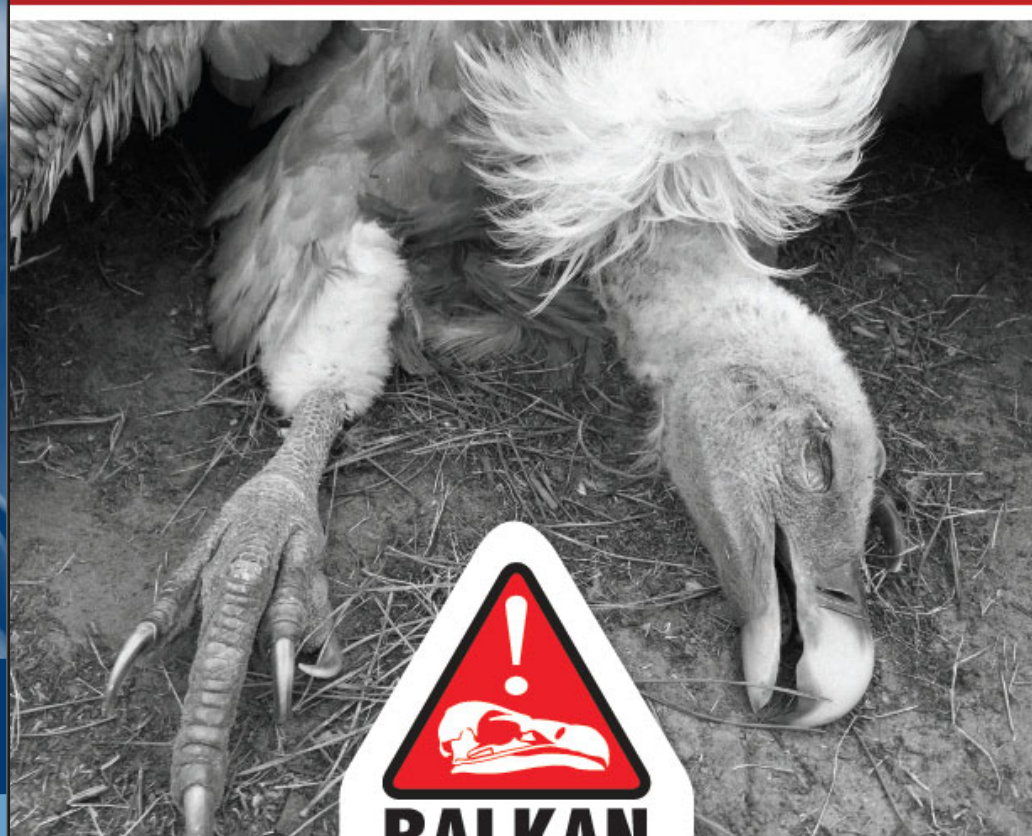
MULTI-SPECIES ACTION PLAN TO CONSERVE AFRICAN-EURASIAN VULTURES (VULTURE MSAP)

CMS Raptors MOU Technical Publication No. 5
CMS Technical Series No. 35



BALKAN VULTURES POISON STUDY

Review of the problem of poison use
and vulture poisoning in the Balkan Peninsula



**BALKAN
ANTI-POISONING
PROJECT**

The Balkan Vulture Poison Study was prepared by the Vulture Conservation Foundation (VCF) within the framework of the Balkan Anti-Poisoning Project (BAPP), an integral part of the Mediterranean Anti-Poisoning Project – MAPP (Fighting poisoning – reducing vulture (and other scavengers and predators) mortality due to the use of poison baits and lead ammunition across the Mediterranean), funded by the MAVA Foundation and coordinated by VCF. This study is purposed to serve as a regional anti-poisoning technical protocol, corresponding to Activity 1.6 of the MAPP project, and to facilitate the creation of national Anti-Poison Road Maps in the Balkan countries.

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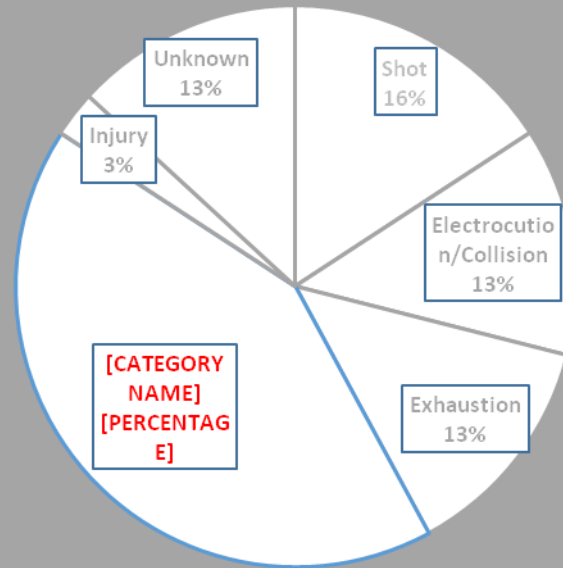
Geographical scope:

This study reflects on the illegal practice of using poisonous substances in the environment and vulture mortality induced by it in the following countries of the Balkan Peninsula: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Macedonia (FYR) and Serbia, as well as different challenges related to prevention of wildlife poisoning that exist in these countries.

Date of production: July 2018.

Recommended citation:

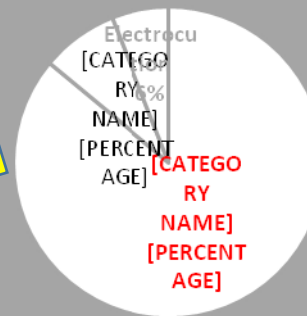
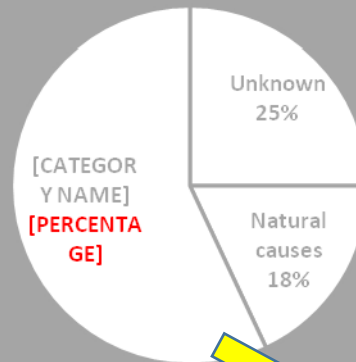
Pantović, U., Andevski, J. (2018): Review of the problem of poison use and vulture poisoning in the Balkan Peninsula. Vulture Conservation Foundation, Netherlands.



In the period 1979-2011, 38 mortality cases are registered with the species whereas 16 of them are due to poisoning¹

¹Demerdzhiev, D., Hristov, H., Dobrev, D., Angelov, I., Kurtev, M. 2014. Long-term population status, breeding parameters and limiting factors of the Griffon Vulture (*Gyps fulvus*) population in Eastern Rhodopes, Bulgaria. *Acta zool. bulg.*, 66 (3): 373-384.

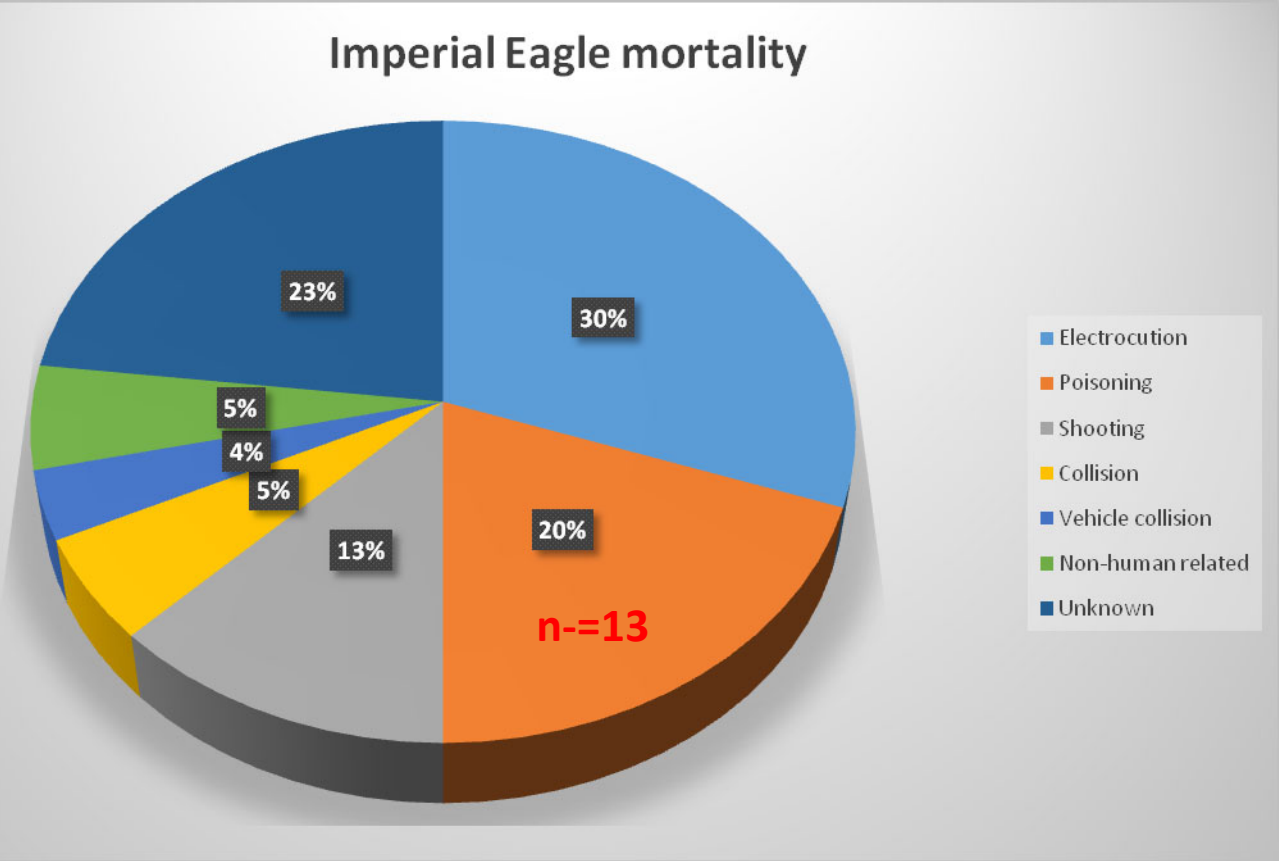
Egyptian vulture mortality 1997 – 2015 (N = 61) : The most frequent human induced reason of death was poisoning (86%) followed by direct persecution (8%). Adult birds the most frequent victim!



¹Saravia, V., Kret, E., Dobrev, V. & Nikolov S. C. 2016. Assessment of mortality causes for the Egyptian Vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*) in Bulgaria and Greece (1997-2015). Fact sheet under action A1 of the LIFE+ project "The Return of the Neophron" (LIFE10 NAT/BG/000152). HOS, Athens. 6 p.



Mortality of Imperial eagles was recorded in the period 1992-2019, 56 individuals;



Lazarova, I., Dobrev, D., Gradev, G., Petrov, R., Stoychev, S., Klisurov, I. & Demerdzhiev, D. 2020. Main mortality factors for the Eastern Imperial Eagle (*Aquila heliaca* Savigny, 1809) in Bulgaria. – *Ornis Hungarica* 28(2): 120-134.

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**Eastern Rhodopes Project
Phase 1: 1994-1997**

**Final Report
(August 98)**



BSPB
Bulgarian Society for
the Protection of Birds
BirdLife Bulgaria



SVS
Swiss Association for
Bird Protection
BirdLife Switzerland



SDC
Swiss Agency for
Development and
Cooperation



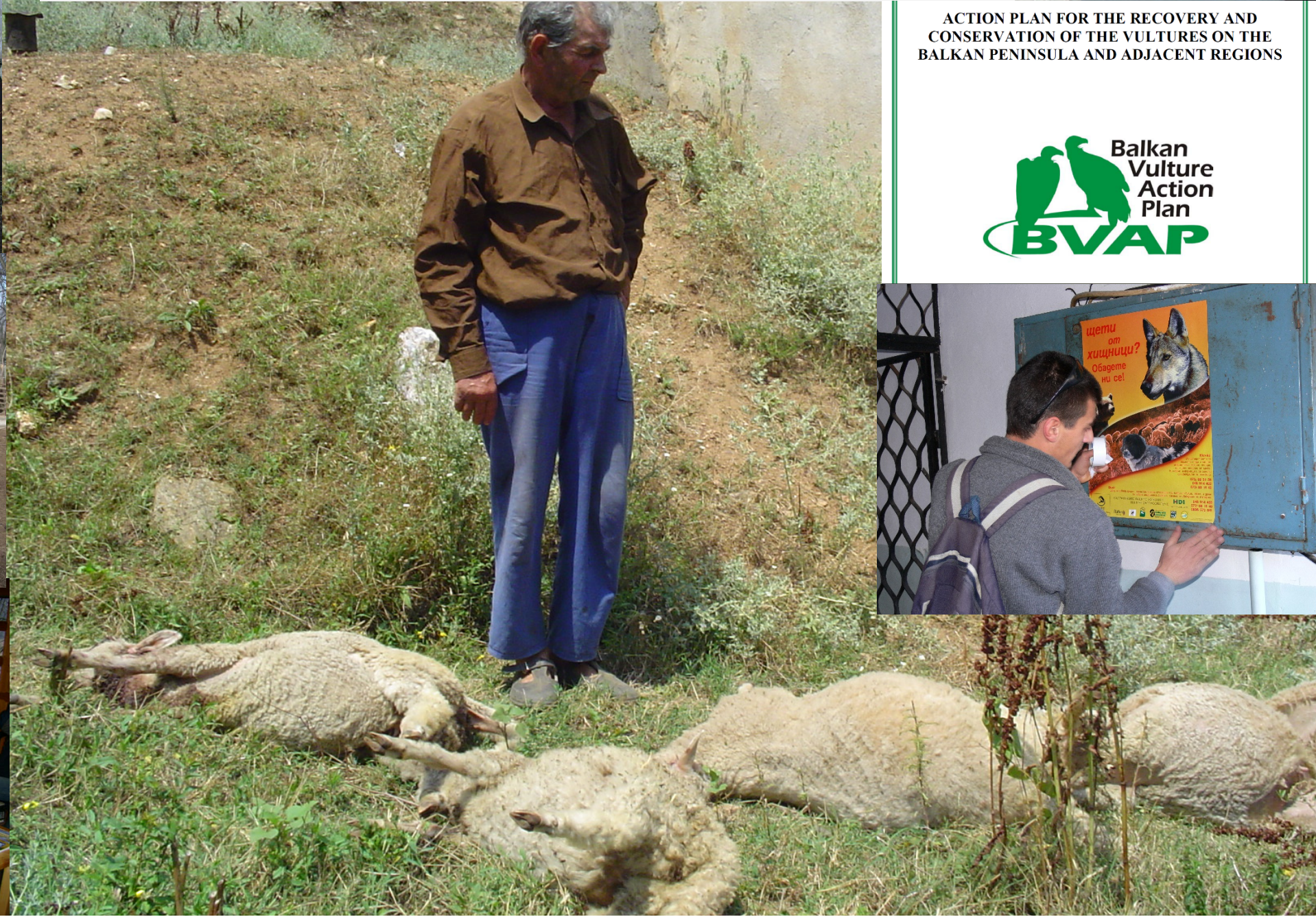
1994-1997

Anti-poisoning plan and strategy are developed and applied in the Eastern Rhodopes



Main activities in Bulgaria between 2002 and 2008

ACTION PLAN FOR THE RECOVERY AND
CONSERVATION OF THE VULTURES ON THE
BALKAN PENINSULA AND ADJACENT REGIONS

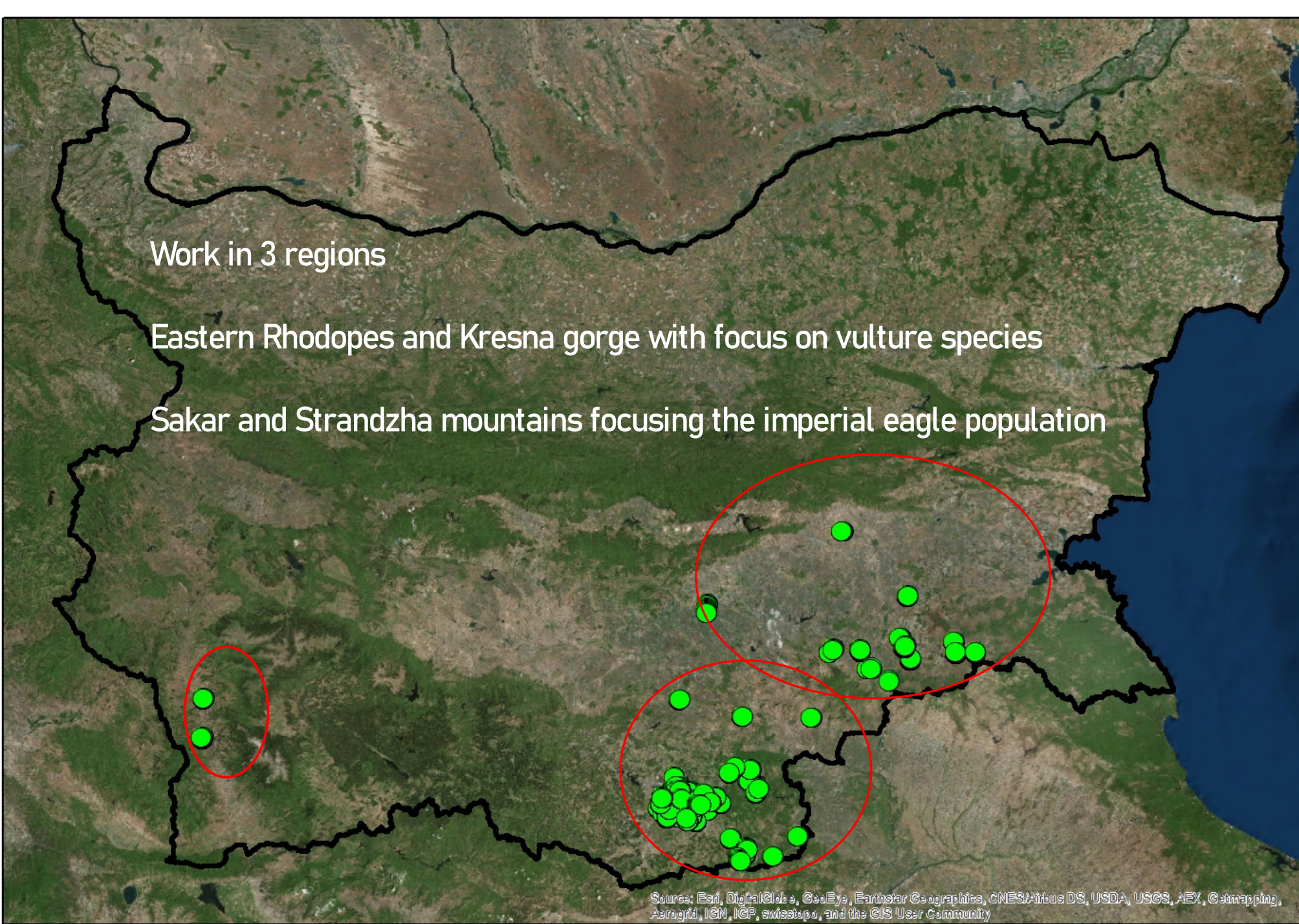


Significant progress between 2016 and 2022 in the light of large scale vulture conservation projects in Bulgaria



The first antipoisoning dog unit founded in Bulgaria in 2016!





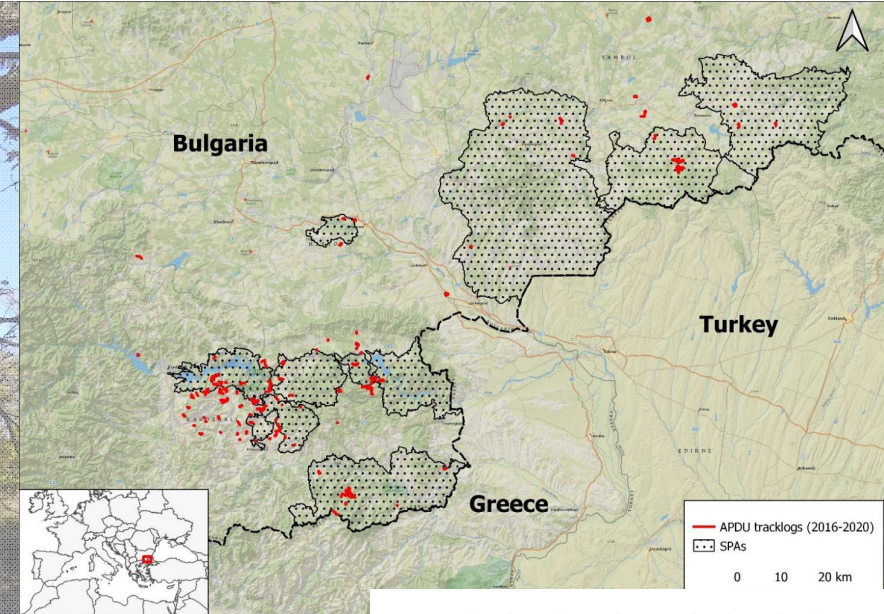
The work load in 2016–2020:

Kresna gorge – 2 patrols, 3450±1060 m per patrol

Eastern Rhodopes – 33 patrols, 1316±899 m per patrol

Sakar mountains/Strandzha mountains – 12 patrols, 1238±730 m per patrol

40 poisoned animals



Anti-poison dog unit operation in Bulgaria (2016–2020)

Final report

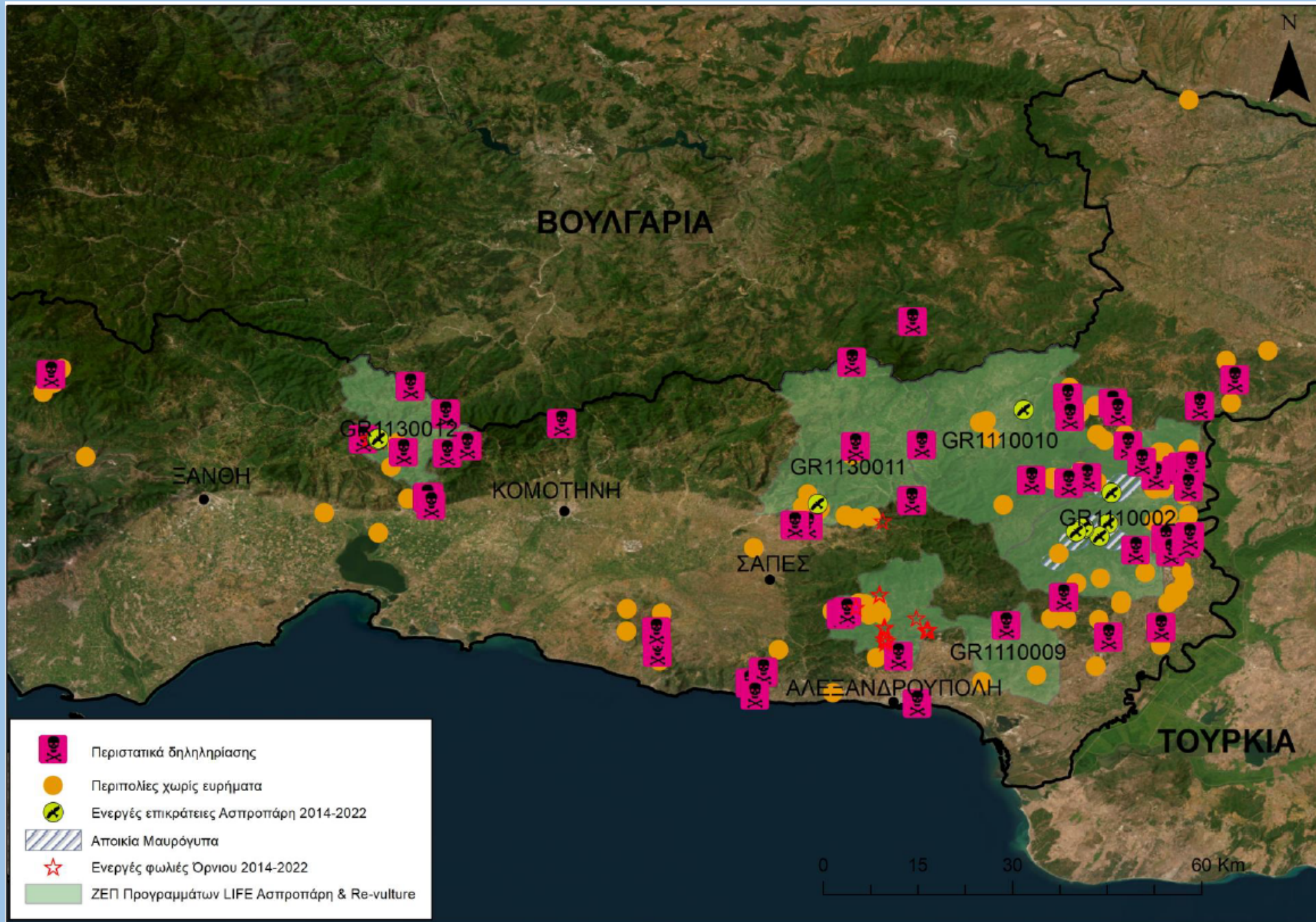


LIFE Re-Vultures LIFE14 NAT/NL/000901



Terziev, N., Arkumarev, V., Dobrev, D., Stamenov, A. 2021. Anti-poison dog unit operation in Bulgaria (2016–2020). Technical report under action C4 of the LIFE project “Conservation of Black and Griffon Vultures in the cross-border Rhodope Mountain” (LIFE14 NAT/NL/000901). BSPB, Bulgaria. 49 pp.

Look around!





Series of workshops, meetings and seminars in the period 2016-2023 in respect to poisoning, including international workshop in 2017 as a result of mass poisoning incidents in the country

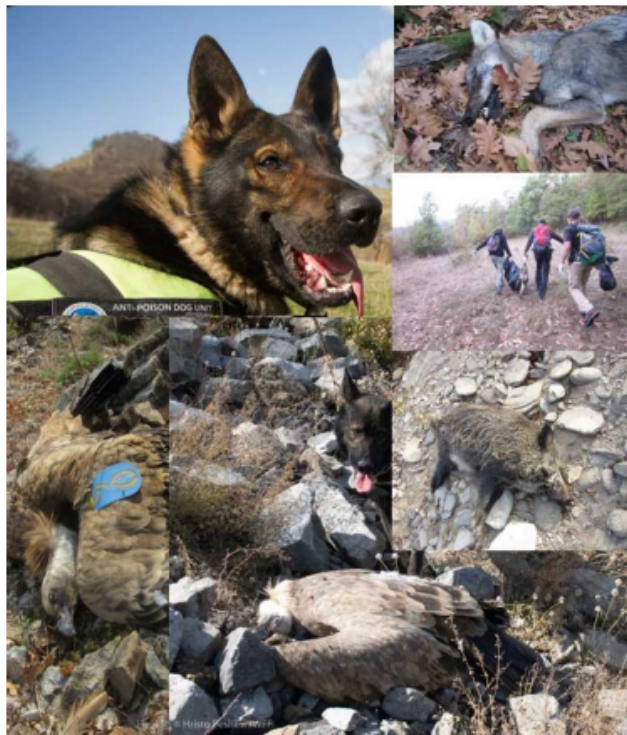
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND WATER

Approved by Order No RD-795/02.08.2021

of the Minister of Environment and Water

**NATIONAL ACTION PLAN TO COMBAT THE ILLEGAL USE OF POISONS
IN THE WILD**

2021 – 2030



Sofia, 2021

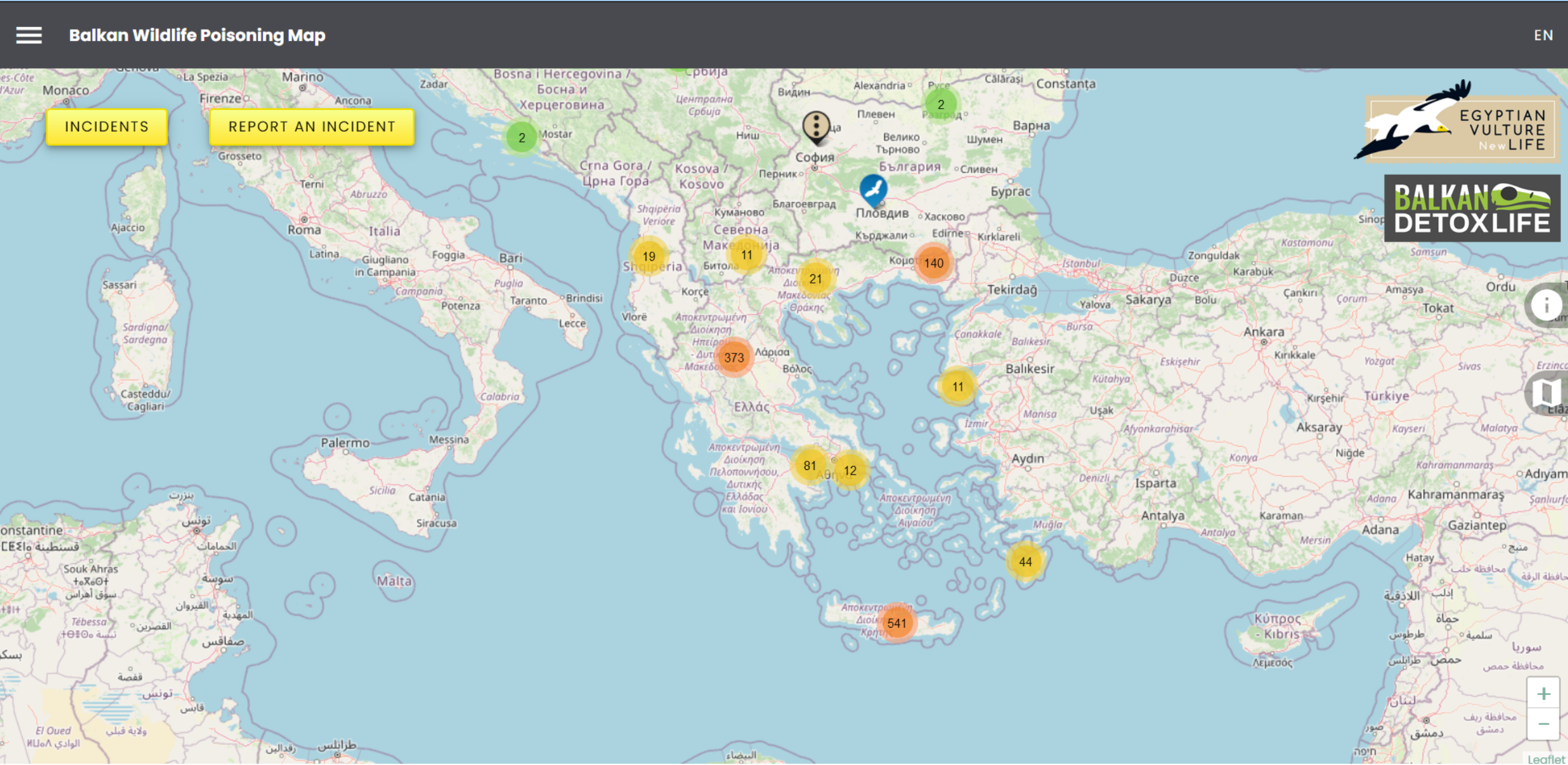
**Endorsement of a National Action Plan to
combat poisons use in the wild 2021-2030**

2.8.2021

Promotion of the National Action Plan and regional working groups foundation (2021-2022)



Online data base created





Разследване на случаи на отравяне в дивата природа и прилагане на оперативен протокол за събиране на доказателства

книга 37



Българско дружество за защита на птиците 2021

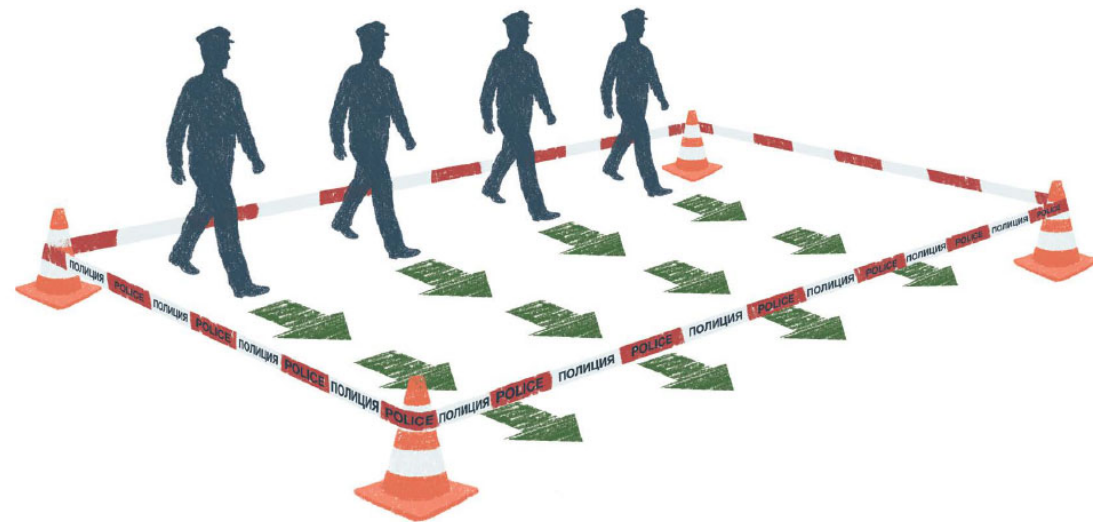
Този материал е изготвен в изпълнение на „Националния план за действие за борба срещу незаконното използване на отрови в дивата природа 2021–2030 г.“, изработен от Българско дружество за защита на птиците и в рамките на проекти „Пазване на черните и белоглавите лешояди в Родопите“ (LIFE14 PAT/ML/000901) и „Нова надежда за египетския лешояд“ (LIFE16 PAT/BG/000874), финансирани от Европейския съюз.



www.rewilding-rhodopes.com
www.LifeNeophron.eu
www.birds.bg

h. Обследване на местопрестъплението чрез обход – процес на претърсване на мястото за откриване и снемане на доказателствен материал.

• Линеино



3. Начин на приложение/първа помощ

а. Накарайте кучето да повърне **ВЕДНАГА**, като му дадете водороден пероксид през устата.

Доза Въглероден пероксид: **MAX** 45 ml/kg телго
НЕ ПРЕВИШАВАЙТЕ 2 ml/kg



Отровни примамки

За отровни примамки се използва всяка храна, която може да привлече животното с цел отравяне:

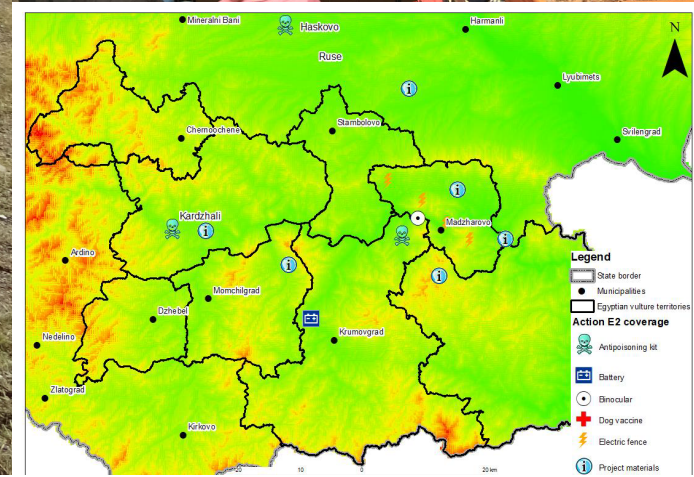
1. Цял труп на животно (Фиг. 3.1)



• Видове доказателствен материал



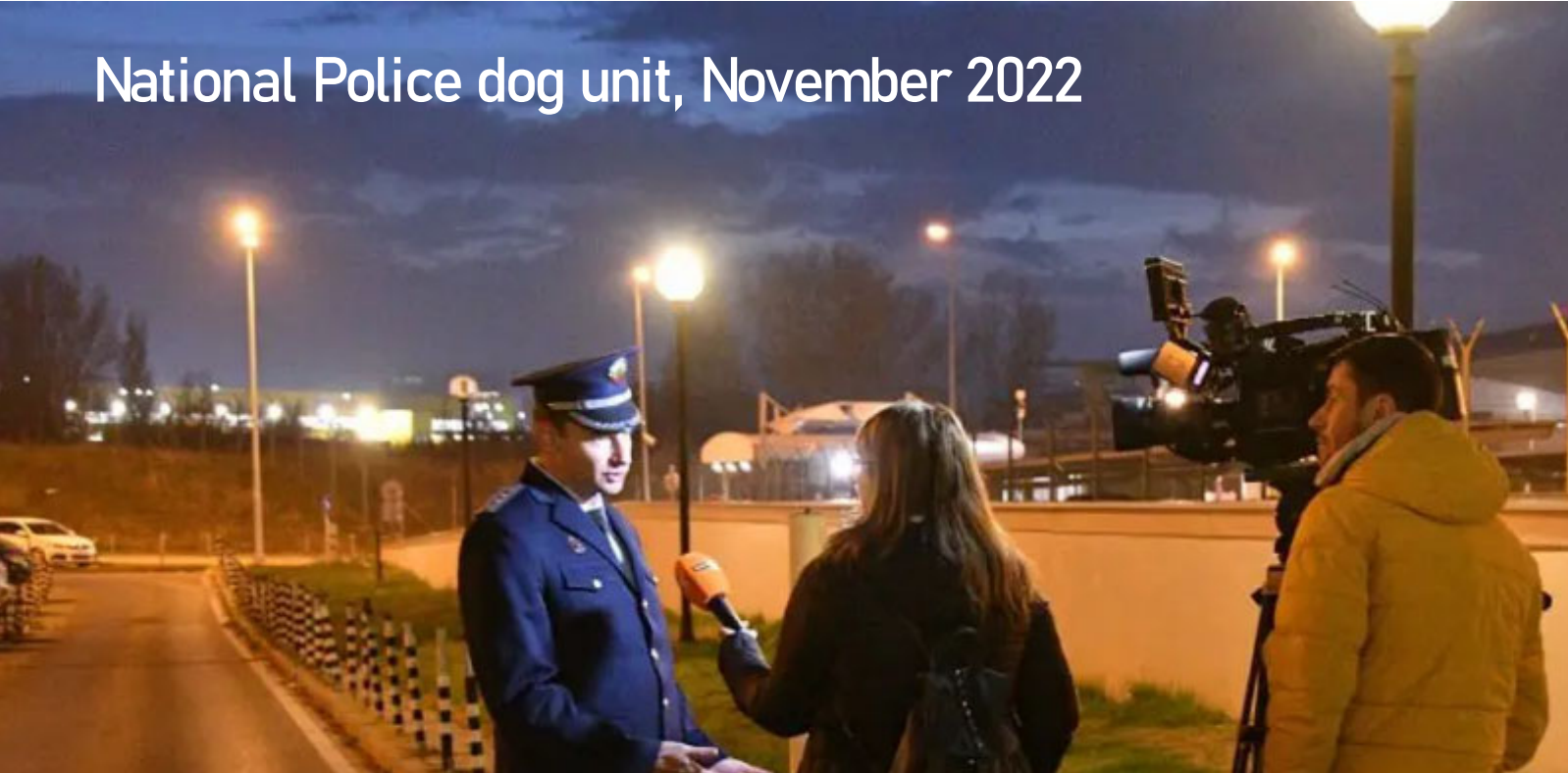
Create a network of local stakeholders



The first wildlife crime academy held in Bulgaria, June 2022



National Police dog unit, November 2022





- ✓ In 2023, a new department in the Bulgarian National Police was formed – Environmental and wildlife crimes
- ✓ 2nd edition of the Bulgarian Wildlife crime academy to be conducted in October
- ✓ Regular assembly of a National Antipoisoning task force at the Ministry of Environment and Waters

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Thank you for your attention!

Спасибо!

