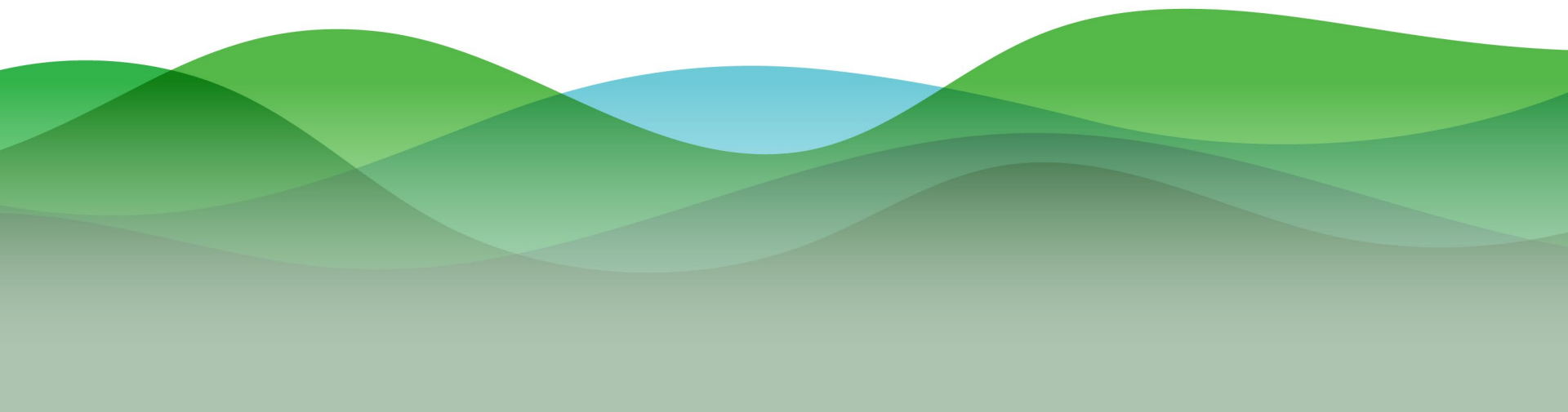




Under contract CINEA/2022/OP/0011 with the European Commission
supporting the LIFE Programme

The **LIFE PROGRAMME** contribution to **Natura 2000**

Focus on the Mediterranean Region
Dr. Georgia Valaoras, ELMEN EEIG





Supported by

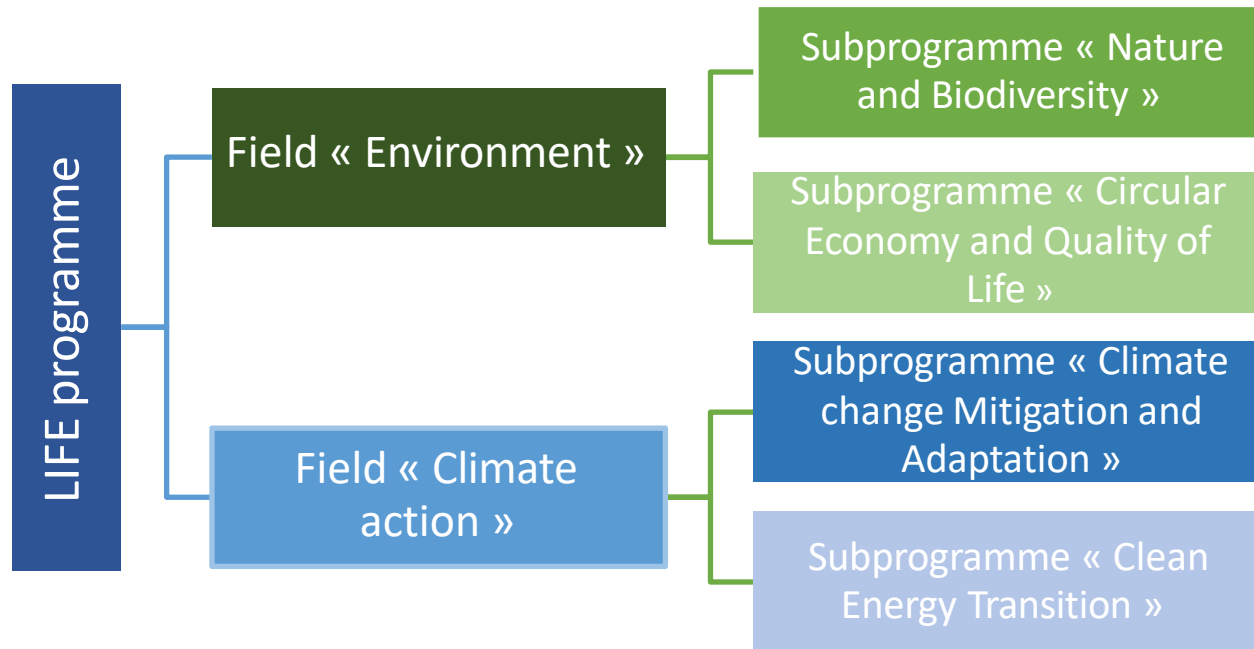


Since 1992, the LIFE programme has supported over 1,800 nature and biodiversity projects in order to safeguard Europe's nature.

Despite the programme's small size (accounting for less than 1% of the EU budget), the €2.2 billion invested so far in these projects has done much to implement EU biodiversity policy

The LIFE programme

- For the years 2021-2027: budget of 5.43 billion €
 - 3.4 billion € for LIFE 2014-2020
 - Call 2023 budget: 611 million €
- The multiannual work programme for 2021-2027 was adopted in July 2021.



Supported by



Type of projects funded under LIFE

- **Standard Action projects (SAPs)**
- Coordination and Support Actions (CSAs)
- **Strategic Nature Projects (SNaPs)**
- **Strategic Integrated Projects (SIPs)**
- Preparatory projects addressing ad hoc Legislative and Policy Priorities (PLP)
- **Technical Assistance (TA-PP and TA- RR)**
- **Operating Grants (for NGOs)**



Supported by



Standard Action Projects (SAPs)

There were three calls for LIFE SAPs in 2023:

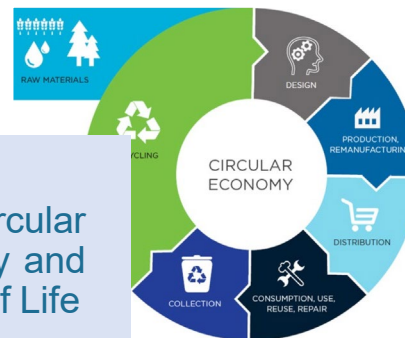
LIFE Nature and Biodiversity



LIFE Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation



LIFE Circular Economy and Quality of Life



One stage application procedure



Supported by



Standard Action Projects (SAPs)

- ‘Traditional’ LIFE projects aiming to

Develop, demonstrate and promote innovative techniques, methods and approaches



Contribute to the knowledge base and to the application of best practices

Support the **development, implementation, monitoring and enforcement of the relevant Union legislation and policy**

Catalyse the large-scale deployment of successful technical and policy related solutions for implementing the relevant Union legislation and policy by replicating results, integrating related objectives into other policies and mobilising investment and improving access to finance.



Supported by



Standard Action Projects (SAPs)

- **Co-financing rate**
 - **75%** for projects **targeting exclusively priority habitats and/or species**
 - **67%** for project **targeting both priority and non-priority habitats and/or species**
 - **60%** all other projects
- **Maximum 10-year duration**
- ***Best practice, demonstration, innovation...***
 - Projects focusing on best-practice are perfectly eligible.
- ***Eligible and suitable for the implementation of pledges***



Supported by



Strategic Integrated Projects (SIPs)

Strategic Nature Projects (SNaPs)

SNaPs:

- LIFE Nature and Biodiversity – no SNaPs call in LIFE23 but in 2024



SIPs:

- LIFE Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation
- LIFE Circular Economy and Quality of Life



Supported by



Strategic Integrated Projects (SIPs)

Strategic Nature Projects (SNaPs)

70
Integrated
Projects
so far

2014 ▶ 2020

Click on the map icons to see
the corresponding project summaries



You can see a **complete list** of
LIFE Integrated Projects **on our website**

Learn more

ec.europa.eu/life LIFE programme
[@LIFEprogramme](https://twitter.com/LIFEprogramme) LIFE programme

How to apply for LIFE funding

The European Commission organises annual calls for proposals.
Full details are available at ec.europa.eu/life



Supported by



Strategic Nature Projects (SNaPs)

Focussing on the implementation of:

- The Prioritised Action Frameworks (PAFs) under the Habitats Directive
 - **Other plans or strategies that implement EU nature and/or biodiversity policy or legislation on international, national, regional or multiregional level**
- **Eligible and suitable for the implementation of pledges**



Supported by



Strategic Nature Projects (SNaPs)

- Require integrated approaches and complementary funds mobilization
- Require mainstreaming of biodiversity objectives into other policies and instruments
- Co-financing rate of **60%** maximum, max. **14-year** duration



Supported by



Strategic Integrated Projects (SIPs)

Co-financing rate of 60% maximum

Maximum 14-year duration

Circular Economy and quality of LIFE (LIFE ENV)

- **Circular Economy:** national or Regional Circular Economy Action Plans, Strategies, Roadmaps or similar
- **Waste:** national and regional Waste Management Plans and/or Waste Prevention Programmes
- **Water: *River Basin Management Plans, Flood Risk Management Plans*,** Marine Strategies
- **Air:** Air quality plans pursuant to the Ambient Air Quality Directive, National Air Pollution Control Programme

Climate change mitigation and adaptation (CLIMA)

- **National Energy and Climate Plans;** National Energy Efficiency Action Plans
- **National or regional adaptation strategies or action plans;**
- **Urban or community-based action plans pioneering the transition to a climate neutral and/or climate resilient society;**



Supported by



Technical Assistance Projects (TAs)

TA-PP

Support to the preparation of SNaPs and SIPs (TA-PP)

- Co-financing rate of maximum 60%, maximum LIFE contribution of EUR 70 000

TA-R

LIFE Technical Assistance for Replication

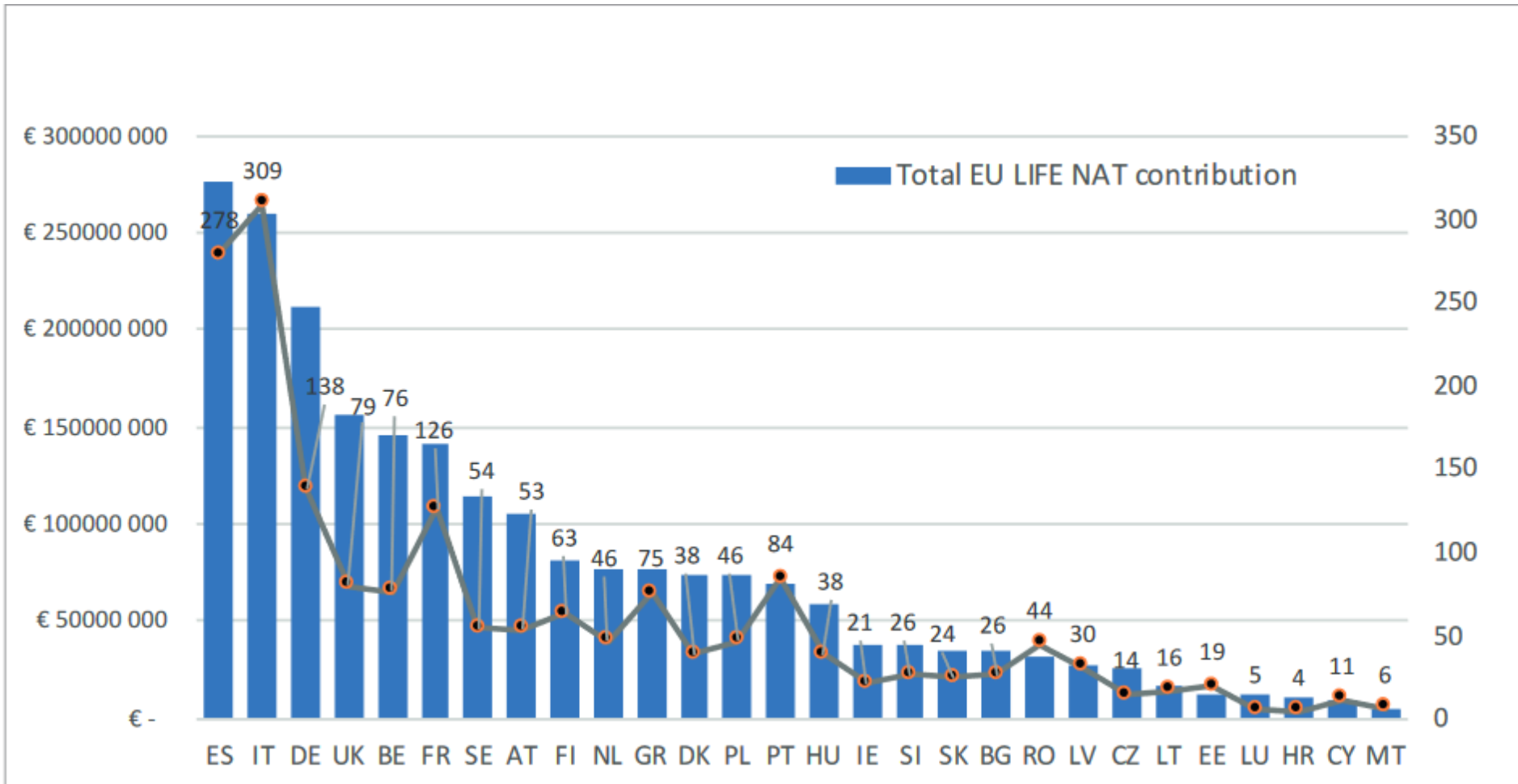
- Preparation for facilitating the **up-scaling and replication of results** from other projects funded by the LIFE Programme, its predecessor programmes or other EU funding programmes



Supported by



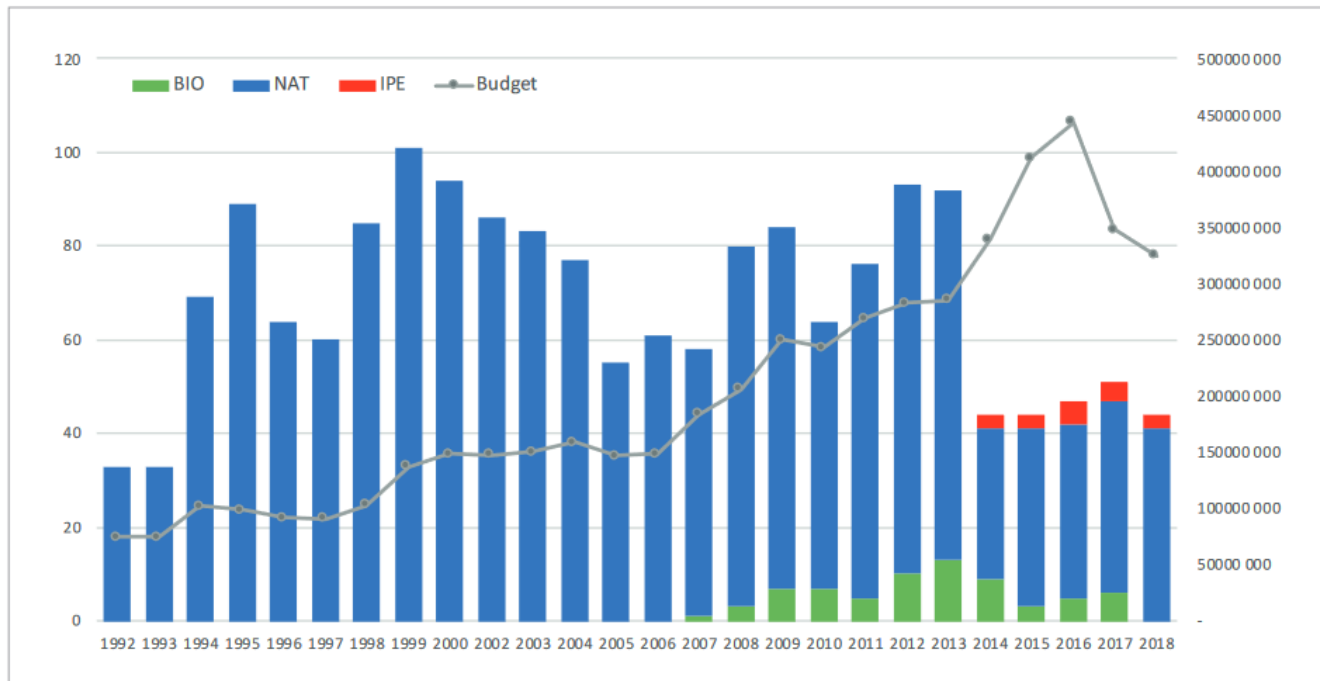
Overall EU budget contribution and number of LIFE NAT projects per EU Member State (1992-2018)



Supported by



Total number of LIFE NAT and BIO and LIFE IPE nature projects per year, with the total annual budget



Supported by



Purchase of sea turtle nesting beach in Zakynthos: highest nesting density of the Mediterranean

LIFE92 NAT GR 13800



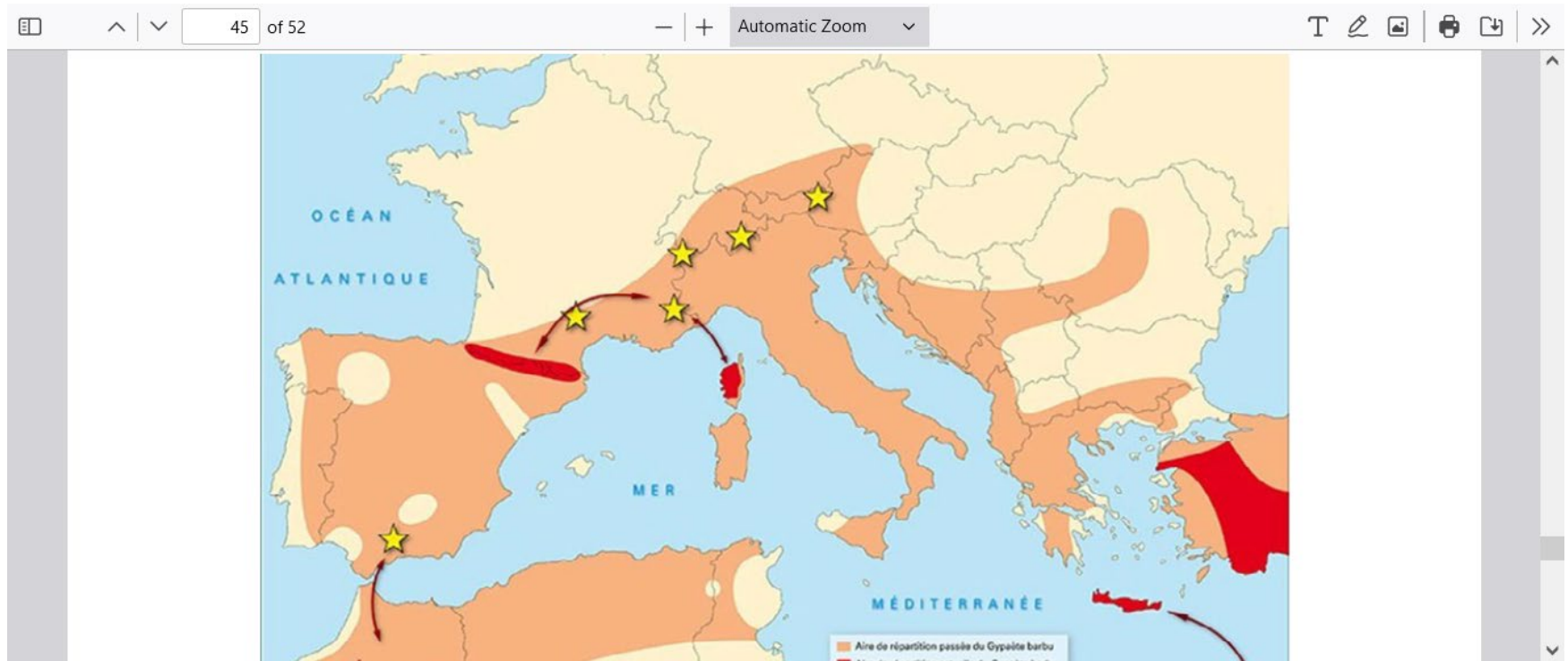
Supported by



Successes of the LIFE programme

LIFE NAT ex-post summary 2018

**HISTORICAL DISTRIBUTION (ORANGE) AND CURRENT DISTRIBUTION (RED)
OF THE BEARDED VULTURE WITH REINTRODUCTION SITES STARRED.
ARROWS REPRESENT THE CONNECTIVITY**



BEARDED VULTURE RECOVERY

LIFE NAT ex-post summary 2018

TABLE 20: NUMBER OF PAIRS OF BEARDED VULTURE IN THE WHOLE ALPS BETWEEN 1995 AND 2017, NUMBER OF FLYING CHICKS AND PRODUCTIVITY (PRODUCTIVITY REFERS TO THE NUMBER OF FLYING CHICKS PER MATURE PAIR)

	MATURE PAIRS	FLYING CHICKS	PRODUCTIVITY
1995	1	0	0
2000	4	3	0.75
2005	12	7	0.58
2010	19	10	0.53
2015	34	20	0.59
2017	50	31	0.62



Supported by



ELMEN

Successes of the LIFE programme

LIFE NAT ex-post summary 2018

RECOVERY OF THE YELKOUAN SHEARWATER IN MALTA

TABLE 22: NATIONAL DATA FOR MALTA ON THE YELKOUAN SHEARWATER POPULATION

SPECIES	NATIONAL POPULATION AT PROJECT START (2006)	NATIONAL POPULATION AT THE END OF PROJECT (2010)	NATIONAL POPULATION 7+ YEARS AFTER PROJECT (2017)	TREND
<i>Puffinus yelkouan</i> breeding population	1,620 – 2,075	1,680 – 2,110	1,760 – 2,265	↑



Supported by



LESSER KESTREL RECOVERY

LIFE NAT ex-post summary 2018

TABLE 25: AVAILABLE DATA AT NATIONAL LEVEL FOR LESSER KESTREL IN ITALY

SPECIES	NATIONAL POPULATION BEFORE PROJECT - NESTING PAIRS	NATIONAL POPULATION AT END OF PROJECT - NESTING PAIRS	NATIONAL POPULATION 8+ YEARS AFTER PROJECT - NESTING PAIRS	TREND	REFERENCES
<i>Falco naumanni</i>	3,640-3,840	3,640-3,840	6,673 - 9,115	↑	National Action Plan for Lesser kestrel



Supported by



Key recommendations to control invasive lionfish in the Mediterranean

LIFE16 NAT/CY/000832 RELIONMED 2017-2022



Supported by



Fitting radio transmitters on Audouin's gulls (*Ichthyaetus audouinii*)

LIFE07 NAT/GR/000285



Supported by



Population census for *Falco eleonora*

LIFE03 NAT GR 000091

First
ever global population census of Eleonora's

First ever global population census of Eleonora's falcon in Greece and the Mediterranean which provided valuable information of population size, distribution and conservation status.



Supported by



Successes of the LIFE programme

Serves as a catalyst for long-overdue restoration

VAI phoenix forest in Crete LIFE98 NAT GR 005264

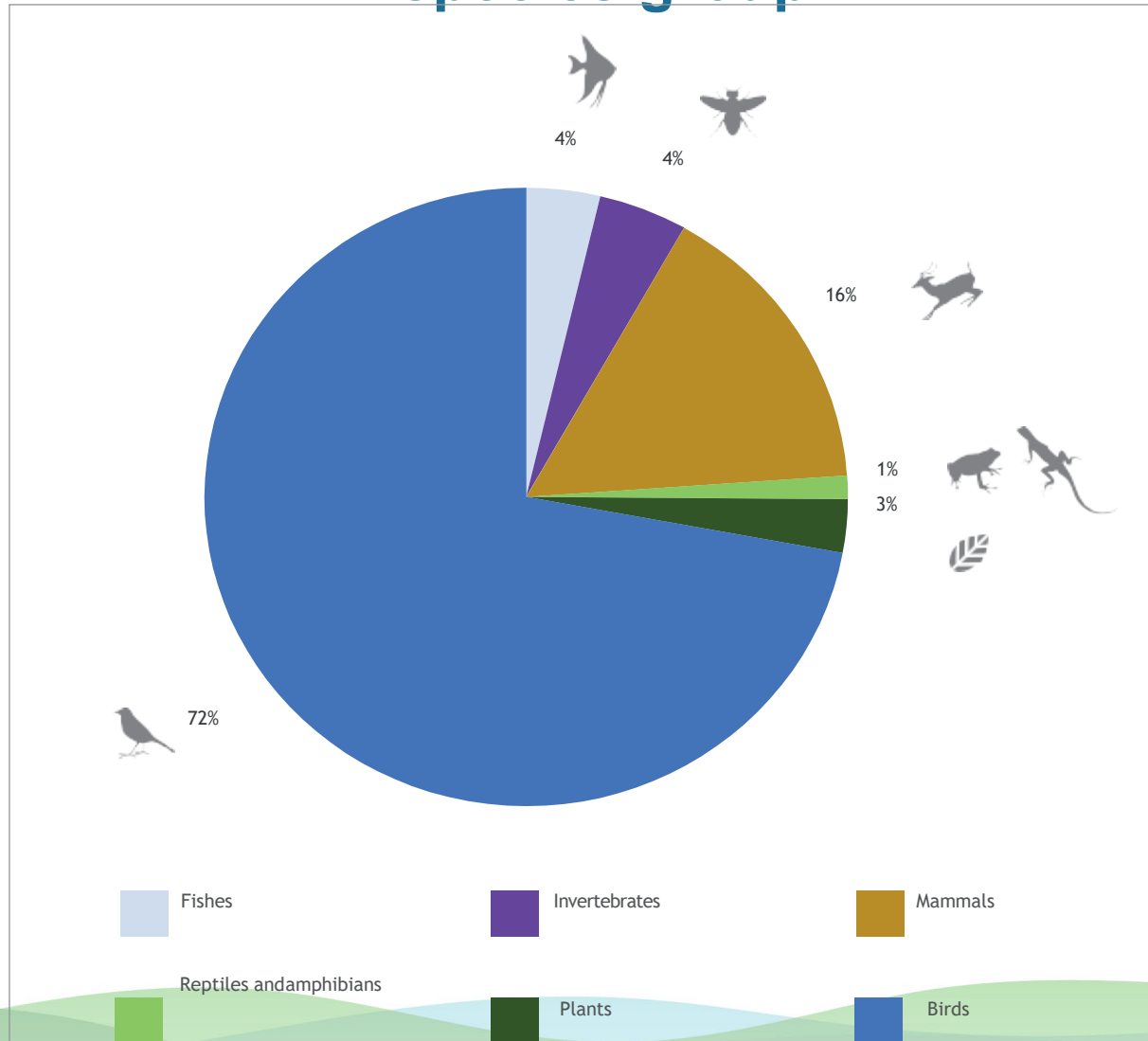
More than doubled the existing forest through fencing, planting, land exchange and relocation of tourist facilities



Supported by



Percentage of records with positive trends for species to which LIFE projects may have contributed, by species group



Supported by



Environmental Education

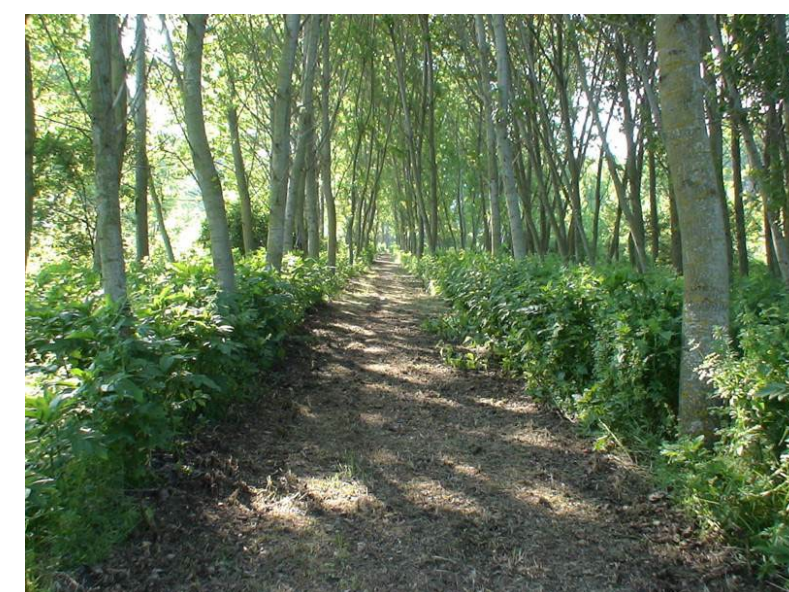
Visit to botanical garden at the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Chania, Crete

LIFE04 NAT/GR/000104



Supported by





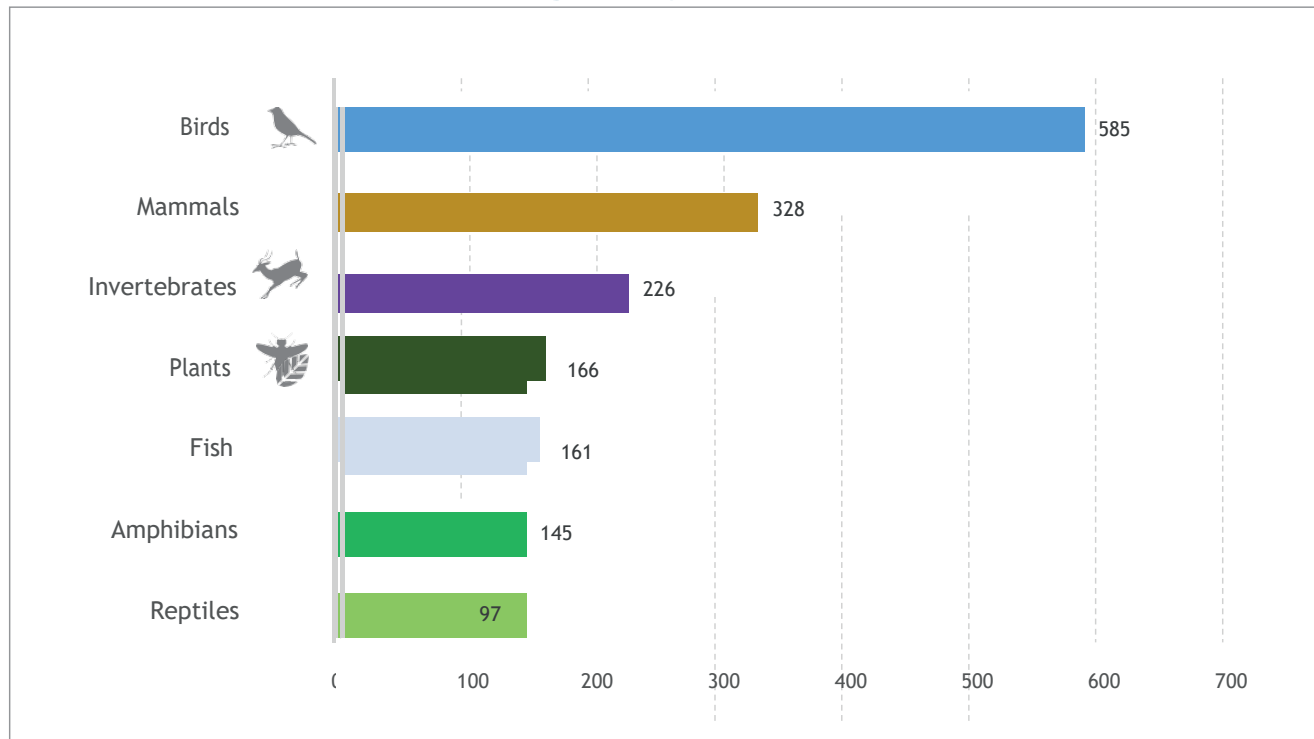
Observatory and footpaths
created for AGRAS wetland
in Northern Greece
LIFE03 NAT GR 000092



Supported by



Number of LIFE projects (1992-2017) per taxonomic group (n = 1,122), with several projects addressing multiple species from within the same group, but sometimes also other taxonomic groups



Supported by



Number of records with positive trends for habitat types to which LIFE projects may have contributed, by habitat group

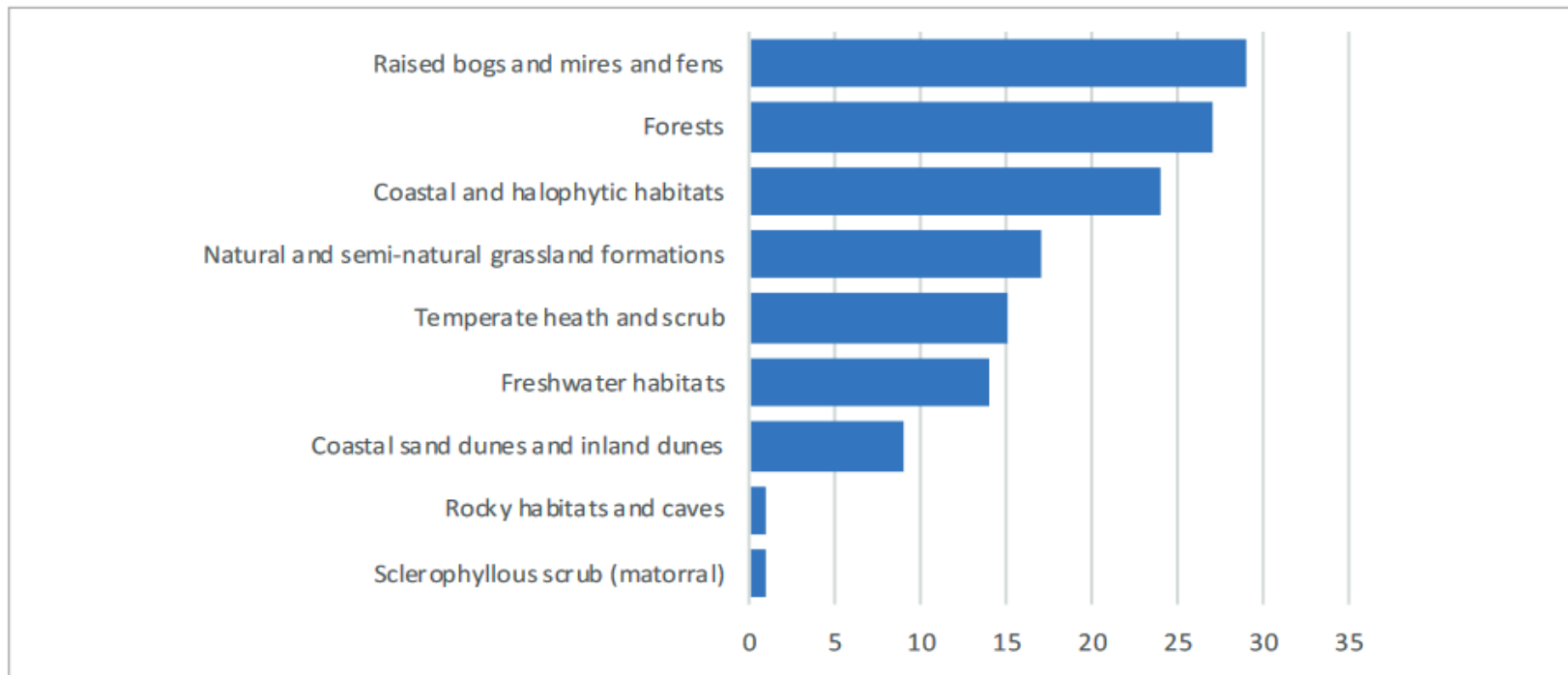
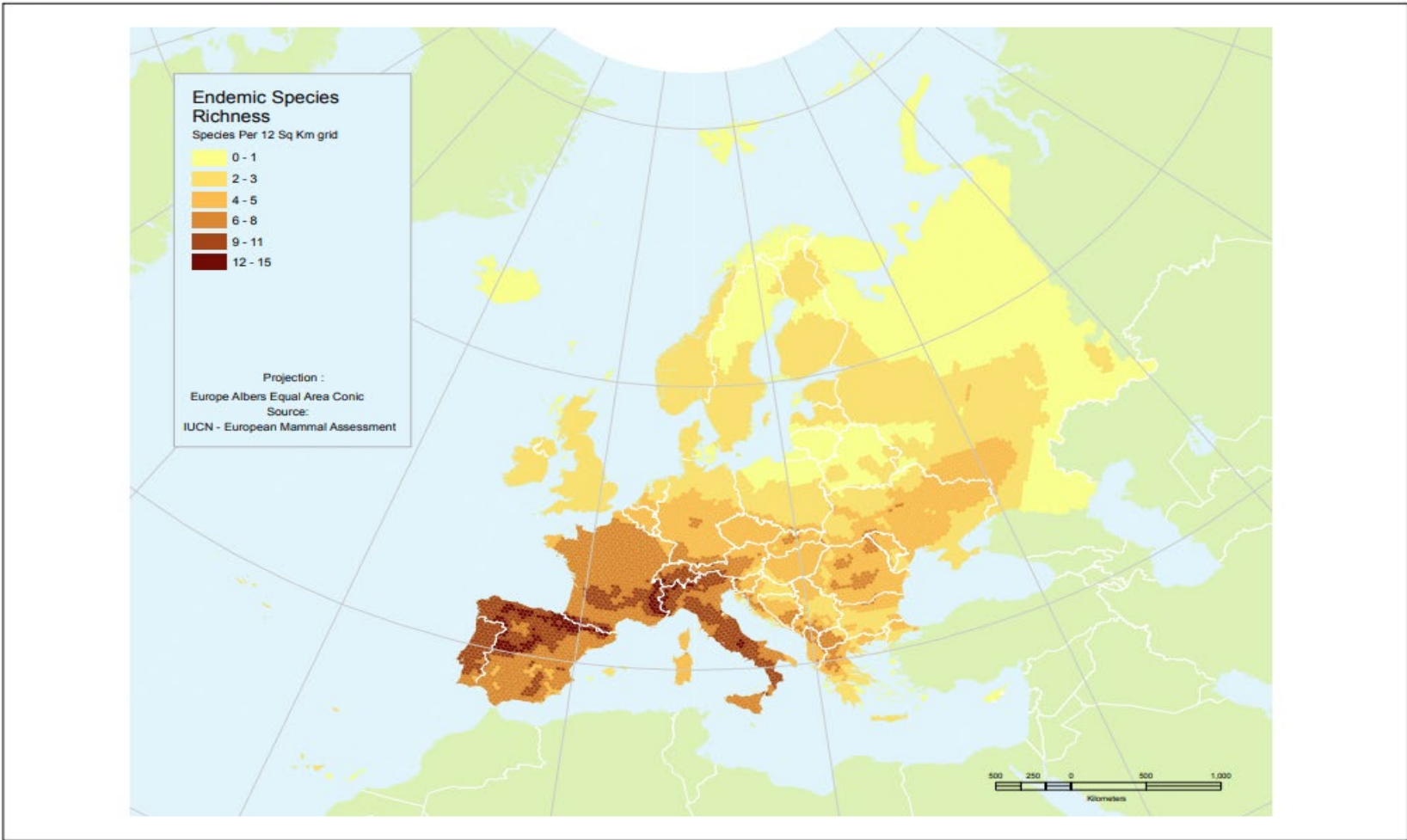


Figure 1: Number of records with positive trends for habitat types to which LIFE projects may have contributed, by habitat group (Source: Member State reports and NEEMO expert judgement, 2019)

Source: The Status and Distribution of European Mammals IUCN 2009

Figure 7. Endemic species richness

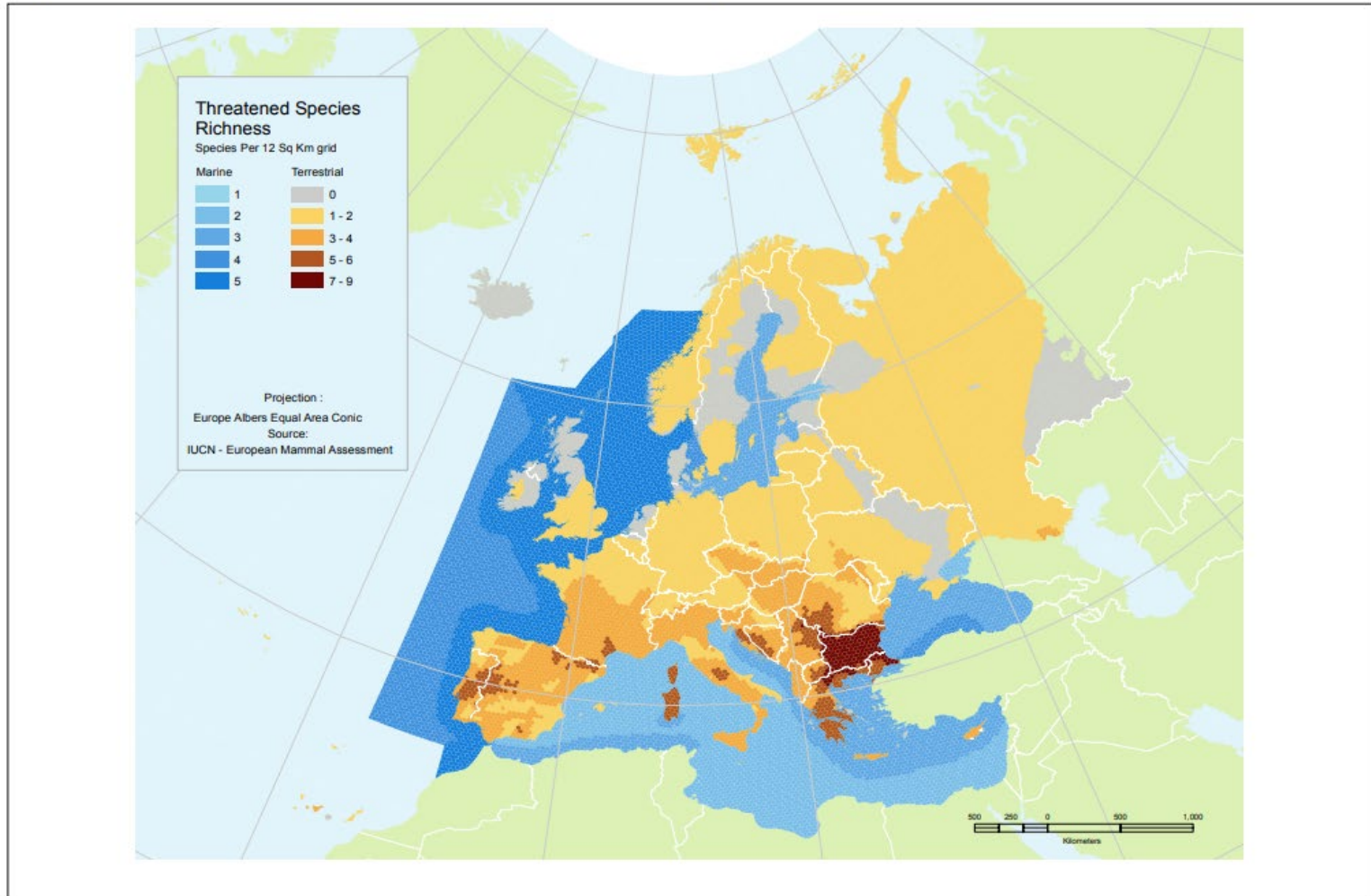


Supported by



Source: The Status and Distribution of European Mammals IUCN 2009

Figure 6. Distribution of threatened mammals in Europe





30 years of bringing green ideas to LIFE

Thank you



Hannover, DE

Contact LIFE!



https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/life_en



[LIFE Programme](#)



[@LIFEprogramme](#)
[@CleanEnergy_EU](#)



[LIFE Programme](#)



[LIFE Programme](#)



[@LIFEprogramm](#)

e



[LIFE Newsletter](#)
[Clean Energy Newsletter](#)



Supported by

