



European Raptor
Biomonitoring Facility

Environmental Change Institute



AN INTRODUCTION TO THE EUROPEAN RAPTOR BIOMONITORING FACILITY

WG3 virtual meeting, 11 February 2021

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The challenge

- Environmental contaminants pose € multi-billion costs to human and wildlife health
- EU objective (7EAP) - a non-toxic environment
- EU chemicals regulations – assess risk, impose risk mitigation measures (restrict/ban)
- Need biomonitoring data to:
 - enhance chemical risk (PBT) assessment
 - enhance assessment of effectiveness of regulations
 - provide early warning of emerging contaminant problems



Photo: Mauro Fasola



What is the 'Facility'

- Facility, from Latin *facilis* – 'easy'
- A virtual Facility (not an infrastructure)
- Three key elements
 - A European Raptor **Monitoring Scheme** (ERBioMS)
 - A *Distributed* European Raptor **Specimen Bank** (ERSpeB)
 - A European Raptor **Sampling Programme** (ERSamP)
- Action period: Oct 2017 – Apr 2022
- Possible follow-on year for business development planning



Photo – Pertii Saurola



Objectives

- Underpin generation and use of raptor biomonitoring for EU regulatory applications
- Use raptors as sentinel species to answer:
 - what are the environmental risks of specific chemicals?
 - are chemicals regulations effective in reducing environmental exposure to contaminants?
 - are there emerging contaminant problems requiring remedial action?
- Thereby:
 - contribute to a non-toxic environment
 - reduce contaminant toll on human and wildlife health

The three 'Arenas'

Analysis

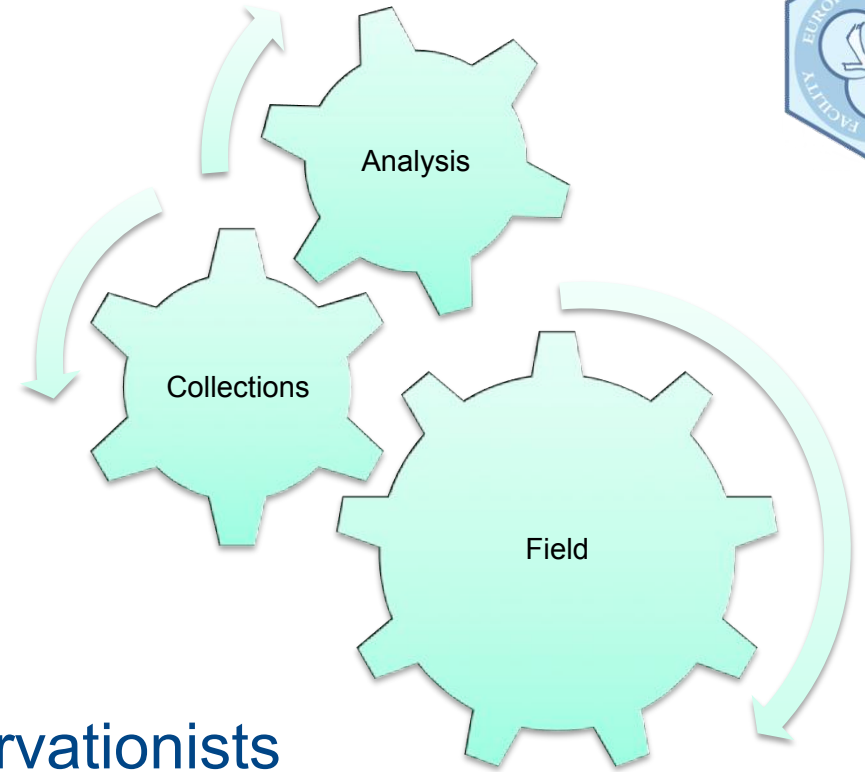
- labs, ecotoxicologists

Collections

- NHMs, ESBs, other collections

Field

- field ornithologists/ecologists, raptor conservationists





Research objectives

R1 Analysis Arena

- assess current analytical capacities, develop framework for **ERBioMS**

R2 Collections Arena

- assess current collection capacities, develop framework and protocols for distributed **ERSpeB**

R3 Field Arena

- assess current field capacities, develop framework, standards and protocols for **ERSamP**

Capacity-building objectives

C1 Analysis arena

- Collaborative work on ERBioMS
- Piloting joint assessment and reporting
- Developing guidance on integrating reports with regulatory assessments

C2 Collections arena

- Collaborative work on ERSpeB
- Constructing meta-database of specimens
- Stimulating expansion of raptor collections

C3 Field arena

- Collaborative work on ERSamP
- Stimulating/harmonising collection of raptor samples and contextual data
- Developing and field-testing sampling framework, standards and protocols

PARTIES TO ERBFACILITY

■ PARTY

26 Parties
(countries)



+ Israel (off map)

