



LIFE09 NAT/HU/000384



LIFE Project Number
LIFE09 NAT /HU/000384

Progress Report
Covering the project activities from 01/07/2011 to 31/12/2012

Reporting Date
07/01/2013

LIFE + PROJECT NAME or Acronym
**Conservation of Falco cherrug in Northeast Bulgaria,
Hungary, Romania and Slovakia**

Data Project

Project location	Northeast Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania and Slovakia
Project start date:	01/10/2010
Project end date:	30/09/2014
Total budget	€ 4 032 828
EC contribution:	€ 3 006 470
(%) of eligible costs	74,55

Data Beneficiary

Name Beneficiary	Bükk National Park Directorate
Contact person	Mr. József Fidlóczy
Postal address	Sánc u. 6., H-3304 Eger
Telephone	+ 36-36-411581 + direct n°: + 36-30-349 5664
Fax:	+ 36-36-412791
E-mail	fidlojo@gmail.com
Project Website	www.sakerlife.mme.hu

**1. Table of contents**

2. List of abbreviations.....	7
3. Executive summary.....	9
3.1. General progress.....	9
3.2. Assessment as to whether the project objectives and work plan are still viable.....	10
3.3. Problems encountered.....	10
3.3.1. <i>The global and especially the European economic crises influence.....</i>	10
3.3.2. <i>The Hungarian Government “unorthodox” economic policy especially the energy and tax policy.....</i>	10
3.3.3. <i>Very long bureaucratic tender procedure in Hungary.....</i>	10
3.3.4. <i>Changing ownership of the electric company in Bulgaria.....</i>	10
3.3.5. <i>The Romanian Government refuse to extend the ROSPA069 Natura 2000 area.....</i>	10
3.3.6. <i>Advertisement rules and regulations hamper information sign erection.....</i>	10
3.3.7. <i>Auditor performance was not satisfactory.....</i>	11
3.3.8. <i>Pure quality of one ÉMÁSZ subcontractor’s work.....</i>	11
3.4. Measures taken to alleviate the effects of these problems.....	11
4. Administrative part	11
4.1. Description of project management.....	11
4.1.1. <i>Project management activities.....</i>	11
4.2. Changes in the project management structure.....	12
4.3. Organigramme of the project team and the project management structure.....	13
4.4. Delivered report since the project start.....	14
4.5. Extension of the project period.....	14
5. Technical part.....	14
5.1. Actions.....	14
5.1.1. Action A: Preparatory actions, elaboration of management plans and/or	14
<i>A1: Assessment of the effects of current agricultural subsidies and related habitat.....</i>	14
<i>A2: Elaboration of habitat management guideline for grasslands and proposal for</i>	18
<i>A3: Preparing guideline about the effect of wind farms on F. cherrug population for.....</i>	19
<i>A4: Identifying of prey assortment using of video camera and photo traps at nests to.....</i>	21
5.1.2. <u>Action C: Concrete conservation actions.....</u>	24
<i>C1: Implement, promote and enforce the agri-environment scheme for S. citellus.....</i>	24
<i>C2: Production and installation of nest boxes in Bulgaria and Romania according to.....</i>	25
<i>C3: Repatriation of S. citellus on Natura 2000 habitats where it is missing in Hungary,.....</i>	28
<i>C4: Locate and insulate dangerous electric pylons.....</i>	30
<i>C5: Keeping and breeding of injured birds and repatriation of juveniles.....</i>	33
<i>C6: Guarding of endangered nests by photo traps and video cameras.....</i>	36
<i>C7: Marking juveniles with PTT to collect migratory and immigration data.....</i>	36
5.1.3. <u>Action D: Public awareness and dissemination of results.....</u>	37
<i>D1: Lobbying for installation of nest boxes in electric pylons.....</i>	37
<i>D2: Lobbying for insulation of electric pylons.....</i>	38
<i>D3: Erecting information signs at project site.....</i>	39
<i>D4: Design and operate project web site.....</i>	41
<i>D5: Secure public support for conservation efforts.....</i>	41
<i>D6: Informing media about project’s aims, activities and achievements.....</i>	45
<i>D7: Layman’s report.....</i>	47
5.1.4. <u>Action E: Overall project operation and monitoring.....</u>	48
<i>E1: Monitoring of installed nest boxes in Bulgaria Romania according to the Hungarian ...</i>	48
<i>E2: Monitoring of repatriated S. citellus population using the Hungarian and Slovak.....</i>	48



<i>E3: Efficiency control of dangerous electric pylon's insulation.....</i>	<i>50</i>
<i>E4: Technical management of the project.....</i>	<i>51</i>
<i>E5: Financial management.....</i>	<i>52</i>
<i>E6: Training of project staff.....</i>	<i>53</i>
<i>E7: Held Steering Committee meetings.....</i>	<i>54</i>
<i>E8: Baseline survey to monitor project success.....</i>	<i>54</i>
<i>E9: Collecting migratory and immigration data by satellite telemetry, bird ringing and.....</i>	<i>55</i>
<i>E10: After Life Conservation Plan.....</i>	<i>56</i>
<i>5.2. Envisaged progress until next report.....</i>	<i>58</i>
<i>5.2.1. Revised reporting schedule.....</i>	<i>58</i>
<i>5.2.2. Deliverables and milestones.....</i>	<i>58</i>
<i>5.2.3. Corrected time table illustrating progress.....</i>	<i>61</i>
<i>5.3. Impact.....</i>	<i>61</i>
<i>5.4. Outside LIFE.....</i>	<i>62</i>
<i>6. Financial part.....</i>	<i>62</i>
<i>6.1. Costs incurred.....</i>	<i>62</i>
<i>6.1.1. Comment on the budget.....</i>	<i>63</i>

Tables:

<i>Table 1: Prey composition identified by pictures compared to food remains analyses.....</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>Table 2: Installed and planned nest boxes in Romania.....</i>	<i>28</i>
<i>Table 3: S. citellus repatriation results in Slovakia.....</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>Table 4: Monitoring and assessment the impact of communication and dissemination.....</i>	<i>44</i>
<i>Table 5: Revised schedule for Activity Reports.....</i>	<i>58</i>
<i>Table 6: DELIVERABLE PRODUCTS OF THE PROJECT.....</i>	<i>59</i>
<i>Table 7: MILESTONES OF THE PROJECT.....</i>	<i>60</i>
<i>Table 8: TIMETABLE.....</i>	<i>61</i>
<i>Table 9: Incurred costs by cost categories.....</i>	<i>62</i>
<i>Table 10 : Incurred costs by Partners and sources.....</i>	<i>63</i>

7. Annexes

7.1. Partnership agreements

3 original Modification of Partnership Agreements

7.2. Maps, drawings, technical designs, technical memos etc. (DVD only)

These annexes may include more than one maps or pictures

Annex A1/1 Data collection sheets used for field survey in Bulgaria

Annex A1/2 Photos from the field survey in Bulgaria

AnnexA1/3a Excel data sheet from Batova with collected field data for GIS and statistical analyses

AnnexA1/3b Excel data sheet from Suha Reka with collected field data for GIS and statistical analyses

Annex A1/4 List of participants of the meetings with stakeholders

Annex A1/5 Photos of the meetings

Annex A1/6 Photo from the specialists contact with farmers in Bulgaria

Annex A1/7 Inquiry form (translation of the questioner)

Annex A1/8 Summary result of the survey

Annex A1/9 Documents for inquiring of meteorological data

Annex A1/10 Explanation of the habitat importance for *F. cherrug* to the ministry and its acknowledgement

Annex A1/11 Design of Bulgarian leaflets



- Annex A1/12 Photos from the Hungarian team's visit in Bulgaria and Romania
- Annex A1/13 Romanian prey survey sample data sheets from South-Romania
- Annex A1/14 Survey documents from West-Romania
- Annex A1/15 Preliminary report from the survey in West-Romania
- Annex A1/16 Report from the Slovak team's visit in Romania
- Annex A1/17 Annex A1/21 MILVUS and ROS protest to MoEF
- Annex A1/18 MILVUS and ROS inquiry to DG Environment
- Annex A2/1 Map of the newly endorsed ROSCI0345 Pajistea Canad
- Annex A2/2 Data collection sheets used for field survey
- Annex A2/3 Report on the preliminary result
- Annex A3/1 Photos from the wind park and the observatory
- Annex A3/2 Notes from the observations
- Annex A3/3 Photos from feeding the potential target birds
- Annex A3/4 Photos about trapped and tagged adult birds
- Annex A3/5 Photos about trapped and tagged juveniles
- Annex A3/6 Movement of the birds tagged in Hungary
- Annex A3/7 Status of the tagged birds
- Annex A3/8 Land use of the existing and potential wind farms.
- Annex A3/9a-bMap of the wind farm along ROSPA0069
- Annex A3/10 Letter to Timis County Environment Office about the effect of planned wind farm
- Annex A3/11 Report on the bird migration along the wind farm areas in Dobrogea
- Annex A3/12 Movement of the birds tagged in Slovakia
- Annex A4/1 Photos about the Video camera installation on the pylon in Hungary
- Annex A4/2 Pictures of the video camera about the *F. cherrug* family
- Annex A4/3 The standard data sheet for collecting information from pictures incl. data from video record
- Annex A4/4 Pictures of the different preys
- Annex A4/5 Installation of photo traps on high voltage electric pylons
- Annex A4/6 Pictures of the photo traps
- Annex A4/7 Documents of the meeting on 07. 09. 2012.
- Annex A4/8 Standard data sheet with the data from 2011 in Slovakia
- Annex A4/9 Pictures from the dead chicks
- Annex A4/10 Pictures of the preys recorded by the photo traps.
- Annex A4/11 Adult bird with ornithological ring
- Annex A4/12 Night roosting in front of the camera
- Annex C1/1 Farmers' annual reports
- Annex C1/2 Documents of the RDP WG meeting in February 2012.
- Annex C1/3 Documents of the RDP WG meeting in August 2012
- Annex C1/4 Invitation and list of participants of the RDP WG meeting in March 2011
- Annex C1/5 Memo of the RDP WG meeting in March 2011
- Annex C2/1a Location of wooden nest boxes on trees in Bulgaria
- Annex C2/1b Installation of wooden nest boxes on trees in Bulgaria
- Annex C2/2a Location of aluminium nest boxes on electric pylons in Bulgaria
- Annex C2/2b Installation of aluminium nest boxes on electric pylons in Bulgaria
- Annex C2/3 Location of the already installed and the planned nest boxes in West-Romania
- Annex C2/4 Pictures of the installed nest boxes in Romania
- Annex C2/5 Location of the already installed (C) and the planned (P) nest boxes in Dobrogea
- Annex C3/1 Request to the Authority for permission for repatriation of *S. citellus*



Annex C3/2	Permission for repatriation of <i>S. citellus</i>
Annex C3/3	Site preparation in HUDD10008 Belső-Somogy.
Annex C3/4	Trapping <i>S. citellus</i> on Siófok-Kiliti Airport
Annex C3/5	Repatriation of trapped <i>S. citellus</i> in HUDD10008 Belső-Somogy.
Annex C3/6	Feeding the repatriated <i>S. citellus</i>
Annex C3/7	Request for permission to repatriate <i>S. citellus</i> into ROSPA0047 and ROSCI0345
Annex C3/8	Letter of the Regional Environmental Agency in Timisoara
Annex C3/9a	Deregulation request to the Roman Academy
Annex C3/9b	Reply of the Roman Academy
Annex C3/10	Pictures of the donor site in Arad
Annex C3/11	Picture of the site preparation in ROSPA0015
Annex C3/12	Trapping <i>S. citellus</i> in Arad
Annex C3/13	Repatriation of trapped <i>S. citellus</i> in ROSPA0015
Annex C3/14	Location of the repatriation site in SKCHVU016
Annex C3/15	Location of the repatriation site in SKCHVU017
Annex C3/16	Pictures of the repatriation
Annex C4/1	Memo of the first meeting with E.on in Bulgaria
Annex C4/2	Data of the surveyed electric pylons
Annex C4/3	Memo of the second meeting with E.on
Annex C4/4a	Data of electrocuted birds
Annex C4/4b	Map of the location of electrocutions
Annex C4/5	Memorandum of collaboration between BSPB and Energo-Pro Grid
Annex C4/6	Result of the base line surveys in Hungary
Annex C4/7	Minutes of LIFE+ and KEOP projects coordination meeting
Annex C4/8a-c	Revised polygons for insulations adjusted to the switches of the power lines
Annex C4/9	Minutes of LIFE+ and KEOP projects coordination follow up meeting
Annex C4/10a	Subcontractors work plan for insulation
Annex C4/10b	Map of insulated pylons in polygon P25
Annex C4/11	Standard Certification of Completion
Annex C4/12	Pictures of insulated pylons
Annex C4/13	Expert's evaluation of insulated pylons
Annex C4/14a	Expert's opinion of the so called correction
Annex C4/14b	Letter about the cheatings of JUKO
Annex C4/15	Map of insulated power lines in Slovakia
Annex C4/16	Map of the current insulation need comparing to the original plan in Bulgaria (jpg version of Annex C4/4 of IR)
Annex C5/1	Pictures about the construction of cage in Sansimion in Romania
Annex C5/2	Cages built in Slovakia
Annex C7/1	Thea's roaming
Annex C7/2	Report of the search for Maia in Bosnia
Annex C7/3	Tagging the son of Barna in Czech Republic
Annex D1/1	Program of the Bird Protection Conference organised by MAVIR on 24 November 2011
Annex D1/2	Pictures from the Conference
Annex D1/3	Introduction of nest box installation on high voltage electric pylons for the audience of the conference
Annex D1/4	Pictures about the aluminium nest box what was brought to the Romanian conference and was handed over by MAVIR to the Romanian electric company



Annex D1/5	Program and list of participants of the conference held in the MoEF in Bucharest in 14 December 2011
Annex D1/6	Pictures from the conference
Annex D1/7	Letters to Transelectrica and ENEL with MILVUS requirements
Annex D1/8	Agreement with Transelectrica Timisuara
Annex D1/9	Letter from Transelectrica about the costs of installation
Annex D2/1	Pictures from the tested insulators
Annex D2/2	Press release of the agreement
Annex D3/1	Picture of the information signs in Bulgaria
Annex D3/2	Short report about the monitoring of the information sign in Bulgaria
Annex D3/3	Picture of the information signs in Hungary
Annex D3/4	Picture of the information signs in Romania
Annex D3/5	Picture of the information signs in Slovakia
Annex D3/6	Municipality Permission for erecting information sign in Hungarian
Annex D3/7a	Request for permission to erect information sign from Salonta City Hall
Annex D3/7b	Reply on request from Salonta City Hall
Annex D4	Analytics of the project web page
Annex D5/1	Bulgarian A2 size poster (electronic and hard copy)
Annex D5/2	Dissemination of the posters in Bulgaria
Annex D5/3	Report on the preliminary results of monitoring and assessment the impact of communication and dissemination in Bulgaria
Annex D5/4	Hungarian A3 size poster (electronic and hard copy)
Annex D5/5	Displayed posters in Hungary
Annex D5/6	Hungarian leaflet (electronic and hard copy)
Annex D5/7	Dissemination of leaflets
Annex D5/8	Video summary of the nest camera records (DVD)
Annex D5/9	Presentation of János Bargyura (MME) in the MAVIR conference in 2011
Annex D5/10	Presentation of József Fidlóczky project manager on the XII. Vadlúd Sokadalom (Geese Festival) in Tata in 2012
Annex D5/11	Presentation of Matyas Prommer in a video conference in Ukraina in 2012
Annex D5/12	Questioner to assess the impact of the communication
Annex D5/13	Romanian draft poster
Annex D5/14	Romanian draft leaflet
Annex D6/1	Bulgarian article about Lucia in Bulgaria submitted to Heliaca
Annex D6/2	List of media appearance of the project
Annex D6/3	Copies of Bulgarian articles
Annex D6/4a	Article published in Heliaca
Annex D6/4b	Article submitted to Heliaca
Annex D6/5	Article published in Zöld Horizont
Annex D6/6	Article submitted for the Proceedings of the International Conference in Ukraine
Annex D6/7	Article for the Ornithos periodical in France
Annex D6/8	Invitation for Press Conference in Hungary
Annex D6/9	Pictures of the press conference in Hungary
Annex D6/10	Press releases in Hungary
Annex D6/11	Article about the project in the Díszmadár magazine
Annex D6/12	Pictures of the press conference in Romania
Annex D6/13	Article published in "Alcedo" in Romania
Annex D6/14	Video pictures about tagging juvenile F. cherrug
Annex D6/15	Video pictures about installing nest box



Annex D6/16	Video pictures about installing nest box
Annex D6/17	Video pictures about installing nest box
Annex D6/18	Online news letters in Romania
Annex D6/19	Press release in Slovakia
Annex D6/20	Online news letters in Slovakia
Annex E2/1	Pictures of Suslik in new burrows
Annex E2/2	Monitoring in Romania
Annex E2/3	Photo trap monitoring in Slovakia
Annex E2/4	Guideline for suslik repatriation and monitoring
Annex E7/1	Invitation for Steering Committee meeting in 2012
Annex E7/2	Presentation of the Project Manager
Annex E7/3	Minutes of the SC meeting
Annex E8/1	Baseline Survey Report of Bulgaria
Annex E8/2	Baseline Survey Report of Romania
Annex E9/1	Report of the 2 nd trip in Ukraine
Annex E9/2	Report of Slavka's habitat in Ukraine
Annex E9/3	Report of Matyi's habitat in Romania
Annex E9/4	Report about the evidence of Slavka's death
Annex E9/5a-b	Report of the 1 st International F. cherrugTask Force meeting in Abu-Dhabi
Annex E9/6a	Report of the 1 st Meeting of the Signatories to the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Birds of Prey in Africa and Eurasia
Annex E9/6b	Poster prepared for the meeting

7.3. Output indicators

2. List of abbreviations

BNPD	Bükk National Park Directorate
BSPB	BirdLife Bulgaria
CMS	Convention of Migratory Species
EC	European Commission
EDF-DÉMÁSZ	EDF-DÉMÁSZ electric distributor Ltd.
ENEL	ENEL electric distributor Ltd.
E.On	EO.On electric distributor Ltd.
ÉMÁSZ	ÉMÁSZ electric distributor Ltd.
GIS	Geographic Information System
GSM	Global System for Mobile
HQ	Headquarter
KMNPD	Körös-Maros National Park Directorate
KNPD	Kiskunság National Park Directorate
MAF	Ministry of Agriculture and Food
MAVIR	Hungarian Transmission System Operator Company Ltd.
MILVUS	„Milvus Group” Association
MME	BirdLife Hungary
MNE	Ministry of National Economy
MoE	Ministry of Environment
MoEF	Ministry of Environment and Forest
MRD	Ministry of Rural Development
NGO	Non-governmental Organisations
NW	North West



LIFE09 NAT/HU/000384

PA	Partnership Agreement
PROVÉRTES	Pro Vértés Non-profit Private Limited Company
PTT	Platform Transmitter Terminals
RD	Rural Development
RDP	Rural Development Program
RPS	Raptor Protection of Slovakia
SC	Steering Committee
SOR	BirdLife Romania
SPA	Special Protected Area
SSE	State Secretary of Environment
ToR	Terms of Reference
WG	Working Group
ZFK	Green Corridor Public Foundation
ZSE a.s.	West-Slovakian Electric Company



3. Executive summary (max 3 pages)

3.1. General progress.

In the second part of 2011 the project activities speeded up although the tender process was very slow in the public sector. Some unforeseen problems also hampered the work. Although some activities such as insulation are behind the original schedule but these are well prepared therefore it would be still possible to complete the project within the original project period but currently there is some uncertainty in Hungary.

Summary of progress during reporting period:

- First and second round of field surveys have been carried out, data collected from stakeholders, GIS database has established, an explanatory text as a preliminary result was submitted and accepted by the Permanent Working Group of RDP in Bulgaria, and the Preliminary Report preparation is going on for submission in the beginning of 2013 in Romania. Leaflets are designed and ready for printing in January 2013 in Bulgaria. In Bulgaria 30 farmers were contacted. (A1)
- The *S. citellus* populated areas have been surveyed and a preliminary report has prepared (A2)
- Field data collection of roaming birds around of wind farms have been done in Bulgaria, 28 PTT have purchased and 3 adults and 6 juveniles birds tagged in Hungary, 1 juvenile bird tagged in Romania and movement of tagged birds was studied (A3).
- A video camera was installed and its pictures were broadcasted in the project web in Hungary. 14 photo traps were purchased, 11 photo traps were installed on pylons and one was tested on tree in Hungary. In Slovakia photo traps used for guarding were used also to collect data on prey. Recorded data were evaluated. (A4)
- 20 hectares of land was under the measures on each site in both years. The final payment of the scheme was calculated. Two meetings with the working group of RDP. (C1)
- All planned nest boxes installed in Bulgaria, 5 nest boxes “type 1” and 67 nest boxes “type 2” have been installed in Romania. (C2)
- 37 inds. repatriated in Hungary, 49 inds. repatriated in Romania and 248 inds. repatriated and marked by chip in Slovakia. (C3)
- Baseline surveys were going on. Insulation materials were purchased by BSPB in Bulgaria. Subcontractors were selected by tenders and 2104 pylons insulated but about 50% of it is paid in Hungary. 412 pylons insulated in Slovakia. (C4)
- 2 cages were built in Slovakia and a cage is under construction in Romania. Insured birds were rescued in Romania and in Slovakia. (C5)
- Three photo traps with GSM system were used and all the three pair has a successful breeding. (C6)
- One juvenile was marked by PTT in Romania. (C7/A3)
- International Conference was organised by MAVIR, a meeting with the Romanian Electric Suppliers organised by MoEF and meeting among the Romanian electric suppliers and Romanian project partners were held several times. An agreement was made with ENEL, Electrica and Transelectrica about nest box installation. (D1)
- Decision makers of the Romanian Electricity Companies accepted the idea to insulate the dangerous pylons of medium-voltage power lines and are ready to help the project team in this activity. (D2)
- In Bulgaria 2, in Hungary 14, in Romania 3, Slovakia 2 information signs have been erected. (D3)
- Web page: www.sakerlife.mme.hu is functioning. (D4)



- Posters have designed. 1000 posters have printed in Bulgaria and Hungary. 300 and 600 posters are displayed. Leaflets are designed. 2500 leaflets printed in Hungary and about 500 already distributed. 300 DVD was produced and distributed about the web video in Hungary. (D5)
- Two press conference were organised, 5 Press Releases were released, 11TVs and 1 radio broadcasted, 7 newspapers and 76 online news reported about the project work. (D6)
- Three successful repatriations were confirmed until the dormant period.(E2)
- Repeated survey has been done on the insulated sections of electric pylons in Hungary. (E3)
- Project management in place and did intensive coordination to overcome on the bureaucratic problems. Project management regularly visited partners(E4).
- Project Auditor has changed and regular financial monitoring was going on (E5).
- Annual SC meeting held in 2012 with good attendance. (E7)
- Large areas were surveyed in both countries. 5 pairs were found in Romania among them a new successfully breeding pair. (E8)
- The second visits in Ukraine for networking and to assist F. cherrug conservation and ensure support of our roaming birds. Participation of CMS meetings. (E9).

3.2. Assessment as to whether the project objectives and work plan are still viable.

The project partners were working hard and did a good progress thanks to the enthusiastic project team and the experienced project management team. Partners used all possible solution and all effort to alleviate the difficulties created by the administrative problems. Despite of the difficulties effected the project implementation during the reporting period the project objectives and work plan are currently still viable. *The only influential open question is the forthcoming reaction of the electric suppliers for the government energy and tax policy in Hungary in 2013.*

3.3. Problems encountered.

3.3.1. *The global and especially the European economic crises influence*

It had influenced the project in many different ways. Especially the NGOs financial situation hardened very much.

3.3.2. *The Hungarian Government “unorthodox” economic policy especially the energy and tax policy*

The electric supply companies may forth to reduce their costs and would refuse to spend money on insulation. EDF-DÉMÁSZ already made remark on the Unimpeded Sky Treaty meeting in November that it could happened from 2013 subject the tariff given the government.

3.3.3. *Very long bureaucratic tender procedure in Hungary*

The tender procedure was very long and bureaucratic what hampered the effective procurement and use of satellite transmitters. All steps of the tender process planned by the national parks i.e. invitation of lawyers for bid, selection of lawyer, tender conditions, issuing the tender had to be approved by the MRD.

3.3.5. *Changing ownership of the electric company in Bulgaria*

The changes of ownership hampered of the insulation work in Bulgaria because all agreement had to be renegotiated with the new owner.

3.3.6. *The Romanian Government refuse to extend the ROSPA069 Natura 2000 area*

MILVUS attempt failed to include this important habitat into the ROSPA069 Natura 2000 area by extension.



3.3.7. *Advertisement rules and regulations hampers information sign erection*

Especially in Bulgaria and Romania the responsible municipalities did not want to permit the erection of information sign in frequent places without payment.

3.3.8. *Auditor performance was not satisfactory*

We realised that the auditor was not well prepared for that international projects job.

3.3.9. *Pure quality of one ÉMÁSZ subcontractor's work.*

JUKO Ltd. which was one of the winners of the tender of ÉMÁSZ did not do a good quality work.

3.4. Measures taken to alleviate the effects of these problems

- The project management and the partners did intensive negotiations with the stakeholders to solve the problems.
- We rearranged the MRD co-financing among partners. MRD co-founding is going to the National Parks only and more LIFE co-founding is going to the NGOs.
- We rearranged the procurement of PTTs. MME purchased 4 items to speed up the process. BNPD purchased PTTs instead of MILVUS.
- The auditor was replaced.
- BNPD hired an expert to check carefully the quality of the subcontractors of ÉMÁSZ. We did not accept its work before all mistakes are corrected most probably next spring.
- BSPB made an agreement with the new owner also about the insulation in Bulgaria.
- MILVUS and SOR protesting and lobbying for the extension of ROSPA069 in MoFF and in DG Environment of EC.
- New locations were selected for the information signs in Bulgaria and Romania or location was rented.

4. Administrative part

4.1. Description of project management

4.1.1. *Project management activities*

- The project was managed by FENCON Ltd. on behalf of the co-ordinating beneficiary. The project manager had managed the annual work planning and approved the annual work plans and budget. He controlled the work of the acting project administrator. He kept daily contact with the partner co-ordinators by email and telephone. He regularly visited the partners and helped them to solve the incoming problems. He co-ordinated their co-operation by organising and chairing some specific meetings. He initiated networking with other projects. He was involved in intensive communication with the public. He had several presentations for different audience. He regularly report to the director of the co-ordinated beneficiary. He informed the external monitor about the monthly progress and escorted him also during his project inspections (**Annexes A1/12, A4/7, C4/7, 4/9, D1/1-D1/6, D5/10, D6/4&5, D4/11, E7/1-E7/3**).
- The project administrator and the acting administrator share the work. The project administrator kept contact with the foreigner beneficiaries' financial managers and/or partner co-ordinators while the acting one kept contact with the Hungarians. They checked the financial reports of the beneficiaries against the approved annual work plan and budget. The acting project administrator escorted the project manager time by time during his visit at the beneficiaries. They are



continuously maintaining the project financial report form with the accepted incurred costs.

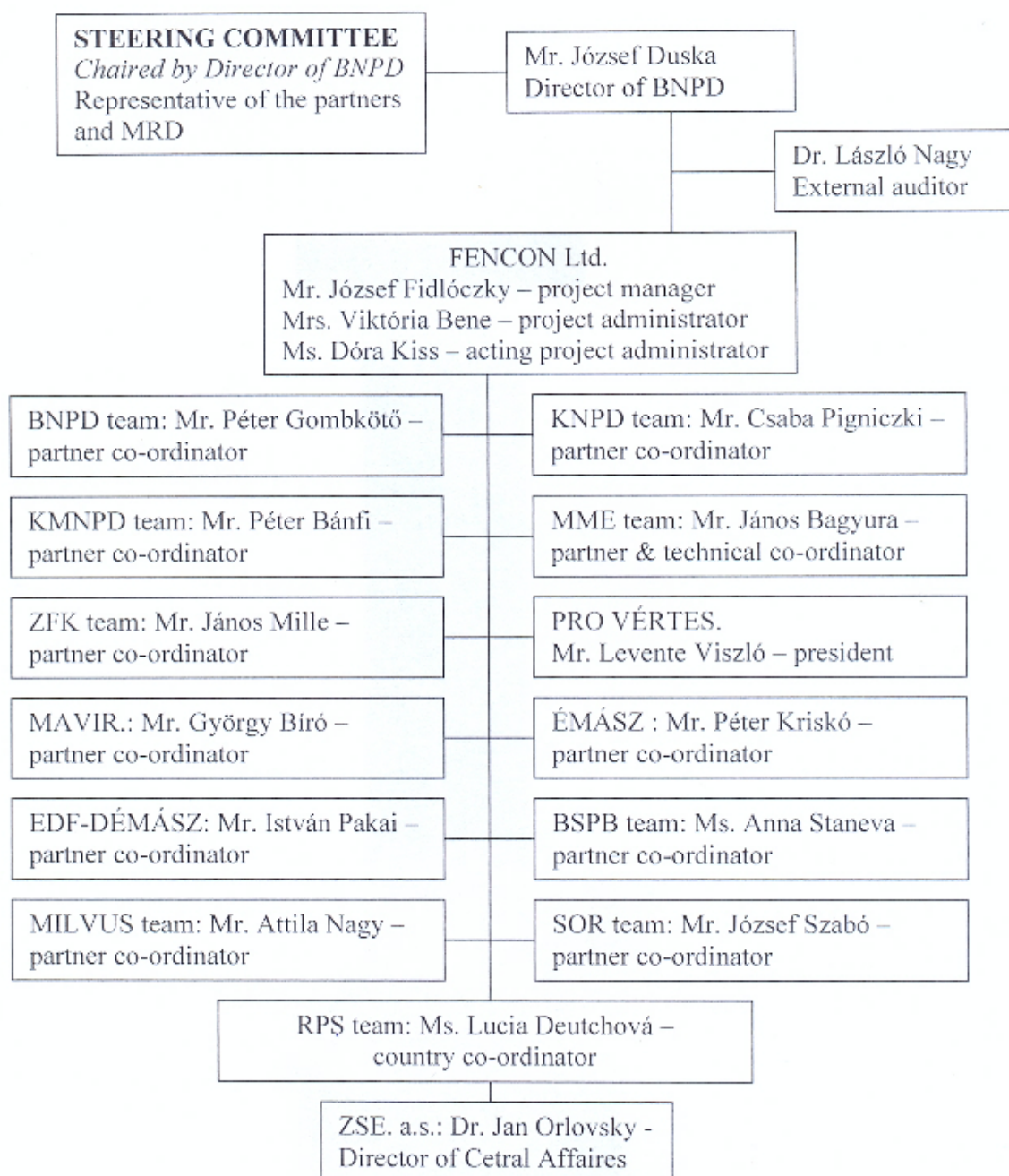
- Partner co-ordinators prepared the partner organisations annual work plan and budget and submitted for approval to the project manager. They organised and co-ordinated the work of the partner beneficiary and reported the progress and problems to the project manager.
- Steering Committee annual meeting was held on 27 March. 2012. (**Annex E7/1-E7/3**).

4.2. Changes in the project management structure

There was not any change in the project management structure during the reporting period. However the project administrator will return from maternity leave from 1. January 2013.



4.3. Organigramme of the project team and the project management structure





4.4. Delivered report since the project start

Inception Report was submitted in July 2011.

4.5. Extension of the project period

Despite of the hardships no extension would be needed.

5. Technical part

The project aims to transfer the knowledge and experiences of Hungarian and Slovak partners gained during the LIFE06 NAT/H/000096 project to Bulgarian and Romanian partners and help them to implement the best practices of *F. cherrug* conservation. At the same time, the project also aims to eliminate some endangering threat in the core area too.

5.1. Actions

5.1.1. Action A: Preparatory actions, elaboration of management plans and/or of action plans

Action A1:

Name of the action: Assessment of the effects of current agricultural subsidies and related habitat management practices on *F. cherrug*'s habitat in Bulgaria and Romania applying the Hungarian - Slovak methods

Proposed start and end of the action: January 2011 – June 2014

Expected results:

A GIS will be established containing map files of habitats incorporating up to date land cover and prey data. A detailed knowledge base will be established on the exact effect of specific agricultural practices and subsidy systems on *F. cherrug* habitats and food supply. The results will make it possible to further specify the measures beneficial for *F. cherrug* and incorporate this into the subsidies. It will help to elaborate the management plans of the SPAs. 1000 copies of Bulgarian leaflet & 2000 copies of Romanian/Hungarian leaflets will be prepared. Project staffs and specialists will be in close contacts annually with an estimated 100 farmers in Bulgaria and about 200 farmers in Romania on the sites during this action, provide information and advise.

Achievements:

- First and second round of field surveys have been carried out.
- Data collection from stakeholders
- GIS database has established
- An explanatory text as a preliminary result was submitted and accepted by the Permanent Working Group of RDP in Bulgaria.
- Preliminary Report preparation is going on for submission in the beginning of 2013 in Romania.
- Leaflets are designed and ready for printing in Bulgaria
- In Bulgaria 30 farmers were contacted.



Action status: ongoing

Measure	Deadline	Progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Evaluation of offers and selection of suppliers</i> • <i>Procurement</i> • <i>Allocation of pilot areas</i> • <i>GIS database establishment</i> • <i>Adult tagged by PTT</i> • <i>Land use survey and mapping</i> • <i>Prey survey</i> • <i>Data processing and analysing</i> • <i>Proposal for adjustment of agri-environment subsidies</i> • <i>Submitting to the ministries</i> • <i>Contacting farmers</i> • <i>Preparing and disseminating leaflets</i> 	31.01.2011 . 05.03.2011. 31.30.2013.	completed completed completed completed ongoing ongoing ongoing ongoing ongoing pending ongoing ongoing

Description of the progress during the reporting time:

In Bulgaria:

Between July 2011 and December 2012 all five planned field visits have been realised both in “Batova” and “Suha reka” Natura 2000 sites. Field survey on the potential prey for *F. cherrug* and its habitat, including habitat management data collection were conducted as follows: July 2011, February, April, June and October 2012 (**Annexes A1/1-A1/2**).

Two meetings with the BSPB GIS expert have been made (in December 2011 and October 2012), as consultations about the collection and analysis of field data.

The collected field data on available bird and rodent prey for the *F. cherrug* was transferred from paper blanks into Excel data sheets and prepared for the GIS and statistical analyses (**Annex A1/3**).

Licensed statistical software STATISTICA 10 (created by StatSoft) has been purchased in October 2012 and a GIS database established.

Additionally, there were realized 6 meetings with representatives from municipalities, farmers and land owners from the project area, to collect information on land use practices and EU subsidies, as well as to inform the local people about the existing opportunities for applying for financial support in April 2012 (**Annexes A1/4-A1/5**). Project staffs and specialists were in close contacts with an estimated 30 farmers (**Annex A1/6**). An inquiry form was used to collect information from the land owners (**Annex A1/7**). The survey was conducted within 16 farmers and 10 deputy mayors. A summary of results has been prepared in Bulgarian (**Annex A1/8**).

Two official letters and consultations with the National Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (NIMH) has been sent with the request for obtaining/purchasing meteorological data, needed as part of the research conducted within A1 action (Outgoing letter numbers: H3/LIFE384/29/16.01.2012, H3/LIFE384/30/31.01.2012). A reply was obtained via e-mail (**Annex A1/9**). The data will be delivered after the end of 2012 when all the meteorological data will be available.

In September 2012, as a reply to the request of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food (MAF) of Bulgaria, with the collaboration of the BSPB’s Agri-environmental team, the project team has prepared an explanatory text about the importance of pastures and other types of non-irrigated arable land for the presence and abundance of Saker’s prey like susliks and larks, and the need of land management for the preservation of the potential Saker’s habitats in Bulgaria, especially in Dobrudzha (the projects target area) (**Annex A1/10**). This text will be



used as a base for updating the existing agri-environmental measure for the Imperial Eagle under measure number 214 – Agri-environmental payments. The text prepared by BSPB has been presented to the permanent working group under Axis 2 of the Rural Development Program. The text was accepted by the working group and introduced to the Committee for approval. The final decision of the MAF is expected to be published in the State Gazette not later than March 2013.

There is a draft design of the leaflets (**Annex A1/11**) what will be finalised and 1000 copies will be printed in the very beginning of January 2013. This will actually not influence the accomplishment of A1 action as in January/February 2013 BSPB is expecting the approval of the complemented agri-environmental measure 214 about the Imperial Eagle and other birds of prey (including the *F. cherrug*) by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food of Bulgaria. The application for the subsidies will start in March 2013, so this will be the very important period when the stakeholders should be informed about the procedure of document submission for the subsidies – period that will be used by BSPB's agri-environmental team to distribute the printed leaflets and to encourage the farmers to apply, as the measure will support the preservation of potential *F. cherrug* habitats in the project area and other parts of Bulgaria.

In Hungary:

In September 2011 during the inspection of the Bulgarian and Romanian project sites the adopted methodology from the previous LIFE project was consulted with the Bulgarian and Romanian colleagues (**Annex A1/12**). This helped to adjust the methodology to the Bulgarian and Romanian conditions.

In Romania:

In Macin Niculuțel ROSPA0073 an about 40 sq. km survey area was selected around the last known pairs' habitat (**refer to Annex A1/7 of IR**) where a basic survey in order to identify crop structure and the applied subsidies was carried out. Prey species survey and road kill survey was carried out in the area (**Annex A1/13**). The collected data are currently recording into the GIS database. These data will be used also to prepare a preliminary proposal until the beginning of next year for the The Agri-environmental Working Group of the Ministry of Agriculture. The work will be repeated again next year around the newly installed next boxes where Saker's will breed.

In Western Romania several survey sessions (August, October, November 2011, and May, November 2012) carried out in the nearby of ROSPA0069. Unfortunately Sakers didn't breed in this area due to lack of suitable nest in 2012, but we observed the local pair and other different specimens several times. After installation of a nest box on an electric pylon after the breeding season the pair was often seen around it. These indicate that the area is an important one for Saker. These surveys have covered the crop structure, prey species: vole, hamster, bird species, and road-kill survey) and the applied subsidies of this area (**Annex A1/14**). The collected data was introduced in the GIS database. A preliminary report presented the data collected so far (**Annex A1/15**). In the main time MILVUS was waiting for the farmers data from the land office to be able to contact them. These data will be used also to prepare a preliminary proposal until the beginning of next year for the The Agri-environmental Working Group of the Ministry of Agriculture. The Agri-environmental Working Group of the Ministry of Agriculture was contacted in order to introduce Saker-specific measures into the Agri-environmental scheme for 2014. Based on the information coming from a member of this WG, we expect to deal with this issue until March 2013.

In Slovakia:

The methodology prepared within LIFE was consulted with Romanian colleagues. In September 2011, during the inspection of the Romanian project sites, we gained important information, which we could consult with Romanian colleagues. This helped to adjust the methodology to Romanian conditions (**Annex A1/16**).

**Problems and their impacts:****In Bulgaria:**

We could not reach 100 stakeholders, mentioned in the project document, because of the specifics of the management of the arable land in Dobrudzha. The majority of the people contacted by the BSPB's project team are not land owners, but they lease or rent the land they cultivate or graze their animals on. Generally, in Dobrudzha vast areas are being managed under the principle of land consolidation, which means that not the land owners but the leaseholders manage the land. This is the reason why it is most important to contact the leaseholders (which are actually the farmers) instead of the land owners, which are more in numbers but do not decide about the land management.

In Romania:

The proposed extension of ROSPA0069 finally was not included in the national law (HG971/2011) regarding the modification of SPAs. Therefore MILVUS and ROS have officially protested at the Romanian MoEF for exclusion of the proposed extension of the ROSPA0069 as well as of many other sites (**Annex A1/17**). At the same time MILVUS and ROS have informed the DG Environment about the main problems regarded this issue, and have presented reports for many sites including ROSPA0069 among them (**Annex A1/18**).

Unfortunately the old nest was fallen down after the breeding season in 2011 and we can install nest box as a replacement on the electric pylon only after the 2012's breeding season. Therefore no Sakers bred in the vicinity of ROSPA0069 hence it was not possible to catch an adult bird for being equipped with PTT. Breeding is foreseen in the newly installed nest box in 2013 and we hope to catch the adult male bird there too.

We have to wait for the farmers data from the land office to be able to contact them but there are some data protection issues what have to be solved.

We have to wait with the leaflets until the Saker-specific Agri-environmental measures are excepted by the Ministry of Agriculture, as the main reason of this leaflet would be to push the stakeholders to choose Agri-environmental scheme instead of regular Ground-based Payments Scheme. It cannot be done until the measures we are going to propose to be included in the Romanian Agri-environmental scheme, are in place.

Modifications:**In Romania:**

Since finally new nest boxes were installed in all A1 area therefore it is foreseen that before the start of breeding in 2013 we would be able to tag adult males to better identify their land use.

Once the Saker-specific Agri-environmental measures are accepted, we will be able to disseminate the information through leaflets, most probably at the end of 2013.

Comments on Commission's requests:

The proposed extension of ROSPA0069 finally was not included in the national law (HG971/2011) regarding the modification of SPAs. Therefore MILVUS and ROS have officially protested at the Romanian MoEF for exclusion of the proposed extension of the ROSPA0069 as well as of many other sites (**Annex A1/17**). The two organizations have informed the DG Environment about the omissions of Romania regarding this issue (**Annex A1/18**), and right now a detailed report is being under preparation which will highlight the negatively affected bird populations of community interest because of the wrong N2000 site designation in Romania. The ROSPA0069 is one of the main cases to be presented.

Please find the current status of the wind park of Sannicolau Mare in *A3 Action*.



Action A2:

Name of the action: Elaboration of habitat management guideline for grasslands and proposal for appropriate subsidies to stimulate proper farming on the protected *S. citellus* habitats using the Hungarian - Slovak method as the result of former LIFE project

Proposed start and end of the action: January 2011 – June 2014

Expected results:

Habitat rehabilitation and management method developed by LIFE06 NAT/H/000096 adapted for grasslands on *F. cherrug* and *S. citellus* common habitats of Romania.

Achievements:

- The *S. citellus* populated areas have been surveyed
- A preliminary report has prepared

Action status: ongoing

Description of the progress during the reporting time:

In Hungary:

In September 2011 during the inspection of the Romanian project sites the adopted methodology from the previous LIFE project was consulted with the Romanian colleagues. This helped to adjust the methodology to the Romanian conditions (**Annex A1/12**).

In Romania:

Several evaluation of *S. citellus* habitat was taken in the three target area (ROSPA0047 Hunedoara Timișană, ROSPA0015 Câmpia Crișului Alb și Crișului Negru, and ROSCI0345 Pajistea Cenad). *The ROSCI0345 Pajistea Cenad was endorsed in December 2011 exactly in the same place which was allocated for S. citellus repatriation within the proposed ROSPA0069 extension what was not extended yet.* (**Annex A2/1**).

Different relevant information (management of the pastures, number and species of grazing animals, ecological history of these areas, legal and property issues, etc) were gathered as well (**Annex A2/2**). The preliminary results are presented through a report (**Annex A2/3**). These data will be used also to prepare a preliminary proposal until the first quarter of next year for the The Agri-environmental Working Group of the Ministry of Agriculture. The preparation of a guideline for habitat management and proposal for related agri-environmental scheme is going on according to the results of the work under action A1 and A2.

In Slovakia:

Experience gained during LIFE06 NAT/H/000096 were consulted in September 2011.

Problems and their impacts:

The proposed extension of ROSPA0069 finally was not included in the national law (HG971/2011) regarding the modification of SPAs. Therefore MILVUS and ROS have officially protested at the Romanian MoEF for exclusion of the proposed extension of the ROSPA0069 (**Annex A1/17**).

Modifications:

Instead of ROSPA0069 extension the work was carried out in ROSCI0345 Pajistea Cenad was endorsed in December 2011 exactly in the same place which was allocated for *S. citellus* repatriation within the proposed ROSPA0069 extension what was not extended yet. This SCI



was proposed by the MILVUS and it was designated especially for the conservation of *S. citellus* (**Annex A2/1**).

Comments on Commission's requests:

Please refer to A1.

Action A3:

Name of the action: Preparing guideline about the effect of wind farms on *F. cherrug* population for authorities evaluating wind farm's applications

Proposed start and end of the action: October 2011 – September 2014

Expected results:

Birds tagged with PTT:

In Bulgaria: monitoring of Hungarian/Slovakian/Romanian tagged birds eventually appeared on Bulgarian territory

In Hungary: 24

In Romania: 3

In Slovakia: 4

400 copies of guideline will be prepared about the effect of wind farms on *F. cherrug* population for authorities evaluating wind farm's applications in Bulgarian, Hungarian, Romanian and Slovak languages. It is expected the BSPB will manage to incorporate the planned guidelines in the national strategy. If due to the time constraints this is not included in the initial version (due to the time discrepancy), the recommendations will be introduced during the update of the document, as such is envisaged. The guidelines will be submitted to the Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic, the Slovak Association of Towns and Villages, State Nature Conservancy, to the environmental institutions participating in the wind park assessment process and national and local NGOs. Each wind park project is assessed separately. State Nature Conservancy has not any information what they can use for evaluation therefore they are eager to have some tools for their work. The NGOs can increase their pressure on the authorities to apply it.

Achievements:

- Field data collection in Bulgaria
- 28 PTT have purchased in Hungary
- 3 adults and 6 juveniles birds tagged in Hungary
- 1 juvenile bird tagged in Romania
- Movement of tagged birds was studied

**Action status:** ongoing

Measure	Deadline	Progress
• Evaluation of offers and selection of suppliers	31.01.2011	completed
• Procurement		completed
• Adult tagged by PTT	05.03.2011	ongoing
• Juveniles tagged by PTT	15.06.2011	completed
• Second batch juveniles tagged by PTT	15.06.2012.	completed
• Third batch juveniles tagged by PTT	15.06.2013.	pending
• Land use survey in existing and planned wind farms area		ongoing
• Guidelines has prepared		pending
• Guidelines has printed and distributed	30.09.2014.	pending

Description of the progress during the reporting time:**In Bulgaria:**

Field observations on the impact of wind farms on birds of prey has been done close to wind farms in Balchik and Kavarna (**Annex A3/1**). During the entire reporting period data about the attitude of *F. cherrugs* towards wind turbines is being collected from BSPB's volunteers and staff working on other projects within the project area (**Annex A3/2**). All these data has been given to the BSPB's EU Policy Officer for the ongoing dialogue with the EC about the implications of wind farm constructions on the migration route Via Pontica in Eastern Bulgaria. Obviously, together with data from satellite tagged birds, these data will be the basis for the guidelines to be elaborated under A3 action.

In Hungary:

Because of the very slow tender process we finally decided that 4 PTTs should be purchased by MME to speed up the work which is not influenced by the government bureaucracy. In the main time we agreed by MILVUS that due to their uncertainty of the location of their birds BNPD would purchase the transmitter what were planned for them and would provide to them in case of the localisation of a breeding pair in the future. While we were waiting for the transmitters we started to feed the potential adult birds (**Annex A3/3**). The 4 PTTs were received in February 2012. In the same time the tender process was concluded and 24 PTTs were ordered by BNPD. Two adults (a pair) were tagged by PTT in the Hevesi-sik (HUBN10004) in March 2012 and an adult male was trapped and tagged near Ceglédbercel on a potential wind farm area (**Annex A3/4**). (The fourth was used to tag a juvenile female *F. cherrug* near to Sannicolau Mare in Romania.) 14 PTT were delivered to BNPD in May just in time to tag juveniles. 6 juveniles were tagged in June (**Annex A3/5**). We continuously monitored the movement of the birds and collected information about them (**Annex A3/6**). Unfortunately we lost many of them for different reason. We continue the feeding of the potential adult birds for tagging. The last 10 PTTs were received in November 2012. The first priority is the replacement of the old transmitters what have broken down on the first two adult males near to the wind farm in NW Hungary. The status of the tagged birds is given in **Annex A3/7**. Land use of the existing and potential wind farm areas were checked (**Annex A3/8**).

In Romania:

In Western Romania information was collected and evaluated about the planned wind farm along ROSPA0069 (**Annex A3/9a-b**). Informing County Environment Office, municipality and investor about the project activities and the potential conflict of wind farm and *F. cherrug* in the area (**Annex A3/10**).



Study has been carried out concerning the wind-farm project developments in Dobrogea. A *F. cherrug* nest was identified where we have collected valuable information about the effect of wind farm because the pair left its nest due to the wind farm construction. Probably the same pair occupied a hooded crow nest on an electricity pylon app. 4 km south from the previous one. The Milvus Group's specialists tried to capture the adult male however unfortunately the bird fell from the mist-net, therefore the chance to equip it with PTT was skipped. In the autumn 2012 the Milvus Group carried out a 2x10 days camp for monitoring the migrating and local raptor activities in the vicinity of the Macin Mountains, where three wind parks are prepared for construction. Several observations were made on Sakers as well. Our report is presented attached (**Annex A3/11**).

In Slovakia:

We followed up the tagged juveniles from the nests situated in the vicinity of power plants in Austria in SKCHVU016. One of the tagged birds was found electrocuted in August 2011 in Czech Republic. The second bird got lost in France and another of them in Turkey in November 2011. Although we were in touch with French colleagues they did not manage to find the body. One of the PTTs was transmitting until November 2012. The bird started to migrate in April 2012 to south-west. The bird spent the winter in Romania and Bulgaria. We got regular information from Bulgarian colleagues based on our data from the PTT. In November 2012 we lost signal with the last PTT, and in the same time our Romanian colleagues found it in the last location but without the bird. The data from all of the PTTs are being evaluated and will be used for preparation of the guideline (**Annexes A3/7 and A3/12**).

Problems and their impacts:

Trapping attempt in Dobrogea failed.

Tender process in state sector became a very slow and long process in Hungary what delayed the procurement and use of PTTs.

All juveniles tagged in Slovakia in 2011 have died.

Modifications:

To speed up the work 4 PTTs were purchased by MME. BNPD has agreed with MILVUS to buy the PTTs for instead of them and provide PTTs to them in case of need.

Action A4:

Name of the action: Identifying of prey assortment using of video camera and photo traps at nests to convince hunters and pigeon keepers

Proposed start and end of the action: January 2011 – September 2014

Expected results:

Correct data about the prey composition of *F. cherrug* in different habitat in the breeding season what can be used to convince hunters and pigeon keepers in the frame of Action D5.

Achievements:

- A video camera was installed and its pictures were broadcasted in the project web in Hungary.
- 14 photo traps were purchased.
- 11 photo traps were installed on pylons and one was tested on tree in Hungary.



- In Slovakia photo traps used for guarding were used also to collect data on prey.
- Recorded data were evaluated.

Action status: ongoing

Measure	Deadline	Progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation of offers and selection of suppliers • Procurement • Installing Video camera • Installing photo traps • Evaluation of collected data • Publishing results 	31.01.2011 30.09.2014.	completed completed ongoing ongoing ongoing pending

Description of the progress during the reporting time:

In Hungary:

The 400 kV power line was demolished for reconstruction therefore the web camera was moved to another nest box where F. cherrugwas breeding in 2012. MAVIR got to install a sophisticated Video transmission system. Two camera were installed one of them was infrared what enabled to monitor the nest box 24 hours a day (**Annex A4/1**). The nest box was monitored continuously from the start of the breeding much after the fledging (**Annex A4/2**). The video pictures were transmitted by GSM system to the web of the project and MAVIR also to PROVÉRTES. It was also continuously recorded. PROVÉRTES staffs evaluated the pictures to identify the preys. A standard datasheet was developed to record the preys (**Annex A4/3**). There were 190 recorded preys on the video (**Annex A4/4**) what were evaluated (**Table 1**).

Tender process completed and 14 photo traps were purchased. Selection of successful breeding pairs has been done for installation of photo traps. 11 photo traps were installed on high voltage electric pylons (2 by DÉMÁSZ/KNPD and 9 by MAVIR/BNPD/MME) (**Annexes A3/8 and A4/5**). KMNPD tested one photo trap on trees while PROVÉRTES was prepared to install one on trees but the breeding failed. The photo traps were removed after the fledging of the juveniles. The pictures were downloaded from the memory cards to the computer and were evaluated (**Annex A4/6 and Table 1**).

There was a meeting organised to evaluate the first year's experience of photo trapping and agree the next years methodology, technology and system on 7 September 2012 in MME HQ (**Annex A4/7**).

The first year's result of the action is presented in table 1 bellow.

In Romania:

Three potential breeding pairs has been discovered during the baseline survey in Dobrogea this year in abandoned Hooded Crow's nest, however it was too late to install any photo trap there. Food remains were collected under the occupied nest last year. Negotiation and agreement was made with Transelectrica about the installation of dummy cameras. Newly installed nest boxes would provide better option for this action in the future.

In Slovakia:

The pictures of the video-camera recorded in 2011 was analysed (**Annex A4/8**). The video-recorded pair changed the nesting place and moved from aluminium box to a wooden one on the neighbouring pylon. Therefore we had to find a solution – either to prevent the nesting of pair in wooden nest box and hope the pair will move back to the same aluminium box, or to remove the whole camera system. We decided to install the camera on another nest, in the period when the chicks were two weeks old. In May 2012 the video-camera was ready to be



installed, but after climbing up to the nest we realised that the chicks were dead (**Annex A4/9**). Because of the complicated process of installation and data transfer it was not possible to replace the camera to another nest. All of the purchased photo-traps were installed, checked in case of need and removed after the breeding season also in 2012. The pictures from the photo-traps were copied to the computer and analysed. Based on the first analysis, higher density of small mammals and birds was recorded from the photo-trap pictures than from the analysis of food remains removed from the nest box (**Annex A4/10** and **Table 1**). It means the photo-traps bring very important results concerning the prey composition of Saker. We have also identified that the adults are marked with rings in some cases (**Annex A4/11**). This was new information. It was also recorded when the adults come to the nest box to spend the night there and that they prefer the landing platform as night roosting place (**Annex A4/12**).

The result of the action is presented in table 1 bellow.

Table 1: Prey composition identified by pictures compared to food remains analyses

Country	Hungary		Slovakia	
	Number of specimens	%	Number of specimens	%
Mammals				
<i>Spermophilus citellus</i>	176	25,73		
<i>Lepus europaeus</i>	64	9,36	5	5,88
small mammals not identifiable	30	4,39		
mammals not identifiable	12	1,75		
<i>Cricetus cricetus</i>	6	0,88	7	8,24
<i>Microtus arvalis</i>	5	0,73	3	3,53
<i>Rattus sp.</i>	4	0,58		
<i>Talpa europaea</i>	1	0,15		
Birds				
<i>Columba sp.</i>	224	32,75	41	48,24
<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	32	4,68	11	12,94
small birds not identifiable	31	4,53	14	16,47
birds not identifiable	14	2,05		
<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	10	1,46		
<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	4	0,58		
<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	4	0,58	2	2,35
<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	1	0,15		
<i>Columba oenas</i>	1	0,15		
<i>Columba palumbus</i>	1	0,15		
<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	1	0,15		
<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	1	0,15		
<i>Passer montanus</i>	1	0,15		
<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	1	0,15		
<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	1	0,15		
Reptiles				
<i>Lacerta viridis</i>	1	0,15		
<i>Sauria sp.</i>	1	0,15		
Not identifiable				
Not identifiable	57	8,33	2	2,35
Total:	684	100	85	100

**Problems and their impacts:****In Romania:**

Breeding pairs were found too late to install photo traps.

In Slovakia:

It was not possible to install the video-camera in 2012 in Slovakia, because the chicks on the nest were dead. Because of complicated manipulation it was not possible to use the camera on other nest this year.

Modifications:**In Hungary:**

MAVIR got to install a very sophisticated broadband GSM transmitted Video system what made it enable to continuously follow up the activities in the nest on the web.

Comments on Commission's requests:

The video camera was successfully replaced to an active nest box and breeding was successfully recorded.

5.1.2. Action C: Concrete conservation actions**Action C1:**

Name of the action: Implement, promote and enforce the agri-environment scheme for *S. citellus*

Proposed start and end of the action: January 2011 – June 2014

Expected results:

20 ha in Muránska planina - Stolica SPA and 20 ha in Záhorské Pomoravie will be managed under the scheme.

The scheme will be submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture to be accepted and included in the RDP for 2014 – 2020.

Achievements:

- 20 hectares of land was under the measures on each site in both years.
- The final payment of the scheme was calculated.
- Two meetings with the working group of RDP.

Action status: ongoing

Measure	Deadline	Progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Technical guidelines prepared• Agreement signed with the farmers• Site management and data collection• Calculation of the final payment of the scheme• Meetings at the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Environment• Submitting the scheme to the Ministries for consideration.	<div>30.11.2010</div> <div>31.12.2012.</div>	<div>completed</div> <div>completed</div> <div>completed</div> <div>completed</div> <div>completed</div> <div>delayed</div>

**Description of the progress during the reporting time:****In Slovakia:**

20 hectares of land was under the measures on each site in 2011 as well as in 2012. The farmers submitted the annual report based on the agreements (**Annex C1/1**). Each report was consulted by details and questions were discussed. No problems were recorded during the management measures implementation. The subsidies from project sources were paid to both subjects for 2011. The measures were applied in 2012 as well. The reported data will be used by negotiations with the MoE for the calculation of the final payment of the scheme, together with the statistical data provided by Research Institute for Soil Science and Conservation. These statistical data will be available during the negotiation process. The information from other farmers will be used as well. However after the change of the government in Slovakia the negotiating process concerning the RDP was postponed. A meeting of a Working group for the implementation of environmental measures into the RDP was held in February 2012 and August 2012 (**Annexes C1/2-C1/3**). We are in regular contact with the Ministry concerning this issue. During the meetings RPS informed about the AES for *S. citellus* and the mechanism of subsidies was discussed. We expect that the proposal of the scheme may be submitted in the beginning of next year, but it would depend on the Ministry.

Problems and their impacts:

The change of the government in Slovakia caused delay comparing to original schedule of the negotiations.

Modifications:

We expect that the proposal of the scheme may be submitted in the beginning of next year, but it would depend on the Ministry.

Comments on Commission's requests:

In March 2011 the 1st meeting of the Working group for preparation and modification of RDP was held (**Annex C1/4**). The aim of first meeting of the working group, formed for the purpose of modification of the RDP programming period 2014 - 2020, was to evaluate the co-sponsor of the measures (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, PPA), identification of barriers to the implementation of measures under Axis 2 of the RDP 2007 to 2013 design brief and vision solutions and critical points of cooperation in the next programming period RPS is included in member of the Working group. The Working group is working on preparation of different parts of RPD, including AES. **The result of the first meeting was specification of the aims of the group and preparation of the schedule of work (Annex C1/5).**

Action C2:

Name of the action: Production and installation of nest boxes in Bulgaria and Romania according to the Hungarian experience

Proposed start and end of the action: January 2011 – March 2014

Expected results:**In Bulgaria:**

20 nest boxes will be installed in suitable *F. cherrug* habitats in whenever necessary with priority within the project SPAs. This will provide sufficient breeding sites secured with



durable, safe and long lasting nests and in the same time will ensure no lag time in the process of *F. cherrug* dispersion.

In Hungary:

3 Type 2 in the frame Action D1.

In Romania:

45 nest boxes will be installed in Romania in priority within SPAs. There will be 2 durable nest boxes in each of the identified best *F. cherrug* habitats at the end of the project, what would provide a sufficient number of safe breeding sites for the increasing population of the species. In this way in some of the potential areas we will create new, beforehand inexistent breeding sites, while elsewhere we will increase very significantly the number of the safe breeding possibilities of *F. cherrug*.

Achievements:

- All planned nest boxes installed in Bulgaria
- 5 nest boxes “type 1” and 67 nest boxes “type 2” have been installed in Romania

Action status: ongoing

Measure	Deadline	Progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Evaluation of offers and selection of suppliers</i>• <i>Procurement</i>• <i>Nest box production</i>• <i>Selection of the best location</i>• <i>Installation</i>	31.01.2011. 31.03.2014.	Completed completed completed completed ongoing

Description of the progress during the reporting time:

In Bulgaria:

Firstly, GPS coordinates of the appropriate trees for the nest boxes installation has been taken. Unfortunately, this was followed by certain postponement of the action due to the adverse weather conditions in Dobrudzha during fall and winter 2011, as well as, in the case of aluminum nest boxes, because of our dependence on the Electric System Operator's work plan and maintenance procedures. Despite of the complications all planned ten wooden and ten aluminum nest boxes have been installed within the project area (**Annexes C2/1a-b-C2/2a-b**).

In Hungary:

Two nest boxes were installed during two conferences. The last nest box will be installed in the next International Conference organised by MAVIR in March 2013.

In Romania:

In West-Romania 50 aluminium nest boxes (“type 2”) were installed in the four western counties: Satu Mare (2), Bihor (14), Arad (7), Timis (27). Another three wooden nest boxes (“type 1”) were installed in Bihor and Satu Mare counties (**Annexes C2/3-C2/4**).

In Dobrogea 2 wooden (“type 1”) nest boxes and 17 aluminium (“type 2”) were installed in. Regarding the location of the installed nest-boxes they have been chosen according to the newly identified *F. cherrug* nests. 7 nest boxes were installed in and in the bordering area of ROSPA0073, while the remaining 12 close to Padurea Babadag, Stepa Casimcea and Dunarea Veche Bratul Macin SPA's (**Annexes C2/4-C2/5**).

Problems and their impacts:

In Bulgaria:

Due to adverse weather condition the installation had to postpone for the spring 2012.

*In Romania:*

The nest boxes were installed just after of the breeding season due to the long and slow negotiation with the electric companies during the lobbying therefore there was not any breeding attempt in them during 2012.

*Modifications:**In Hungary:*

The last nest box will be installed in the next International Conference organised by MAVIR in March 2013.

In Romania:

Based on the TDO's approval on 29 May 2012 we revised our plan and increased the planned aluminium nest boxes with 85 items (**Annexes C2/3 and C2/5**). Originally we planned a very low numbers due to two different reasons:

1. The aluminium nest boxes must be installing on electric pylons but the electric companies were not very keen on it. Therefore we planned action D1 to convince them based on the Hungarian and Slovak experience but we were very careful about its success.
2. Our calculation was based on very limited information about the real size of the *F. cherrug* population in Romania.

However thanks to the successful lobbying (D1) together with our Hungarian colleagues we could convince the electric companies to install nest boxes on the pylons and in the other hand as a result of the intensive baseline survey (E8) with the assistance of the Hungarian colleagues we understand better the status of the *F. cherrug* population of Romania. First of all we understood that **the most limiting factor is the lack of suitable nest**. Even the existing breeding pairs hardly can find abandoned natural nest and those very few one are also in bad quality. The potential new breeding pairs from the expanding population in Hungary would not find nest also in West-Romania. In the present we know about 5-6 territories occupied by adult pairs, unfortunately most of them do not have proper nest or even not at all. Based on the lessons learned from Hungary and Slovakia, knowing the habitats in West-Romania, we expect that *F. cherrug* population may increase rapidly in the next 10 years if we cover the potential regions with artificial nests. We kept in mind the dynamics of the Hungarian and Serbian population identifying the locations of the nest boxes therefore we concentrate our effort on the south-western part of Romania named Banat (Arad and Timis counties), where *F. cherrug* pairs are known. The initially planned locations of wooden "type 1" nests were changed as we tried to fill the gaps where there is not possible to install artificial nests on high voltage pylons (**Annex C2/3**).

The situation is the same in Dobrogea where *F. cherrug* moved down from the cliffs in ROSPA0073 due to regular human disturbance and also expanding from Ukraine to Romania but cannot find nests on the electric pylons connecting Ukraine with Bulgaria across the area. The locations of the nest boxes were adjusted to newly found pairs in the high voltage electric pylon crossing the area in a north-south direction from Ukraine towards Bulgaria. First of all the old nests were replaced by nest boxes and some other nest boxes were installed and will be installed in suitable distances (**Annex C2/5**).

Comments on Commission's requests:

Explanation is given in "Modification".


Table 2: Installed and planned nest boxes in Romania

Partner	Project area	Type 1 (wooden)			Type 2 (aluminium)		
		Installed	planned	total	installed	planned	total
MILVUS	West-Romania (Annex C2/3)	3	2	5	50	35	85
ROS	Dobrogea, Oltenia (Annex C2/5)	2	3	5	17	18	35
	TOTAL:	5	5	10	67	53	120

Action C3:

Name of the action: Repatriation of *S. citellus* on Natura 2000 habitats where it is missing in Hungary, Slovakia (using ear-tags) and Romania based on the Hungarian & Slovak experience

Proposed start and end of the action: March 2011 – August 2013

Expected results:

In Hungary:

400 *S. citellus* will be repatriated for two SPAs what would increase the favourable food sources of *F. cherrug* and rescuing them from an area where they are considered as a flood security risk.

In Romania:

A number of 300 *S. citellus* will be repatriated into about 7 habitats in 3 SPAs and by this *S. citellus* population of the 3 SPAs will increase by 7-10 % up to the end of the project period.

In Slovakia:

800 *S. citellus* will be repatriated from different donor sites to two SPAs.

Achievements:

- 37 inds. repatriated in Hungary,
- 49 inds. repatriated in Romania and
- 248 inds. repatriated in Slovakia
- The animals were marked by chip in Slovakia

Action status: ongoing

Measure	Deadline	Progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation of offers and selection of suppliers • Procurement • baseline survey • arranging permissions • site preparation • repatriation 	31.01.2011. 31.08.2013.	completed completed ongoing ongoing ongoing ongoing

Description of the progress during the reporting time:

In Hungary:

ZFK submitted a new request for permission of *S. citellus* repatriation in April 2012 to the Nature Conservation Authority on 29 January 2012 (**Annex C3/1**). However the Authority



requested again and again additional supplements. Finally we got the permission for a short period (19-31 July 2012) on 28 June 2012 (**Annex C3/2**). Based on the permission we prepared the host site in HUDD10008 Belső-Somogy. One hectare (100mX100m) area was fenced around with a 1m high iron mesh. Inside the area 80 holes were drilled for the planned 50 animals (**Annex C3/3**). We trapped the animals with apple live traps in Siófok-Kiliti Airport on 26-27 July 2012 (**Annex C3/4**). Finally 37 *S. citellus* were repatriated (**Annex C3/5**). Out of them 9 were juveniles. 2/3-rd of the adults was female. The repatriated colony was guarded and feed with apple and oat (**Annex C3/6**).

In Romania:

MILVUS submitted a request for permission of *S. citellus* repatriation in 2012 to the Regional Environmental Agency in Timisoara in 09.07.2012 (**Annex C3/7**). However the Agency did not give permission for ROSPA0047 and ROSCI0345 but requested an EIA for it (**Annex C3/8**). Therefore the first-ever *S. citellus* repatriation in Romania took place only in ROSPA0015 Câmpia Crișului Alb și Crișului Negru between 18 and 22 August 2012. Derogation was requested from and permitted by the Romanian Academy (**Annex C3/9a-b**). The outskirt of Arad town was selected for donor site. The *S. citellus* population of the area is endangered by the expansion of the town. The grazing of the area is decreasing, only a very few livestock is grazing there. The industrial zone is continuously reducing its size. There are a lot of rubbish and pye-dogs there (**Annex C3/10**). Based on the permission we prepared the host site. Inside the area 50 holes were drilled for the planned 50 animals (**Annex C3/11**). We trapped the animals with 50 apple live traps (**Annex C3/12**). Finally 49 *S. citellus* were repatriated. Out of them 30 were juveniles 11 sub-adults and 8 adults. 49% of them were female. The repatriated colony was guarded and feed with apple and melon. (**Annex C3/13**).

In Slovakia:

Due to the reduced size of *S. citellus* populations more donating sites had to be used in 2011 as well as in 2012, to avoid the negative influence of the donor populations. The population of Bratislava airport was especially damaged, therefore this site was not used as donor site this time. We follow the same methodology what was developed during the previous project. From eleven places 248 *S. citellus* were repatriated into four SPAs. Details are given in Table 2. The next releasing was adjusted to the results of the previous ones based on the monitoring result.

Table 3: *S. citellus* repatriation results in Slovakia

year	donor site	number of individuals	Site of release	Annexes
2011	Chtelnica, Kuchyňa, Nové Zámky airport, ZOO Bojnice	98	SKCHVU016	C3/14
2011	Biele Vody	10	SKCHVU017	C3/15
2012	Nové Zámky airport, Trnava airport, ZOO Bojnice, Chtelnica	59	SKCHVU016	C3/14
2012	Zádiel, Turňa nad Bodvou, Gemerské Dechtáre, Jesenské, Košice airport	81	SKCHVU017	C3/15-C3/16

Problems and their impacts:

In Hungary:

KNPD wants to repatriate *S. citellus* for rehabilitated grassland from old Alfa Alfa field. However due to the very dry year they had to postponed the repatriation for next year.



The bureaucracy made very short the period for repatriation what resulted less repatriated animals. From September 2012 the *S. citellus* became strictly protected therefore it is foreseen that the bureaucracy will increase.

The very dry year was not a favor for *S. citellus*. Lack of natural food was replaced by feed. Only summer repatriation was permitted however the spring one is more efficient.

In Romania:

Regional Environmental Agency in Timisoara did not give permission for repatriation to ROSPA0047 and ROSCI0345 but requested an EIA (**Annex C3/8**).

In Slovakia:

S. citellus populations on donor sites were influenced by heavy rains in 2010 even in 2012. Therefore more donor sites had to be used to capture individuals for repatriation in Slovakia and the number of captured individuals had to be reduced comparing to original plan.

Modifications:

Originally 200 *S. citellus* repatriation was planned in Hungary and 100 in Romania for each site. However using the Slovak method based on the Slovak experience may be less (around 50 individuals) would be enough in one area. This is very important modification because of the shrinking donor populations.

In Romania the donor site was changed from Macea to Arad (**Annex C3/9**).

In Slovakia ear-tag was changed to chip to mark the individuals.

Comments on Commission's requests:

In Hungary during the former project the *S. citellus* repatriation went smoothly. The target of the current project is considerably less than before however since the government changed the bureaucracy slow down all activities very much. It is probably because the protection status of the *S. citellus* has increased and the experienced officials were replaced by inexperienced ones. We started the preparation in time as a normal routine but we could not foresee, that the administrative process would slow down very much.

In Romania *S. citellus* population of Arad is not affected by any particular ongoing investment but it is endangered by many different factors mentioned before.

Action C4:

Name of the action: Locate and insulate dangerous electric pylons

Proposed start and end of the action: January 2011 – August 2014

Expected results:

Information will be available on the most dangerous electric pylons around breeding and foraging sites.

Altogether approx. 9100 pylons will be insulated primarily within the SPAs but partly outside of them. In Bulgaria 600, in Hungary 7000, in Romania 700 and in Slovakia at least 850 pylons will be insulated.

The number of birds electrocuted on insulated sections of the electric power-lines (E3) will decrease by 95 % compared to baseline data while the breeding success and individual survival increases. Numerous other important, protected and strictly protected species, including ones listed on Annex I of the Birds Directive, benefit from the action (e.g. *Coracias garrulus*, *Falco tinnunculus*, *Falco vespertinus*, *Tyto alba* etc.).

**Achievements:**

- Baseline surveys were going on.
- Subcontractors were selected by tenders.
- Insulation materials were purchased by BSPB in Bulgaria.
- 2104 pylons insulated and about 50% of it is paid in Hungary.
- 412 pylons insulated in Slovakia.

Action status: ongoing

Measure	Deadline	Progress
• Evaluation of offers and selection of suppliers	31.01.2011	ongoing
• Procurement		ongoing
• baseline survey		ongoing
• First batch of dangerous pylons insulated	31.12.2012	ongoing
• Second batch of dangerous pylons insulated	31.12.2013	pending
• Last batch of dangerous pylons insulated	31.08.2014	pending

Description of the progress during the reporting time:**In Bulgaria:**

First meeting with E.ON electric company realized in July 2011 (**Annex C4/1**). Till November 2011 all the electric pylons planned for insulation have been photographed and GPS coordinates have been taken for all of them, and then included in a database (**Annex C4/2**), which will be used by the electric company for planning and realizing the insulation of the pylons. A second meeting between BSPB and E.ON Bulgaria was held in Varna on 13 February 2012 (**Annex C4/3**). During the meeting BSPB presented the results of the work done so far of identifying, taking GPS coordinates and pictures of the 600 electric posts that are to be insulated, as well as the collected information of electrocuted birds (**Annex C4/4a-b**). E.ON Bulgaria expressed their willingness to accept the cooperation proposal, which may involve signing a memorandum of understanding between the two organizations. In April a draft contract for the insulation of the electric pylons was prepared for E.ON Bulgaria. However in the main time the owner of the electric network has been changed to Energo-Pro Grid therefore negotiation had to start with the new owner. In October 2012 a Memorandum of collaboration between BSPB and Energo-Pro Grid has been signed (**Annex C4/5**). After that the preparation of the insulation started again. Tender was issued, evaluated and the necessary insulation materials were ordered.

In Hungary:

Baseline survey was carried out by BNPD, KMNPB and KNPB. The survey sheets (**refer to Annex C4/6 of IR**) were sent to the Monitoring Centre of MME for data processing. The result is given in **Annex C4/6**.

There was a co-ordination meeting among the concerned parties to adjust and coordinate the LIFE+ and KEOP projects activities on 16.02.2012. (**Annex C4/7**). Based on the result of this meeting ÉMÁSZ provided its digital data base about their pylons to BNPD what was used to adjusted the priority polygons to the electric sections, it means to the switches at the ends of certain power line sections and identified the co-ordinates of the start and end pylons of the priority section for insulation (**Annex C4/8a-c**). In the same time it was also adjusted with the KEOP project to avoid any overlapping pylons. There was a follow up meeting on 11.04.2012 to check the status of the implementation (**Annex C4/9**). ÉMÁSZ finally completed its tender and selected two subcontractors (GA and JUKO) for the work. The subcontractors surveyed the committed sections and made their work plan (**Annex C4/10a**). Based on this plan **2104 pylons were insulated (Annex C4/10b)**. In the main time a standard certification of



completion was designed which will be used by all project in Hungary (**Annex C4/11**). The rangers of BNPD checked the insulated pylons and took pictures from them and recorded their coordinates during E3 action (**Annex C4/12**). BNPD hired the best expert Mr. Péter Tóth to check the pictures to confirm the work before signing the certification of completion. He checked the pictures of each pylon of every power line section carefully and made their qualification in a table sheet form (**Annex C4/13**). Based on his qualification the certifications of completion were issued for the insulated sections of GA because the minor problems what were identified can be easily solved next year in the frame of their warrantee. Unfortunately he found much more error and shortage in the work of JUKO therefore we asked them to make a correction before we can issue the certification and send the pictures from the correction for proof. However for our great surprise instead of correcting the errors they tried to cheat us taking pictures from other correct pylons. Our expert discovered that (**Annex C4/14a**) therefore we refused to issue any certification for completion (**Annex C4/14b**). *The annexed maps exclude the not accepted work of JUKO.*

EDF-DÉMÁSZ has issued a tender for the next four years period from June 2012 including the insulation works too. The tender was repeated and subcontractors were just contracted. A new competitive bid was open among them for the insulation work but they did not do any insulation yet.

In Romania:

We analyzed the data collected near Sannicolau Mare in West-Romania in 2011 (**refer to Annex C4/9 of IR**). During the base line survey (E8) we have to understand that we have to change our strategy. There are too much dangerous electric pylons to be insulated. The first priority must be given to those which are located near to the breeding pairs. However we just start to install the nest boxes therefore only in spring of 2013 we can identify the occupied nest boxes or the eyries where the insulation would be the highest priority and the most efficient. When we identified the power line sections than we can identify the materials what would be needed.

In Slovakia:

850 pylons were inspected within the baseline survey. 412 pylons were insulated in SKCHVU023 (**Annex C4/15**). 300 pylons to be insulated in 2013 were identified. 9 *F. cherrug* were found dead most probably due to electrocution during the monitoring of 22 kV power lines in Western and Eastern Slovakia in 2012. This, as well as the movement of PTT tagged birds confirms the necessity of insulation of the dangerous pylons.

Problems and their impacts:

In Bulgaria:

There is a significant delay in the implementation of this action because of the changes of ownership over the electric company (Energo-Pro officially replaced E.ON on 04.07.2012). For almost seven months BSPB was waiting for the decision of the new owners to consider and accept the collaboration offered by BSPB in terms of *F. cherrug* conservation and prevention of electrocution of birds and disturbance in electricity supply for the people.

In Hungary:

EDF-DÉMÁSZ has issued a tender for the next four years period from June 2012 including the insulation works too but the French owner EDF ordered them to reopen the tender with a much lower price reducing all kind of investment to the absolute necessary level due to Hungarian Government economic policy. The tender was repeated and subcontractors were just contracted. A new competitive bid was open among them for the insulation work but they did not do any insulation yet. In the main time EDF-DÉMÁSZ warned the audience of the Unimpeded Sky Treaty meeting on 16 November 2012 that they may not do any insulation in the future due to the disadvantage economic conditions. They may not respect their existing



commitment too. EDF is waiting for the next year's government regulation for the electricity than EDF will decide about their contribution to the bird protection most probably in the beginning of next year. Since the government makes every day more disadvantage decisions for the energy sector therefore it is uncertain today that even ÉMASZ will continue their insulation work. We will know it in the beginning of next year. We are continuously in contact.

In Romania:

The delay in nest box installation results delay of insulation but it is not endangering the success of the action.

Modifications:

In Bulgaria:

As the majority of the installation costs will be covered by Energo-Pro, therefore we are planning to reallocate 6000 EUR from External assistance to consumable costs, thus providing a total of 30 000 EUR for insulators.

In Hungary:

Based on the adjustment with the planned KEOP project as mentioned before the pylons for insulation by the project in BNPD-ÉMÁSZ responsibility area reduced to 3760. We may use the spare money for installing new heads instead of insulators if we find it more appropriate. BNPD hired the best expert Mr. Péter Tóth to check the pictures to confirm the work before signing the certification of completion.

Comments on Commission's requests:

Unfortunately the jpg map from the proposed Bulgarian insulation changes lost its readability due to conversion to pdf version what we did not recognise. Please find the jpg version in **Annex C4/16**.

There were three short sections established by three different types of new head. They are still tested. We are studying them from bird protection, security of electric supply and price point of you and we are also studying the possibility to replace insulation by replacing the heads within the project. In the beginning of next year we will decide about the possibility to do this modification from next year. We will consider the cost/benefit ratio and we may modify our work plan according to it.

BNPD and ÉMASZ are involved in KEOP project in North-East Hungary while MME and EDF-ÉMÁSZ are involved in KEOP project in South Hungary but the work would be done in the responsibility area of KMNP and KNPD. BNPD and MME are the co-ordinating beneficiaries. They are designing the projects and they will do quality control of the work while the electric companies will co-finance it and got to implement it. These projects are scheduled after the LIFE+ project therefore these have not any impact on the LIFE+ project. The delay of LIFE+ project may have some impact on the KEOP projects however we are networking to ensure the less impact. The government tax policy has much more indirect impact on all insulation projects and we are afraid very much that the insulation works may completely stop in the future. The KEOP projects are completely separated from the LIFE+ Project both in the site and in financially. All pylons are identified by co-ordinates. The insulated sections are identified by the co-ordinates of the two ends in the certification of completion and recorded in the GIS database what is exchanged among the parties.

Action C5:

Name of the action: Keeping and breeding of injured birds and repatriation of juveniles



Proposed start and end of the action: April 2011 – Sept 2014

Expected results:

4 cages will be built in Romania and Slovakia.

Insured birds may recover and can be repatriated.

Disabled birds may breed in captivity and their chicks will strengthen natural population.

Achievements:

- 2 cages were built in Slovakia.
- A cage is under construction in Romania.
- Insured birds were rescued in Romania and in Slovakia.

Action status: ongoing

Measure	Deadline	Progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Cages for disabled birds erected</i>• <i>keeping and breeding</i>• <i>repatriation</i>	31.10.2011.	ongoing ongoing ongoing

Description of the progress during the reporting time:

In Romania:

Finally we decide to build the cage in our property. The construction of a 4x4x21m size cage is going on in Sansimion, Mures County (**Annex C5/1**). A juvenile *F. cherrug* rescued in Arad County and was taken to Targu Mures into the rehabilitation centre of the Milvus Group. The bird presents some slight affection at one of its wings, which is expected to be healed in a couple of month. When the bird will be ready to be released in a cage to exercise fly it will be in place.

In Slovakia:

Both cages for disabled individuals were built and opened by the presence of media (**Annex C5/2**). The cages are being used to keep disabled birds. In June 2012 a *F. cherrug* female was found in East-Slovakia with Hungarian ring. After several days she was released. One *F. cherrug* individual ringed in West-Slovakia in 2012, was found on the Bratislava airport injured by the plane and died during the transport.

Problems and their impacts:

Non

Modifications:

Finally we decided to build the cages at Sansimion (Mures County) on the property of the Milvus Group.

Comments on Commission's requests

Finally we did not build the cage in the Zoo but at Sansimion (Mures County) on our own property.

**Action C6:**

Name of the action: Guarding of endangered nests by photo traps and video cameras

Proposed start and end of the action: January 2011 – March 2014

Expected results:

Breeding failure is reduced. Any threat factors are soon identified and actions to reduce them are conducted. The guarding place is visited by numerous tourists/ornithologists, so the activity has added educational value as well. Wide promotion of activity will bring doubts to robbers that they are watched and their plans could be thwarted.

Achievements:

Three photo traps with GSM system were used and all the three pair has a successful breeding.

Action status: ongoing

Measure	Deadline	Progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evaluation of offers and selection of suppliers• procurement of equipment• instalment• data processing and evaluation	31.01.2011.	completed completed ongoing ongoing

Description of the progress during the reporting time:**In Romania:**

F. cherrug abandon the old nesting sites on the cliff of the Macin Mountains, and they move to high voltage pylons on the plain like *F. cherrug* did in Hungarian before. Even in 2012 there was no *F. cherrug* presence at the known nest places, neither in the neighbourhood but nest was found in electric pylons on the plain where we installed next boxes now.

In Slovakia:

3 photo traps (GSM systems) were used in 2011 and 2012, successful nesting was ensured by the guarded pairs where there was a suspicion of nest robbery from the past. Pictures from the photo-traps were copied to the computer and analysed (**Annex A4/12**). The pictures are also used for PR activities.

Problems and their impacts:

F. cherrug abandon the old nesting sites on the cliff of the Macin Mountains, and they move to high voltage pylons on the plain.

Modifications:

As the importance of the breeding places on cliffs is vanishing, and significance of high voltage pylons increases, a decision was made to ensure proper breeding conditions on high voltage power lines instead of no-more-used cliffs. Therefore the amount of money for one camera was used in C2 action to increase the number of artificial nests to be mounted in Dobrogea and West-Romania.

**Comments on Commission's requests**

In the past two years there was no *F. cherrug* breeding in the Macin Mountains therefore we are quite sure we won't have two pairs to breed in 2013. However we may buy a camera what we will use in action A4 if *F. cherrug* will breed in a nest box or for guarding in case there will be breeding pair in the cliff of Macin Mountains.

Action C7:

Name of the action: Marking juveniles with PTT to collect migratory and immigration data

Proposed start and end of the action: May 2011 – June 2013

Expected results:

- 4 juveniles will be tagged by satellite transmitter in Romania.
- Migratory rout and wintering area of Romanian *F. cherrug* will be identified
- Potential breeding sites will be identified
- Data on the behavior of *F. cherrug* in the wind farm areas.
- *F. cherrug* Action Plan will be revised.

Achievements:

One juvenile was marked by PTT in Romania

Action status: ongoing

Measure	Deadline	Progress
• Technical guidelines prepared	30.11.2010	completed
• Evaluation of offers and selection of suppliers	31.01.2011	changed done by BNPD
• procurement of PTTs	15.06.2011	completed
• First batch juveniles tagged	15.06.2012	completed
• Second batch juveniles tagged	30.06.2013.	pending
• report on satellite tracking		pending
• F. cherrug Action Plan revised		

Description of the progress during the reporting time:

A female juvenile named Thea was tagged near to Arad in West-Romania in 2012. (**Annexes A3/7 and C7/1**). Maia died in Bosnia. Her PTT was recovered near to Saraievo (**Annexes A3/7 and C7/2**).

Problems and their impacts:

A breeding pair in Dobrogea has find to late. The juveniles left the nest already therefore it was not possible to tag them.

Modifications:

It was agreed that instead of MILVUS BNPD will purchase the PTTs with one tender and will provide it to MILVUS when those are needed.

A recovered PTT from the former project was used to mark Tobias the son of Barnabas a male bird tagged in 2007 in Hungary was tagged in Czech Republic where Barnabas is breeding (**Annexes A3/7 and C7/3**).



5.1.3. Action D: Public awareness and dissemination of results

Action D1:

Name of the action: Lobbying for installation of nest boxes in electric pylons

Proposed start and end of the action: October 2010 – March 2011

Expected results:

Decision makers at the Transelectrica Company are accepting the idea to install nest boxes on the high voltage power lines and are cooperating with the project team in this activity.

Achievements:

International Conference organised by MAVIR

Meeting for the Romanian Electric Supplier organised by MoEF

Meeting among the Romanian electric suppliers and Romanian project partners

Agreement with ENEL, Electrica and Transelectrica about nest box installation

Action status: ongoing

Description of the progress during the reporting time:

In Hungary:

MAVIR organised an international conference on 23 November 2011 where most of the project partners introduced their activities in connection to the electric network (**Annexes D1/1-D1/2**). The representatives of Romanian Electric Suppliers were expected but they did not come again. An aluminium nest box installation was introduced to the audience of the conference (**Annex D1/3**).

The Romanian Ministry of Environment and Forestry invited the electric companies for a meeting to the ministry on 14. December 2011. György Biró (MAVIR), János Bagyura (MME) and József Fidlóczky (FENCON Ltd. on behalf of BNPD) took part on the meeting. The Hungarian partners introduced the method, experiences, result of the nest box installation on electric pylons and the advantage of it for the electric distributor company. They brought an aluminium nest box with them which they handed over to the Romanian partner. (**Annex D1/4**).

The “traditional” MAVIR conference was postponed from 16. November 2012 to 5. March 2013 where the Romanian electric companies are invited.

In Romania:

A first large scale meeting was organised with the help of the Ministry of Environment and Forests in 14 December 2011 in Bucharest where representatives from every electricity supplier company from Romania participated and the Hungarian partners took part also (**Annexes D1/5-D1/6**). In the meeting we introduced the problem and the Hungarian experiences. The meeting was successful. Several other meetings were held with the representatives of ENEL, Transelectrica and Electrica, letters were sent with our specific requirements (**Annex D1/7**). The lobby with ENEL and Electrica was successful as all the artificial nests we ask them to mount are in place. We also signed an agreement Transelectrica Timisoara about mounting 41 nest boxes on high voltage power lines in Arad and Timis counties (**Annex D1/8**). Transelectrica, Dobrogea Directorate has also accepted the idea to install nest boxes on high voltage power lines. Three actions have been carried out for the



installations and each time a letter of appreciation was sent out for the company and a press release was released too.

Problems and their impacts:

None of the invited companies participated in the relevant meetings in Hungary yet, but we have enough time to continue our effort.

Despite of our agreement with Transelectrica Timisoara in late November we have received a letter from them (**Annex D1/9**) as they didn't get the approval to cover the costs of the installation from their HQ in Bucharest. Further lobby needed to resolve this issue.

Modifications:

Non

Comments on Commission's requests:

The first meeting was held in 14 December 2011 in Bucharest (**Annexes D1/5-D1/6**).

Action D2:

Name of the action: Lobbying for insulation of electric pylons

Proposed start and end of the action: January 2011 – June 2011

Expected results:

Decision makers of the Romanian Electricity Companies are accepting the idea of isolating the dangerous pylons of medium-voltage power lines and are helping the project team in this activity.

Achievements:

Decision makers of the Romanian Electricity Companies accepted the idea to insulate the dangerous pylons of medium-voltage power lines and are ready to help the project team in this activity.

Action status: ongoing

Description of the progress during the reporting time:

In Hungary:

MAVIR organised an international conference on 23 November 2011 where most of the project partners introduced their activities in connection to the electric network (**Annexes D1/1-D1/2**). The representatives of Romanian Electric Suppliers were expected but they did not come again.

The Romanian Ministry of Environment and Forestry invited the electric companies for a meeting to the ministry on 14. December 2011. The Hungarian partners MAVIR, MME BNPD took part on the meeting. Beside of them the representatives of the Hungarian Megawatt Ltd. which is dealing with insulation materials was also participated on the meeting. The Hungarian partners introduced the method, experiences, result of the insulation of electric pylons and the advantage of it for the electric distributor company.

The "traditional" MAVIR conference was postponed from 16. November 2012 to 5. March 2013 where the Romanian electric companies are invited.

**In Romania:**

Several meetings were held with the representatives of ENEL Banat. They tested 50 sets of insulators they were given in Timis County, near Ianova (**Annex D2/1**). We agreed with ENEL Banat to insulate 350 pylons in Western Romania (**Annex D2/2**). They are waiting for our proposal which will be made under action C4.

Problems and their impacts:

None of the invited companies participated in the relevant meetings in Hungary yet, but we have time to continue our effort.

Modifications:

Non

Comments on Commission's requests:

The first meeting was held in 14 December 2011 in Bucharest.

Action D3:

Name of the action: Erecting information signs at project site

Proposed start and end of the action: September 2011 – March 2012

Expected results:

Large scale publicity provided to the conservation status of *F. cherrug*, project. Aims and activities and its support by LIFE+ will be known.

In Bulgaria 2, in Hungary 12, in Romania 4, Slovakia 2, information signs will be erected along main roads near the most populated area and the pilot area.

Achievements:

In Bulgaria 2, in Hungary 14, in Romania 3, Slovakia 2 information signs have been erected

Action status: ongoing

Measure	Deadline	Progress
• Evaluation of offers and selection of suppliers	31.01.2011	completed
• designed	.	completed
• Procurement		completed
• Information signs erected	30.09.2011	ongoing

Description of the progress during the reporting time:**In Bulgaria:**

In December 2011 a public tender procedure has been initiated for the production of information signs. However insufficient number of offers was obtained, therefore the procedure was repeated twice. In February 2012 the information signs were ordered. In the main time two permissions were obtained; from the Ministry of Environment and Water of Bulgaria, and Albena Ltd. (resort managing company) for the installation of the information boards. In April the information signs were ready for installation. In May one information sign was erected in Kaliakra Natura 2000 site and the fundamentals of the second one were prepared in the town of Dobrich. In June the second information sign was erected on the



prepared fundament (**Annex D3/1**). Monitoring the visitors of the information signs was done in Kaliakra and Dobrich between June and August 2012. A short report has been prepared (**Annex D3/2**).

In Hungary:

14 information signs were prepared based on the design in the end of 2011. These were distributed among the partners. Some of the partners installed them in their own premises while others in public areas. Permissions were obtained from the municipalities during the winter. During the spring and summer all the information signs were erected on the selected locations (**Annex D3/3**).

In Romania:

Two information boards were erected in West-Romania and one in the south in Greci at the entrance of the Macin National Park (**Annex D3/4**).

In Slovakia:

Both information signs were installed one in ZOO Bratislava and the other in Abrahám village (**Annex D3/5**).

Problems and their impacts:

In Bulgaria:

The implementation was delayed due to administrative difficulties. One of the two initially planned locations for the information signs – that in Albena resort, had to be changed, as obtaining permission could delay the activity with another six months to one year. Even though BSPB has received an official acceptance from the Executive Director of Albena Ltd. (the managing company of the resort), it resulted that Albena Ltd. have to include the installation of any single advertising/information panel within the resort's Master Plan for the next period, than to accord this plan with two ministries (The Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works and the Ministry of Transport, Information Technology and Communications), as well as with the Senior Architect of the Municipality of Balchik. In consequence, a new location has been chosen for the installation of the second information board – the Centre for protection of animals and nature in Dobrich, which is a place visited by many people, mainly from Dobrich and its surroundings, and especially by families with children.

In Hungary:

Sometimes we did not get the permission from municipalities for the requested place but we got another frequently visited place (**Annex D3/6**).

In Romania:

The forth information board what we planned to erect in Salonta, West-Romania is not yet erected as we didn't receive a positive response from the City hall of Salonta on this matter (**Annex D3/7a-b**). Further locations needed to be analysed.

Modifications:

Two more information board were produced and installed In Hungary within the original budget.

Some originally planned places were changed according to the permissions of the concerned Municipalities.

Comments on Commission's requests:

The information boards have been installed and the action has been completed in Bulgaria. In Romania one information sign is waiting for a location where permission can be obtained to be installed.



Action D4:

Name of the action: Design and operate project web site

Proposed start and end of the action: October 2010 – September 2014

Expected results:

An accessible and up-to-date web site will be informing the general public and technical staff working on similar projects about the project's work and achievements. Hence, it will promote networking with past and future LIFE projects dealing with the conservation of *Falco spp.* We expect 240 000 visitors over the project period to visit the site.

Achievements:

Web page: www.sakerlife.mme.hu is functioning, it was continuously maintained. During eleven months in 2012 there were 743 862 visits from 162 731 address from 117 countries. There were more than 1000 visits from 21 countries (**Annex D4**).

Action status: ongoing

Description of the progress during the reporting time:

In Bulgaria:

A total of 14 news about the progress of the project activities in Bulgaria has been prepared by BSPB for the project web page between July 2011 and December 2012. Additionally, this news was published on BSPB's official web site and Facebook page.

In Hungary:

Website was continuously maintained. The web camera installed at a nest box was connected to the web page and the breeding of the *F. cherrug* pair could be monitored continuously.

In Romania:

The content of the project website has been translated into Romanian and several articles were created in three different languages (RO, HU, EN).

In Slovakia:

The content of the project website has been translated into Slovak and new articles were submitted and published.

Problems and their impacts:

Non

Modifications:

Non

Comments on Commission's requests:

Results are presented. The Inception Report's link is available in the Results section.

Action D5:

Name of the action: Secure public support for conservation efforts

Proposed start and end of the action: July 2011 – September 2014



Expected results:

- Disturbance of *F. cherrug* breeding will be reduced by 50% as public awareness increases.
- 4000 copies of A2 size posters
- 4000 copies of A4 size leaflets
- BETA cassette: 4 copy
- DVD: 1000 copies in five languages (Bulgarian, English, Hungarian, Romanian and Slovak)
- Presentation of the project on the seminars organised by the national LIFE+ Authorities and in the materials published by them.

Achievements:

- Posters have designed. 1000 posters have printed in Bulgaria and Hungary. 300 and 600 posters are displayed.
- Leaflets are designed. 2500 leaflets printed in Hungary and about 500 already distributed.
- 300 DVD was produced and distributed about the web video in Hungary.

Action status: ongoing

Measure	Deadline	Progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A2 size poster designed 	31.07.2011	completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4000 copies of A2 size posters produced 		ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A2 size posters distributed 	31.08.2014	ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A4 size leaflets designed 	31.07.2011	ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4000 copies of A4 size leaflets produced 	31.11.2013	ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1000 copies of DVD produced from the project 		ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DVDs distributed 	30.09.2014	pending
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring and assessment the impact of communication and dissemination 	30.09.2014.	ongoing

Description of the progress during the reporting time:

In Bulgaria:

Dissemination of the questionnaires continued in July 2011. 1000 copies of A2-size posters were printed in April 2012 (**Annex D5/1**). Their distribution initiated on 6th of May, when an official event was organized by BSPB in the town of Varna, celebrating the 20th anniversary of LIFE Programme. Around 300 posters were distributed within BSPB's regional offices and BSPB's volunteers for dissemination, within participants of BSPB volunteering brigades in Madzharovo and Atanasovsko Lake in August 2012, and within visitors of the 2nd Kite Festival, dedicated to the conservation of the Red-Breasted Goose, organized by BSPB in Shabla. The target groups were: children, local people, teachers, birders and bird lovers, representatives of local institutions. Some posters are being distributed also through the Green Visitor Centre in Shabla village (**Annex D5/2**).

In September the preparation of the leaflet design was initiated and now it is waiting for the approval of the PR board of BSPB. After approval 1000 copies of leaflets will be printed in January 2013.

A report on the preliminary results of monitoring and assessment the impact of communication and dissemination was prepared by BSPB (**Annex D5/3**).



In Hungary:

Finally we changed our concept and we got to design a different poster than the information sign. We also decided to print A3 size posters instead of A2 because it is easier to install it on the information boards of Municipalities, schools, medical centres, pubs. 1000 copies of posters were printed in May 2012 (**Annex D5/4**). The posters were distributed among the Hungarian partners and they started to display in their areas in public places like public offices, schools, pubs, etc. About 600 copies are already displayed. (**Annex D5/5**).

2500 copies of leaflets (**Annex D5/6**) were printed and distributed among the partners in October. The partners started to use them in different event and when they are negotiating peoples in the field. About 500 copies are already distributed. (**Annex D5/7**).

MAVIR got to prepare a 25' Video summary of the nest camera records free of charge (**Annex D5/8**). About 300 copies of DVD were distributed in different events for example in the Unimpeded Sky Treaty meeting.

25 presentations were held about the project in different audience in different places by different peoples (**Annex D5/9-D5/11**).

A questioner was designed to assess the impact of the communication (**Annex D5/12**) and it was displayed on the web and we tried to use them during some event. However the questioners are not very popular in Hungary, therefore only a few were returned after the events.

In Romania:

The Hungarian poster and leaflets were adapted into Romanian. The draft version is ready and submitted to the board for comments. These will be printed in the beginning of 2013. (**Annex D5/13-D/14**)

The subcontractor was selected. Drafting the scenario is going on. It supposes to be ready at the end of January. Subcontractor is selecting sub-subcontractors in the other project countries with the help of the project partners.

In Slovakia:

There were 6 presentations about the project.

The t-shirts and the leaflets will be designed and published until the end of March 2013

Problems and their impacts:

In Bulgaria:

The delay in publishing the leaflets was due to administrative reasons. After clarifying the content of the leaflet in October 2012 by the BSPB project team, it had to be adopted by BSPB's PR team and the design had to be changed few times before finalizing the design. On the other hand, in December it was already impossible to print the leaflets as the publishing companies have many orders to accomplish and do not accept new ones.

In Romania:

It was important to specify first the most important areas for PR activities. Based on the baseline survey we identified those communities and next year we will print and disseminate the PR materials.

In Slovakia:

RPS will produce project T-shirts instead of posters. The reason is that there are enough posters remaining from the LIFE06 NAT/H/000096 project, which are being distributed. We had to wait for the approval of this change therefore the t-shirts will be designed and published until the end of March 2013. The reason of delay in publishing the leaflets is that we would like to include results from the present project for it, that needed to be evaluated, especially the prey composition analysis.



Modifications:

RPS will produce project T-shirts instead of posters according to the approval of EC.

Comments on Commission's requests:

Table 4: Monitoring and assessment the impact of communication and dissemination:

Action nr	Monitored activity	Methodology	Result indicator
D.1	Lobbying for installation of nest boxes in electric pylons in Romania	Accounting the installed nest boxes in Romania	67 aluminium nest boxes installed in pylons
D.2	Lobbying for insulation of electric pylons in Romania	Accounting the insulated electric pylons in Romania	Not yet insulated but agreement has signed
D.3	Visitors of erected information sign at project site	Responsible project staff randomly visiting the signboards and recording number of peoples met at signboards	BG=50 per 2 hours HU=2~50 per hours RO=1,5 per hours SK=50 per hours in the ZOO and 1,2 per hours in Abraham
D.4	Use of project web site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of Google Analytics • Counting request for permissions to use data published on web • Counting references made of web 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 743862 visits of 162731 visitors • Number of visits by country is given in Annex D4 • BG=0, HU=3, RO=3, SK=n.a. • BG=0, HU=5, RO=3, SK=n.a.
D.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A2 size posters • A4 size leaflets • Project film on DVD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surveying the number of posters displayed in public places • Recording the sort and number of events and participants where leaflets are distributed • Maintaining record and statistic about the distribution and presentations of the film • Observing TV watch data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG=300, HU=600 • HU= about 300 leaflets are distributed in 8 events • Film is under preparation (HU=300 extra DVD distributed) • 14 TV broadcasted • About 10,5 million people approached
D.6	• Press Conferences	• Maintaining record about	• 1 press



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Press releases • Articles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the number of invitation and participants • Observing media watch data • Maintaining record about the number of occasion and targeted press • Observing media watch data • Maintaining record about the submitted articles • Requesting copies about the published articles • Maintaining record about the published copies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> conferences • 27 participants • 2 TV and a newspaper • 7 press releases, 23 press approached • 9 news published • 7 articles submitted • 5 articles published
D.7	Layman's report	Maintaining record about the distribution	number of copies distributed

Action D6:

Name of the action: Informing media about project's aims, activities and achievements

Proposed start and end of the action: October 2010 – September 2014

Expected results:

The conservation problems of *F. cherrug* and the results of the LIFE project will be brought to the attention of the general public, decision-makers and interest groups. As a result, adequate public support will be attracted to the necessary conservation measures, and information on subsidies available through RDP and the Natura 2000 network will be widely distributed.

- Two Press Conferences will be organised one at the start and one at the end of the project.
- At least two press releases will be circulated annually to local & national newspapers.
- Two articles will be submitted annually to local & national newspapers to magazines for farmers and on the main web sites of relevant hunters associations.
- Two scientific papers will be produced during the project period.
- Two site visits will be organised for the media.

Achievements:

- Two press conference
- 5 Press Releases
- 11TVs, 1 radio, 7 newspapers, 76 online news



Action status: ongoing

Measure	Deadline	Progress
• Press conference	15.10.2010	completed
• Articles submitted to newspapers and magazines	31.03.2011	completed
• Spring media release	30.04.2011	completed
• Autumn media release	30.09.2011	completed
• Articles submitted to newspapers and magazines	31.03.2012	completed
• Spring media release	30.04.2012	completed
• Autumn media release	30.09.2012	completed
• Articles submitted to newspapers and magazines	31.03.2013	pending
• Spring media release	30.04.2013	pending
• Autumn media release	30.09.2013	pending
• Articles submitted to newspapers and magazines	31.03.2014	pending
• Spring media release	30.04.2014.	pending

Description of the progress during the reporting time:

In Bulgaria:

An article was submitted about Slavka's wintering in Bulgaria to the Heliaca (**Annex D6/1**). During the reporting period there were a total of 47 media appearances about three main topics: co-operation with electric companies, bird crime, effects of wind farms (**Annex D6/2**). **Three times four TV** channels (3 national televisions reflected themes on bird crime and *F. cherrug* conservation and Petar Iankov gave an interview on Nova TV, presenting the conservation efforts about the *F. cherrug* and Bird Crime on national and international level in the occasion of the Bird crime conference on 19 April) and **six times seven radio** channels broadcasted three main issues. **Five newspapers and a magazine** published these main topics four times (**Annex D6/3**). **Most time (29) news** was published by **online media**.

In Hungary:

An article was published and another was submitted to Heliaca periodical about the *F. cherrug* conservation progress and annual results (**Annexes D6/4a-b**). An article was published in the Zöld Horizont about the project (**Annex-D6/5**). Another article was submitted to the proceedings of the International Conference in Ukraine (**Annex-D6/6**). An article was submitted for the French Ornithos Scientific paper (**Annex-D6/7**). A press conference was organised by MAVIR for the occasion of marking the chicks with ornithological rings in the "nestweb" (**Annex D6/8-D6/9**). Two press releases were issued one about the nestweb and another about the press conference (**Annex D6/10**). There were a total of 16 media appearances about three main topics: nestweb, repatriation of *S. citellus*, and conservation of *F. cherrug* by LIFE support (**Annex D6/2**). **Three times four TV** channels broadcasted about the nest web and the *S. citellus* repatriation. **One radio** channels broadcasted also about the nest web. An article was published by a **monthly** periodical about the project work with LIFE support (**Annex D6/11**). **Seven online newsletters** were published by five online media.

In Romania:

A press release (**Annex D2/1**) was sent and a press conference (**Annex D6/12**) was organised jointly by MILVUS and ENEL in the beginning of April 2012 concerning the newly placed nest-boxes. An article has been prepared about the project achievements for the ROS publication "Alcedo" (**Annex D6/13**). There were a total of 35 media appearances about two main topics: Installation of nest boxes and tagging by PTTs (**Annex D6/2**). **Three times four TV** channels broadcasted (**Annexes D6/14-D6/17**), and **31 online newsletter** published the main topics (**Annex D6/18**).

In Slovakia:



LIFE09 NAT/HU/000384

Four Press Releases about the cages, the PTT tagged *F. cherrug* Slavka in Prague and the Bulgarian colleagues saved Slavka (**Annex D6/19**). There were a total of 11 media appearances about two main topics: inauguration of cages and Slavka (**Annex D6/2**). **Two TV** broadcasted about inauguration of cages and **9 online newsletters** published the main topics (**Annex D6/20**).

Problems and their impacts:

Non

Modifications:

Non

Comments on Commission's requests:

Deliverables are included in the annexes.

Action D7:

Name of the action: Layman's report

Proposed start and end of the action: April 2014 – June 2014

Expected results:

4000 items of paper copies of 8-12 pages report and PDF format on the web in English will be published, Bulgarian, Hungarian, Romanian and Slovak languages.

Achievements:

No

Action status: pending

Description of the progress during the reporting time:

ONLY in 2014!

Problems and their impacts:

Non

Modifications:

Non

**5.1.4. Action E: Overall project operation and monitoring****Action E1:**

Name of the action: Monitoring of installed nest boxes in Bulgaria and Romania according to the Hungarian and Slovak experience (*incl. collection & analysis of food remains*)

Proposed start and end of the action: January 2012 – March 2014

Expected results:

50% of them will be occupied at the project period.

Achievements:

There was not any nest box monitoring.

Action status: pending

Measure	Deadline	Progress
• Monitoring protocol ready	30.11.2010	completed
• Annual monitoring report Nr.1.	31.12.2011	cancelled
• Annual monitoring report Nr.2.	31.12.2012	pending
• Annual monitoring report Nr.3.	31.12.2013	pending

Description of the progress during the reporting time:**In Bulgaria:**

Because of the delay of nest boxes installation, a full survey on their occupancy by Sakers or other birds of prey was not accomplished. Two aluminium and two wooden nest boxes have been checked twice during June and August 2012 but there were not any sign of occupancy.

In Romania:

Because of the delay of nest boxes installation the start of nest box monitoring was postponed to next year.

Problems and their impacts:

The chance of occupation of the nest boxes during the very first year of their installation is very low, thus a complete monitoring of the nest boxes will be conducted during the breeding seasons 2013 and 2014.

Modifications:

Because of the delay of the nest boxes full scale monitoring will start next year.

Action E2:

Name of the action: Monitoring of repatriated *S. citellus* population using the Hungarian and Slovak experience of former LIFE project

Proposed start and end of the action: June 2011 – August 2013

**Expected results:**

Success of Action C3 will be justified.

Achievements:

Three successful repatriations were confirmed until the dormant period.

Action status: ongoing

Measure	Deadline	Progress
• Monitoring protocol ready	30.11.2010	completed
• Annual monitoring report Nr.1.	31.12.2011	completed
• Annual monitoring report Nr.2.	31.12.2012	completed
• Annual monitoring report Nr.3.	31.12.2013.	pending

Description of the progress during the reporting time:**In Hungary:**

After repatriation in HUDD10008 the repatriated animals were fed and guarded. Monitoring of the repatriated population was carried out during the guarding and also after that on the 30th and 45th days after the repatriation. The animals extended the artificial holes and created their burrows (**Annex E2/1**). Thanks to the feeding they remained in the area despite of the severe draught. We recorded two predations by *Buteo buteo* only. There was any dog or fox predation. The repatriated population successfully accommodated in the fenced area however two burrows system were created outside of the fences too. Based on our monitoring we believe that 95 % of the repatriated population successfully hibernated.

In Romania:

In the days following translocation, repatriated animals were checked twice a day, in the morning and evening hours. During these controls any appreciable change had been recorded. We recorded individuals which stayed in the artificial burrows or those which have left it and later returned, digging activity of animals, the rate of retention cap removal, the number of abandoned artificial burrows, presence or absence of food, presence and number of actively foraging individuals around artificial burrows. The release area had been previously evaluated based on several indicators, so that the target area meets the basic needs of the species. The soil is easy to dig, the groundwater table is low, the grassy vegetation is low with patches of medium height tussocks and there are fairly many positive micro-relief forms. The size of the area ensures the viability of newly adapted colonies. The area is used as a pasture for sheep, which should remain unchanged in the long run, thus ensuring the long-term survival of *S. citellus* populations.

Generally, a translocation is considered successful if it results in a self-sustaining population. The three main objectives of a reintroduction are: (1) survival of the animals after release, (2) settlement of animals in the release area, and (3) successful reproduction in the release area. The first and second objectives deal with the days or weeks immediately after release of the animals. Consequently, long-term survival at the release site strongly depends on this critical period. There are a lot of factors that influence the outcome of this critical period including, e.g. suitable habitat, predator exclusion, and confinement of the animals to the release site. In our case it is yet too soon to determine the success of the translocation. This can and should be evaluated on multiple temporal scales. Post release monitoring of the animals should occur via observation for 5 years. One should do visual census of the *S. citellus* on the release site for at least three days during the activity peaks. Following this, used burrow counts are recommended every month from the release until the first hibernation. Data on *S. citellus*



census numbers at the release area are required to decide if the translocation was successful in the long term (**Annex E2/2**).

In Slovakia:

Intensive monitoring of the released individuals was carried out, with the use of photo-traps (**Annex E2/3**). The results are very interesting – for example in one case 5 out of 10 released males used one burrow. We have also recorded predation of *S. citellus* by other species. Based on the consultation and approval in 2012 we used the microchips to identify the re-captured individuals. This method helps to evaluate the success of releasing. Monitoring was carried out after every releasing phase, to check the behaviour of individuals. After every releasing the number of burrows increased. The next releasing was adjusted to the results of the previous ones. Successful hibernation was confirmed on both project sites. This indicates that the sites are suitable for *S. citellus*. No successful reproduction was observed. Based on the observations some measures will be needed to be carried out to ensure the reproduction – several females will be released in burrows occupied with the highest number of males. After the release of females the repatriation will continue in safe distance to avoid disturbance of the pairs. There is high potential on both sites and many burrows to be occupied by *S. citellus* to create a vital colony.

Problems and their impacts:

Non

Modifications:

In Slovakia photo traps and chips were used first time for better monitoring.

Comments on Commission's requests:

In Hungary and Romania the guide line what was developed by LIFE06NAT/H/000096 project was used (**Annex E2/4**). In Slovakia the original guideline developed for LIFE06NAT/H/000096 will be modified by the experience of the project works considering the new method applied first time of this project.

Action E3:

Name of the action: Efficiency control of dangerous electric pylon's insulation

Proposed start and end of the action: January 2011 – September 2014

Expected results:

Repeated survey on the same sections of electric lines what were surveyed under Action C4 will justify the efficiency of the insulation.

Achievements:

Repeated survey has been done on the insulated sections of electric pylons in Hungary.



Action status: ongoing

Measure	Deadline	Progress
• Monitoring protocol ready	30.11.2010	completed
• Annual monitoring report Nr.1.	31.12.2011	completed
• Annual monitoring report Nr.2.	31.12.2012	completed
• Annual monitoring report Nr.3.	31.12.2013	pending
• Annual monitoring report Nr.4	30.09.2014	pending

Description of the progress during the reporting time:

In Bulgaria:

Since action C4 has not been completed, the efficiency control of the insulated dangerous electric pylons could not be realized. Efficiency control has been done only within the part of the power lines close to Dobrich, which was insulated by E.ON electric company. The activity was done in October 2012. No bird carcasses were found under the insulated pylons, but it should also be mentioned that in 2012 the land around the power line was planted with maize, which could impede the hunting and presence of birds of prey and storks in the place. Further visits to the power line will show more accurate data.

In Hungary:

Once the insulation work was completed the responsible rangers of BNPD checked the insulated sections of the power lines. They made pictures from the insulated pylons for professional checking and checked the surroundings for carcasses of killed birds. They filled out the survey sheets again (**Refer to Annex C4/6 of IR**) and send them to MME's Monitoring Centre to data processing. The result is given in **Annex C4/6**. The survey was done shortly after the insulation and a large part of the work is not yet accepted.

In Romania:

Insulation did not start yet.

In Slovakia:

The specification of the insulated power lines was received in November 2012, the monitoring will start as soon as the weather and other conditions are suitable.

Problems and their impacts:

The insulation work is behind schedule.

Modifications:

Non

Action E4:

Name of the action: Technical management of the project

Proposed start and end of the action: October 2010 – September 2014

Expected results:

Technical, Administrative and financial arrangements and mechanisms are in place to enable the smooth and accurate running of the Project. All Project staff is appointed and aware of their roles and obligations for completing the Project. High quality technical reports will be prepared and submitted on time.



LIFE09 NAT/HU/000384

Having an effective project management structure in place will ensure that the activities described in this application will be implemented on time and within budget. If unexpected problems arise, necessary steps will be taken. Therefore, this action is essential to ensure the effective implementation of the project.

Achievements:

- Project management functioning
- Project is running relatively well despite of the lots of difficulties

Action status: ongoing

Measure	Deadline	Progress
• Project staff in place at all relevant position	01.10.2010	completed
• Work plan ready	30.11.2010	completed
• Project handbook prepared	15.12.2010	completed
• Partnership Agreements signed		completed
• Regular project management, co-ordination and supervision	30.09.2014	ongoing
• Inspection Report	30.06.2011	completed
• Mid-term Report	31.12.2012	pending
• Progress Report	31.12.2013	pending
• Final Report	31.12.2014	pending

Description of the progress during the reporting time:

Project management is done by FENCON Ltd.
Description can be found under point 4 above.

Problems and their impacts:

- Slow tender process delayed the procurements.
- The economic crises reduced the capacity especially of the NGOs.
- The Hungarian government tax and energy policy endangering the commitment of the electric companies

Modifications:

Ms. Viktória Bene project administrator will return from maternity leave from 1. January 2013.

Action E5:

Name of the action: Financial management

Proposed start and end of the action: October 2010 – September 2014

Expected results:

Appropriate financial reports produced on time, correctly and to budget, accompanied by report(s) from independent auditor.

Achievements:

- Project Auditor has changed



- Regular financial monitoring is going on

Action status: ongoing

Measure	Deadline	Progress
• Project Auditor Contracted	30.11.2010.	completed
• Financial guideline prepared	30.11.2010.	completed
• Financial monitoring	30.09.2014.	ongoing

Description of the progress during the reporting time:

Financial management is done by FENCON Ltd. as a part of project management.

The project administrator is dealing with the financial management. Mrs. Viktória Bene is the project administrator who was in maternity leave until the end of 2012. Ms. Dóra Kiss was the acting project administrator advised by Viktória until the end of 2012.

Description can be found under point 6. below.

Problems and their impacts:

The auditor's performance did not satisfy the management.

Modifications:

The auditor is replaced at the end of 2012 but she will recheck all financial documents.

The new auditor:

Kolbe Könyvvizsgáló Kft. (Kolbe Auditor Ltd.)

1137 Budapest, Szent István park 14.

Registration nr.: 01-09-260371

Represented by Tünde Kolbe manager/auditor

Action E6:

Name of the action: Training of project staff

Proposed start and end of the action: December 2010

Expected results:

The training will be completed by 31.12.2010, with the attendance of all project participants. A uniform methodology will be ensured as the result of the training. Monitoring data will be comparable and suitable for statistical analysis. Earlier experiences will be utilised in the project execution and will be available for all project participants. Smooth rendering of accounts and compliance with national and EU financial regulations throughout the duration of the project.

Achievements:

Project staff trained and project work standardised.

Action status: completed before the reporting period

**Action E7:**

Name of the action: Held Steering Committee meetings

Proposed start and end of the action: March 2011 – March 2014

Expected results:

Regular, timely, scheduled meetings, held with good attendance, which will help secure the high priority of the project work for project staff and their leaders.

Achievements:

- Annual SC meeting held in 2012 with good attendance

Action status: ongoing

Measure	Deadline	Progress
• Minutes of Steering Committee Meeting	31.03.2011	completed
• Minutes of Steering Committee Meeting	31.03.2012	pending
• Minutes of Steering Committee Meeting	31.03.2013	pending
• Minutes of Steering Committee Meeting	31.03.2014.	pending

Description of the progress during the reporting time:

Second Steering Committee meeting was organised in Felsőtárkány in Hungary on 27 March 2012 (**Annex E7/1**). The meeting was chaired by the new director and chair Mr. Szilárd Grédics. Only one partner was absent. Problems and achievements of first year and work plan of the target year were discussed (**Annex E7/2**). The representative of each country introduced their work and achievements. Minutes was distributed among the partners (**Annex E7/3**).

Problems and their impacts:

Non

Modifications:

Non

Action E8:

Name of the action: Baseline survey to monitor project success

Proposed start and end of the action: January 2011 – January 2014

Expected results:

The original population size (number of territorial pairs) of *F. cherrug* in the project area will be known. This will be used at the end of the project to assess whether the proposed increase in population size was achieved.

Achievements:

- Large areas were surveyed in both countries.
- 5 pairs were found in Romania among them a new successfully breeding pair.



Action status: ongoing

Description of the progress during the reporting time:

In Bulgaria:

In August 2011 the field work on base line survey was completed. The collected data has been analysed. In February 2012 the final Baseline Survey Report has been written in Bulgarian language (**Annex E8/1**).

In Romania:

The baseline survey for assessing the Saker Falcon population was carried out by the Milvus Group both in the Western Plain and in Dobrudja region in 2012. A detailed survey report is given in **Annex E8/2**.

Problems and their impacts:

Non

Modifications:

Non

Action E9:

Name of the action: Collecting migratory and immigration data by satellite telemetry, bird ringing and feather analysis

Proposed start and end of the action: April 2011 – June 2014

Expected results:

- Actions A1 (existing agricultural system will be evaluated in Bulgaria and Romania,) A3, (sufficient data will be available for proposal on wind farms,) & C7 (wintering sites, migratory survival rate and new habitats where juveniles settle and possibly the reason of the loss would be also identified in north Bulgaria and Romania too) will be successfully accomplished.
- Based on this information a population model developed by LIFE06 NAT/H/000096 can be adjusted better for Europe.
- Sufficient data will become available to understand the spatio-temporal dynamics of the *F. cherrug* population in the Carpathian Basin. The knowledge acquired by the action is vital for future conservation management planning.
- The *F. cherrug* Action Plan will be revised.
- Data gained from this activity will form the base of conservation management plans and guidelines for authorities and management organisations regarding the topics mentioned above, thus the action contributes the conservation of the species as a result.

Achievements:

The second visits in Ukraine for networking and to assist *F. cherrug* conservation and ensure support of our roaming birds.

Action status: ongoing

**Description of the progress during the reporting time:**

There were many networking in the frame of this action what produced a lot of useful information:

- Maia the tagged bird died in Bosnia, A Romanian team with the assistance of the Bosnian colleagues fund her carcasses and recovered her PTT in October 2011 (**Annexes A3/7 and C7/2**).
- The Bulgarian colleagues monitored the wintering Slávka and collected information about her land use and preys between 23.10.2011 and 20.03.2012 (**Annex D6/1**).
- A joint Hungarian-Romanian four persons team from BNPD and MILVUS visited Ukraine second time to collect information and transfer knowledge to the Ukrainian colleagues than continue the visit in the neighbouring Romania area in Dobrogea exactly one year after the first visit between 29 May and 10 June 2012 (**Annex E9/1**). The team monitored the area what Slávka was using in Ukraine too (**Annex E9/2**).
- Tobias the son of Barnabas was tagged in Czech Republic with the assistance of the Czech colleagues in June and his movement was monitored (**Annexes A3/7 and C7/3**).
- The Romanian colleagues monitored the land use and preys of the tagged bird Matyi in West Romania in July 2012 (**Annex E9/3**).
- Slávka died in Bulgaria. The Bulgarian colleagues searched and found her carcasses and PTTs (**Annexes A3/7 and E9/4**).

The project contributed the international conservation of the *F. cherrug*. Mátyás Prommer took part in the following events:

- 10th Conference of Parties of CMS in Norway in November as an advisor to the Hungarian Government representative. He contributed a lot of the upgrading of *F. cherrug*.
- 1st Meeting of the CMS Saker Falcon Task Force in Abu Dhabi in March (**Annexes E9/5a-b**).
- 1st Meeting Of The Signatories To The Memorandum Of Understanding On The Conservation Of Migratory Birds Of Prey In Africa And Eurasia (**Annexes E9/6a-b**).

Besides of these the international mailing list established by LIFE06 NAT/H/000096 was maintained and information was regularly exchanged.

Problems and their impacts:

Non

Modifications:

The participation of the CMS and Task Force meetings did not planned. Participation of in the CoP meeting was financed by the Hungarian Government. The participation costs on the first Task Force meeting covered by an Arab foundation. Only the last one was covered by the project.

Action E10:

Name of the action: After Life Conservation Plan

Proposed start and end of the action: July 2014 – September 2014

Expected results:

After-LIFE Conservation Plan delivered with the final report.



LIFE09 NAT/HU/000384

Achievements:

Non

Action status: *pending*

Description of the progress during the reporting time:
2014 only!

Problems and their impacts:

Non

Modifications:

Non

**5.2. Envisaged progress until next report.****5.2.1. Revised reporting schedule**

We revised the original schedule during the Inception Report. However due to the administrative problems we did not spent 150% of the first instalment in the reporting period therefore we had to reschedule our reporting plan again. **We will submit the Mid-term Report as soon as possible.**

Table 5: Revised schedule for Activity Reports

Type of report	Original deadline	Revised in the IR	Revised in the PR Nr1.
Inception Report	-	30.06.2011.	-
Mid-term Report	30.09.2011.	31.12.2012.	30.06.2013.
Progress Report Nr.1.	30.09.2012.	31.12.2013.	31.12.2012.
Progress Report Nr.2	30.09.2013.	-	-
Final Report	31.12.2014.	31.12.2014.	31.12.2014.



5.2.2. Deliverables and milestones

In the tables we indicate the delivered one by green colour and the plan for the next period by yellow.

Table 6: DELIVERABLE PRODUCTS OF THE PROJECT

Name of the Deliverable	Code of the associated action	Deadline
Minutes of "Start up" Steering Committee Meeting	E7	30.09.2010
Technical guidelines	C1-C7	30.11.2010
Monitoring protocol	E1, E2, E3	30.11.2010
Work plan	E4	30.11.2010
Project Handbook	E4	15.12.2010
Web site developed	D4	31.12.2010
Minutes of project's staff training	E6	31.12.2010
Minutes of Steering Committee Meeting	E7	31.03.2011
Articles submitted for newspapers and magazines	D6	31.03.2011
Spring media release	D6	30.04.2011
A2 size posters	D5	31.01.2013
A4 size leaflets	D5	31.01.2013
Information sign erected	D3	30.03.2013
Autumn media release	D6	30.09.2011
Cages for disabled birds erected	C5	31.10.2013
Annual monitoring report Nr.1	E1, E2, E3	31.12.2011
Minutes of Steering Committee Meeting	E7	31.03.2012
Articles submitted for newspapers and magazines	D6	31.03.2012
Spring media release	D6	30.04.2012
Autumn media release	D6	30.09.2012
Annual monitoring report Nr.2	E1, E2, E3	31.12.2012
Minutes of Steering Committee Meeting	E7	31.03.2013
Articles submitted for newspapers and magazines	D6	31.03.2013
Spring media release	D6	30.04.2013
Annual monitoring report Nr.3	E1, E2, E3	31.12.2013
Minutes of Steering Committee Meeting	E7	31.03.2014
Articles submitted for newspapers and magazines	D6	31.03.2014
Spring media release	D6	30.04.2014
Layman's report	D7	31.05.2014
Proposal for adjustment of agri-environment subsidies	A1	31.07.2014
Recommendation to revise the F. cherrugAction Plan	E9	30.09.2014
After-LIFE Conservation Plan	E10	30.09.2014

Legend: D6=Corrected code 31.01.2012= rescheduled deliverables

Work plan=Completed

A2 size posters=plans for the next phase


Table 7: MILESTONES OF THE PROJECT

Name of the Milestone	Code of the associated action	Deadline
Project Staff in place at all relevant position	E4	01.10.2010
Press conference	D6	15.10.2010
Project Auditor contracted	E5	30.11.2010
Evaluation of offers and selection of suppliers	A1, ,A3,A4,C2,C3,C4 C5,C6,C7, D4 E4,	30.08.2011
Adults tagged by PTT	A1, A3,	05.03.2011
Juveniles ringed & tagged with satellite transmitter	A3,C7	15.06.2011
Fist batch of <i>S. citellus</i> are repatriated	C3	15.08.2011
First batch of nest boxes are installed	C2	31.12.2011
Fist batch of dangerous electric pylons insulated	C4	31.12.2011
Second batch adults tagged by PTT	A3	05.03.2012
Second batch juveniles are tagged	A3,C7	15.06.2012
Second batch of <i>S. citellus</i> are repatriated	C3	15.08.2012
Second batch nest boxes are installed	C2	31.12.2012
Second batch of dangerous electric pylons insulated	C4	31.12.2012
Third batch juveniles are tagged	A3	15.06.2013
Video, DVD for public	D5	30.06.2014
Third batch nest boxes are installed	C2	31.11.2013
Third batch of dangerous electric pylons insulated	C4	31.11.2013
Report on satellite tracking	A3,C7	31.11.2013
Last batch of dangerous electric pylons insulated	C4	30.09.2014
Press conference	D6	30.09.2014



5.2.3. Corrected time table illustrating progress

There were some mistakes in the time table what is corrected.

Table 8: TIMETABLE

Table 6: THE TABLE																				
Action	2010				2011				2012				2013				2014			
Number	September	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV		
A. Preparatory actions, elaboration of management plans and/or action plans :																				
1.					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
2.					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
3.				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
4.					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
C. Concrete conservation actions :																				
1.					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
2.					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
3.					✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓					
4.					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
5.						✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
6.					✓	✓			✓	✓			✓	✓			✓	✓		
7.						✓				✓				✓						
D. Public awareness and dissemination of results :																				
1.				✓	✓	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!							
2.					✓	✓	!	!	!	!	!	!	!							
3.					!	!	!	✓	✓	!	!	!	!							
4.				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
5.							✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
6.				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
7.																		✓		
E. Overall project operation and monitoring:																				
1.								✓	✓	!			✓	✓			✓	✓		
2.						✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓					
3.							✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
4.				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
5.				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
6.				✓																
7.					✓			✓					✓				✓			
8.					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓	✓		
9.				!	!	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
10.																			✓	

5.3. Impact

The electrocution is one of the most endangering factors for the *F. cherrug* but also for most large size birds. Therefore the insulation of the dangerous electric pylons has a great impact on the target and other species like *Aquila heliaca*, *F. vespertinus*, *Ciconia ciconia* etc.



Since the *F. cherrug* do not build nest and because there are only few nest of other large birds are available in Bulgaria and especially in Romania therefore the installation of the nest boxes has also a great impact on the Falcon species. The fact that in Hungary where nest box installation started much before most of the *F. cherrug* population is breeding in nest boxes today.

The repatriation of *S. citellus* for suitable habitat has a great impact not only on the *F. cherrug* population but also on the *S. citellus* itself.

Because the *F. cherrug* is sharing the habitat with many other species such as *Aquila heliaca*, *F. vespertinus* therefore all kind of habitat improvement i.e. proper site management, advanced agri-environment scheme, prevention from wind farm have considerable impact on the species.

5.4. Outside LIFE

Mátyás Prommer from BNPD took part on the COP10 of the Convention on Migratory Species CMS in Bergen, Norway from 20th – 25th November 2011 as an advisor to the MRD representative. Where the Resolution 10.28 was adopted by the Parties. The Resolution lists the Saker Falcon (*Falco cherrug*) in CMS Appendix I, excluding the population in Mongolia. Mátyás and the project had a key roll in this resolution.

He took part also in the inaugural meeting of the Saker Falcon Task Force in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE), on 29 March 2012.

MAVIR prepared and distributed about 300 DVD about the Video camera pictures in its own costs.

6. Financial part

6.1. Costs incurred.

Table 9 : Incurred costs by cost categories

Budget breakdown categories	Total cost in €	Costs incurred from the start date to 31.12.2012 in €	% of total costs 5/2*100
1	2	5	6
1. Personnel	591 512	303 250	51,27
2. Travel and subsistence	210 271	104 325	49,61
3. External assistance	1 138 627	334 778	29,40
4. Durable goods			
Infrastructure	4 660	4 660	100
Equipment	285 114	240 385	84,31
5. Land purchase / long-term lease			
6. Consumables	1 523 615	259 260	17,02
7. Other Costs	15 200	9 883	65,02
8. Overheads	263 830	67 924	25,75
TOTAL	4 032 828	1 324 665	32,85



Table 10 : Incurred costs by Partners and sources

Country code	Beneficiary n°	Beneficiary short name	Total costs planned in €	Incured LIFE costs €	Incured own contribution	Incured co-financier money €	Total costs €
HU	1	BNPD	619 393	287 813	20 247	34 000	342 060
HU	2	KNPD	30 604	4 627	6 168	231	11 026
HU	3	KMNPD	21 390	3 127	6 897	294	10 318
HU	4	MME	164 489	97 077	3 435	4 361	104 873
HU	5	ZFK	1 748	613	658	13	1 284
HU	6	ProVértes	21 837	9 766	98	30	9 894
HU	7	MAVÍR	21 768	4 480	42 116	0	46 596
HU	8	ÉMÁSZ	1 490 360	191 933	64 394	0	256 327
HU	9	DÉMÁSZ	518 102	0	0	0	0
BU	10	BSPB	130 066	54 229	6 495	0	60 722
RO	11	MILVUS	336 695	142 369	7 325	0	149 694
RO	12	SOR	164 840	43 307	7 349	0	50 656
SK	13	RPS	251 536	142 558	10 577	0	153 135
SK	14	ZSE	260 000	2 000	126 080	0	128 080
TOTAL			4 032 828	983 899	301857	38 929	1 324 665

6.1.1. Comment on the budget

The table 9. and 10. give a kind of orientation about the incurred costs during the project period. However the real expenditure may be a little bit more since there are some incurred costs what was incurred at the end of the year and which is still waiting for some justification document.

We spent about 500000 € less than we expected and what would be needed to the Mid-term Report. This is because of the electric companies who are behind the schedule. They have the largest budget therefore delay is influencing much the project expenses. About 250000 € work was already done by JUKO subcontractor but it was not paid due to quality problem. It will be paid only after repair in the spring. The electric companies may complete the insulation work in 2013 if they would decide to continue their participation in the project.

In Bulgaria and Romania the insulation will start also in 2013. However the materials were purchased at the end of 2012 in Bulgaria.

The less insulation is responsible for the low expenditure of external assistance and consumable costs.

MAVIR contributed much more to the project than it was originally planed.

Comments on Commission's requests:

Detailed information from separation of insulation within LIFE and KEOP projects is given in Action C4. Information on financial sources used by all beneficiaries is given in table 10.

BSPB reallocated money from external assistance to consumables to be able to insulate the planned pylons.

All invoices what the project office accepted have the project reference number and all project equipment bears the LIFE project logo.



7.2. Maps, drawings, technical designs, technical memos etc. (DVD only)

For your attention!
These annexes may include more than one maps or pictures



LIFE09 NAT/HU/000384

LIFE+ Nature output indicators

OUTPUTS

Part 1 - Preparatory actions

Table 1 - Types of preparatory actions planned (A, B actions)

Types of preparatory actions	No. of preparatory actions	Species involved (Latin name)	Type of habitats *	No. of species involved	No. of habitats involved	No. of N2000 sites involved	Surface involved (ha)	Budgeted cost (€)
Plans of project measures								
Action plans								
Management plans								
Guidelines & recommendation for agri-environment subsidies	3 (A1, A2, A3),	Falco cherrug Spermophilus citellus	1530, 6120, 6210, 6220, 6240, 6250, 6260, 6410, 6430, 6440, 6510, 91F0	2	12	30	400000	381 643
Inventories & Studies	2(A4, E9)	F. cherrug	N/A**	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	187768
<i>Ex ante</i> monitoring	1(E8)	F. cherrug	1530, 6120, 6210, 6220, 6240, 6250, 6260, 6410, 6430, 6440, 6510, 91F0	1	12	23	400000	30000
<i>Ex post</i> monitoring	4(E8, E1, E2, E3)	F. cherrug S. citellus	1530, 6120, 6210, 6220, 6240, 6250, 6260, 6410, 6430, 6440, 6510, 91F0	2	12	30	400000	135 738
Permit procedures (new Law)								
New Natura 2000 area								
Land purchased								
Other								
Total	9	2	12	2	12	30	400000	735 149

** E9 action may effect more continent. The possible roaming of the birds is not known yet.

OUTPUTS



LIFE09 NAT/HU/000384

Part 2 - Concrete actions

Table 2 - Best practices/concrete techniques//conservation actions/methods planned (C actions)

Deliverable	No. of preparatory actions	Species involved (Latin name)	Type of habitats *	No. of species involved	No. of habitats involved	No. of N2000 sites involved	Surface involved (ha)	Budgeted cost (€)
Natura 2000 site creation								
Natura 2000 site restoration/improvement								
Conservation actions	4 (C1,C2,C4,C6,),	F. cherrug, S. citellus	1530, 6120, 6210, 6220, 6240, 6250, 6260, 6410, 6430, 6440, 6510, 91F0	2	12	30	400000	2 442 335
Reintroduction	1(C3)	S. citellus	6220, 6240, 6510	1	3	7	300	43 057
Ex situ conservation	1(C5)	F. cherrug	N/A	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	16 535
Removal of alien species								
Others– marking juveniles with PTT	1(C7)	F. cherrug	N/A	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	26 824
Total	7	2	12	2	12	30	400000	2 528 751

* Identification number and name as in the Directives

Table 3 - Training activities

No. of training sessions	Total no. of persons trained	Budgeted cost (€)
On the job training	48	20800



LIFE09 NAT/HU/000384

OUTPUTS

Part 3 – Awareness-raising and communication

Table 4 - Workshops, seminars and conferences

Target audience:	General public			Specialised audience (e.g. decision-makers)			Very specialised audience (e.g. experts, academics)		
Number of participants:	Local/ Regional	National	EU/ International	Local/ Regional	National	EU/ International	Local/ Regional	National	EU/ International
0-25 participants	4				2	3		3	
25-75 participants									
75-100 participants									
More than 100 participants									
Total budgeted cost (€)	10000								



LIFE09 NAT/HU/000384

Table 5 - Media and other communication and dissemination work

Type of media	No.
Project website: average number of visitors per month	5000
Press releases made by the project	32
General public article in national press	16
General public article in local press	32
Specialised press article	8
Internet article	100
TV news/reportage	32
Radio news/reportage	32
Film produced	1
Film played on TV	4
Film presented in events/festivals	10
Exhibitions attended	
Information centre/Information kiosk	
Project notice boards	20
Other (please specify)	
Total budgeted cost (€)	68900

Table 6 – Publications

Type of publication	No. published	No. of copies	Languages
Layman's report	1	4000	Bulgarian, English, Hungarian, Romanian, Slovak
Manuals (Project Handbook)	1	200	Bulgarian, English, Hungarian, Romanian, Slovak
Leaflets	2	4000	Bulgarian, Hungarian, Romanian, Slovak
Brochures			
Posters	1	4000	Bulgarian, English, Hungarian, Romanian, Slovak
Books			
Technical publications			
Other (guidelines)	3	400	Bulgarian, English, Hungarian, Romanian, Slovak
Total budgeted cost (€)	51200		



LIFE09 NAT/HU/000384

Table 7 - Educational activities

Establishment involved	No. of students
Kindergartens/Primary schools	0
Secondary schools	0
Higher education establishments	0
Total budgeted cost (€)	0



LIFE09 NAT/HU/000384