



Vulture Conservation - Successes and challenges

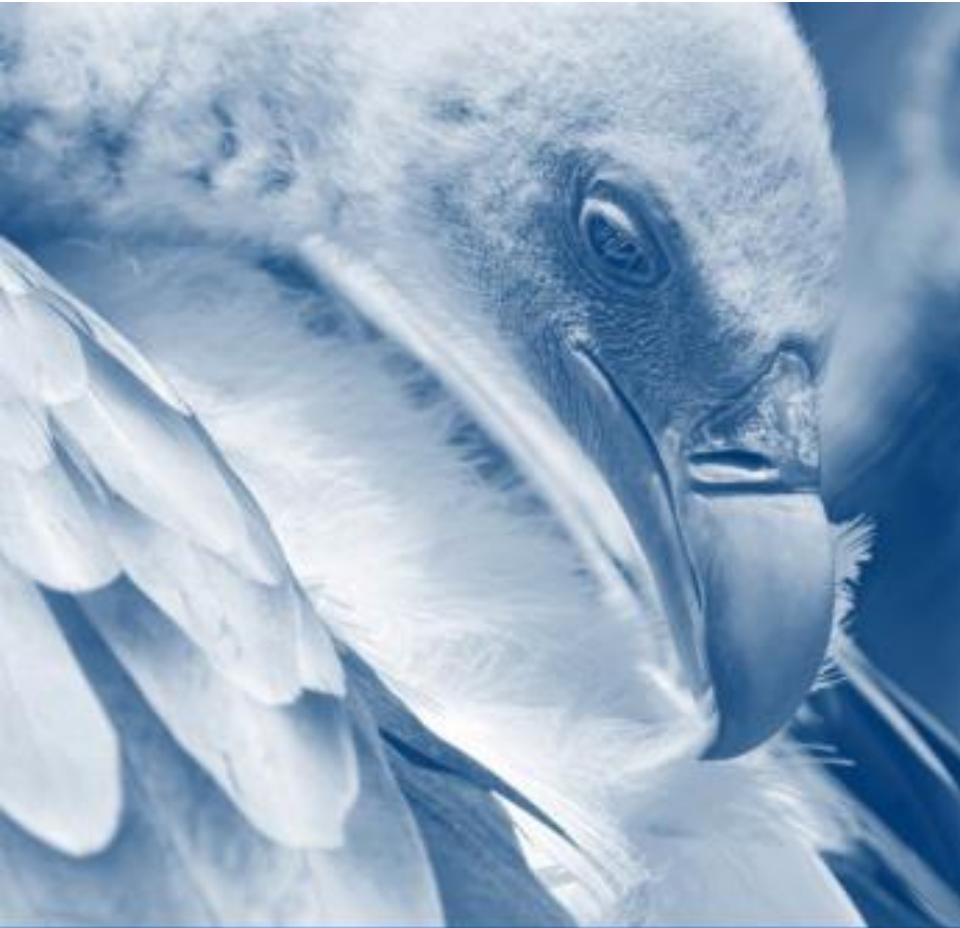


Jovan Andevski
Vulture Conservation Foundation

5th of October 2023, LIFE EUROKITE Midterm Conference







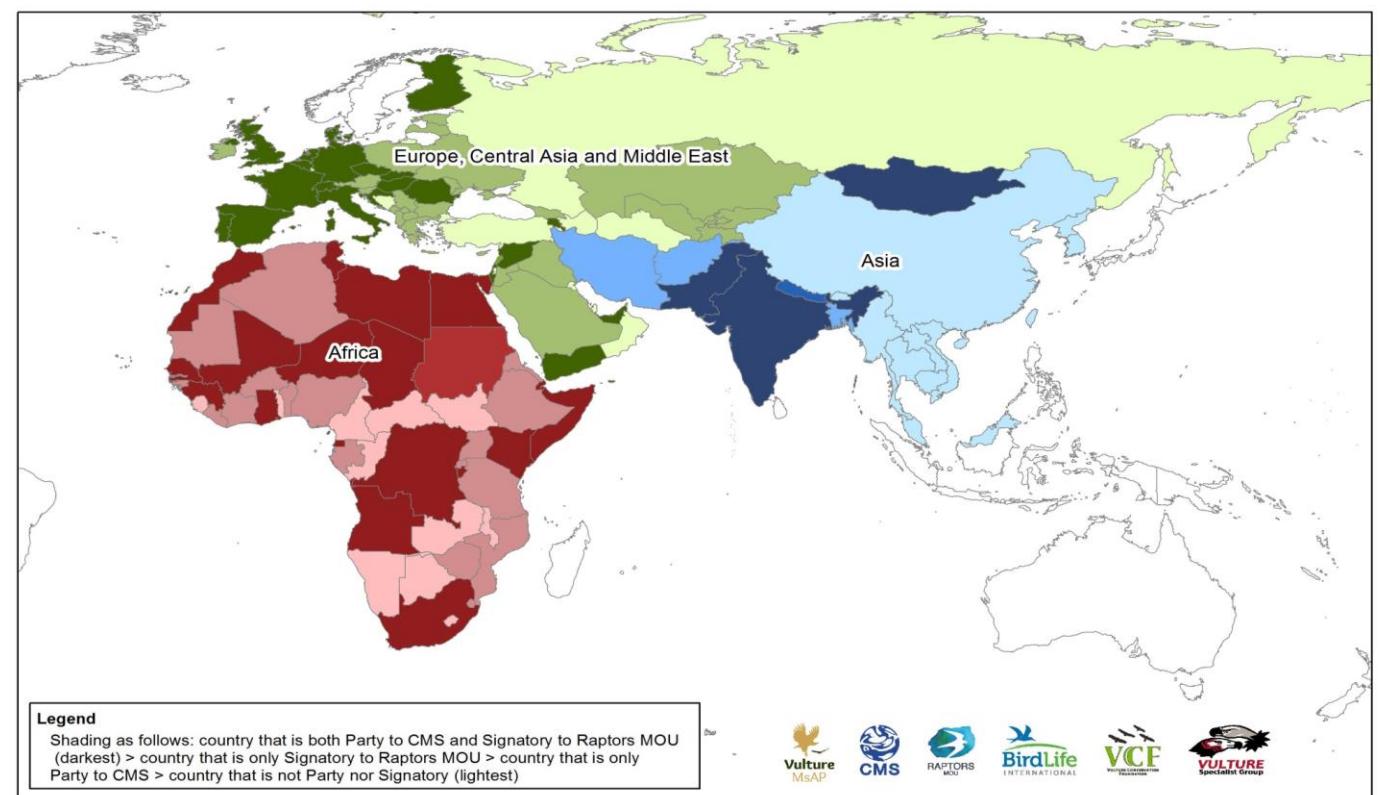
MULTI-SPECIES ACTION PLAN TO CONSERVE AFRICAN-EURASIAN VULTURES (VULTURE MSAP)

CMS Raptors MOU Technical Publication No. 5,
CMS Technical Series No. xx



128 countries (Africa, Asia y Europe)

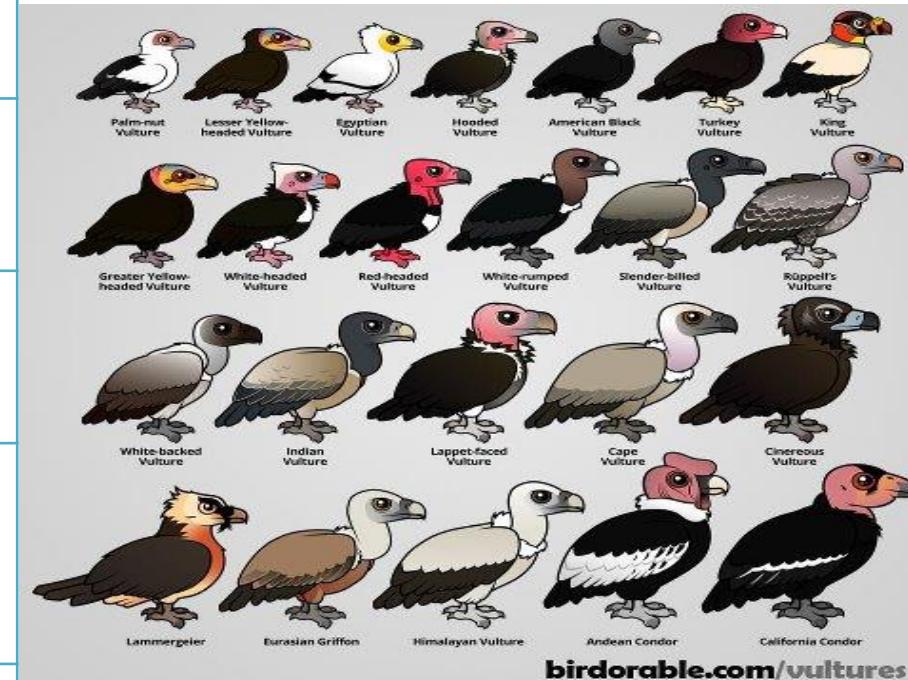
Vulture MsAP Range States and Regions



Vulture MsAP – species

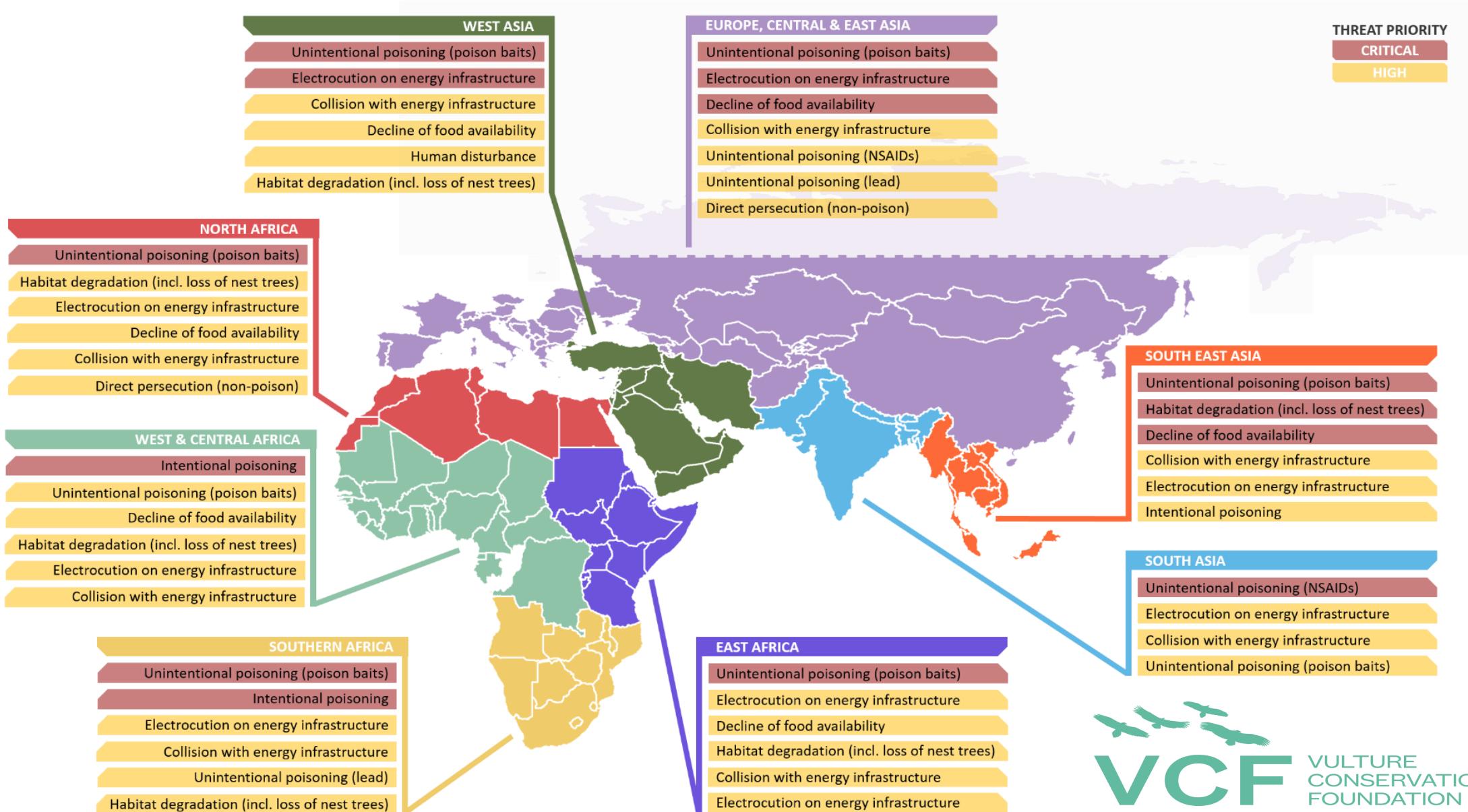
15 (of 16) species classified as Old World vultures

Bearded Vulture (<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>) Near Threatened	Himalayan Griffon (<i>Gyps himalayensis</i>) Near Threatened	Cape Vulture (<i>Gyps coprotheres</i>) Endangered
Egyptian Vulture (<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>) Endangered	White-rumped Vulture (<i>Gyps bengalensis</i>) Critically Endangered	Rüppell's Vulture (<i>Gyps rueppelli</i>) Critically Endangered
Red-headed Vulture (<i>Sarcogyps calvus</i>) Critically Endangered	White-backed Vulture (<i>Gyps africanus</i>) Critically Endangered	Cinereous Vulture (<i>Aegypius monachus</i>) Near Threatened
White-headed Vulture (<i>Trigonoceps occipitalis</i>) Critically Endangered	Indian Vulture (<i>Gyps indicus</i>) Critically Endangered	Lappet-faced Vulture (<i>Torgos tracheliotos</i>) Endangered
Hooded Vulture (<i>Necrosyrtes monachus</i>) Critically Endangered	Slender-billed Vulture (<i>Gyps tenuirostris</i>) Critically Endangered	Griffon Vulture (<i>Gyps fulvus</i>) Least Concern



birdorable.com/vultures

Vulture MsAP – Threats to Vultures



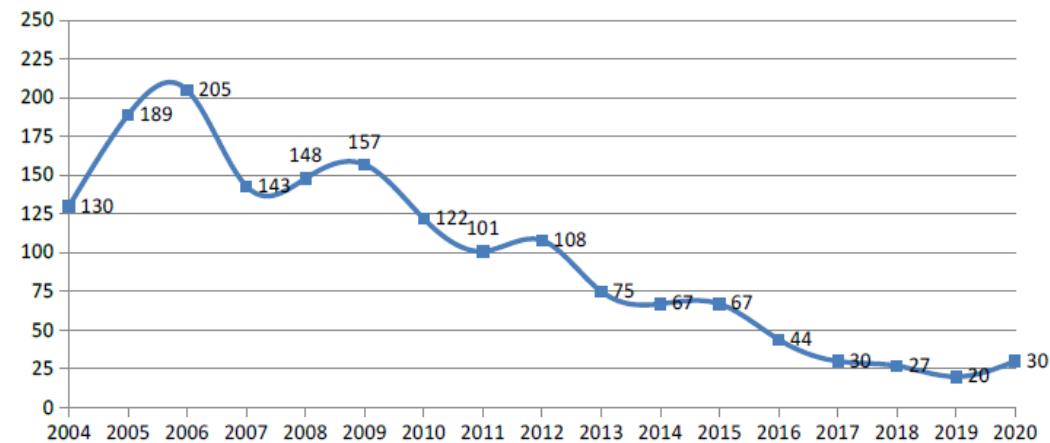
VULTURE
CONSERVATION
FOUNDATION

Threats to Vultures in Europe

EUROPE, CENTRAL & EAST ASIA

- Unintentional poisoning (poison baits)
- Electrocution on energy infrastructure
- Decline of food availability
- Collision with energy infrastructure
- Unintentional poisoning (NSAIDs)
- Unintentional poisoning (lead)
- Direct persecution (non-poison)

Andalusia: Poisoning incidence reduced 80% in 17 years!



Regulation EU 142/2011

Authorize the designation of **Scavenger Feeding Zones (SFZs)** where fallen livestock could be left *in situ* for feeding scavengers, including vultures.

61,2% of Spanish territories are included as ZEPAEN

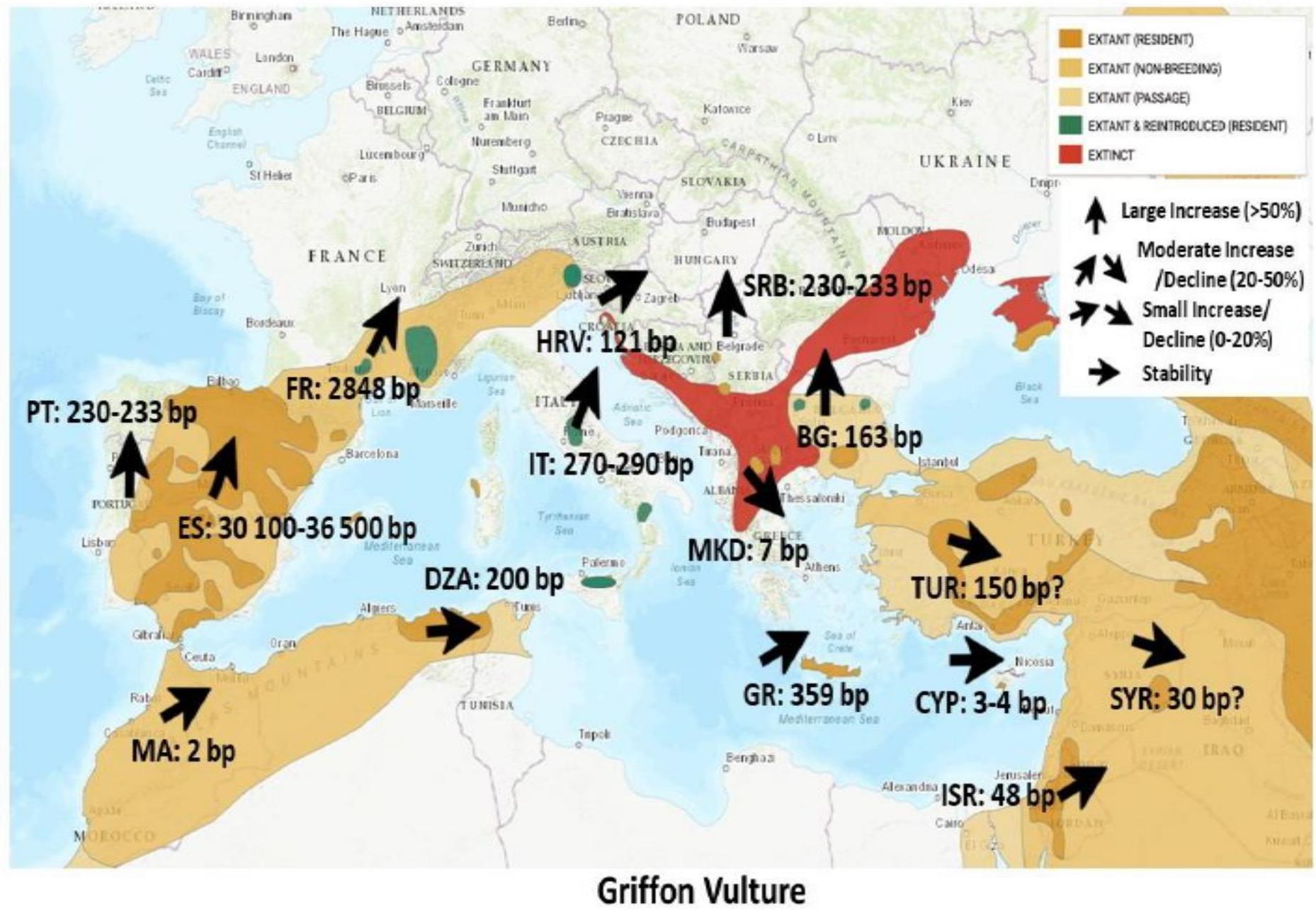


Europe as a land of vultures & vulture conservation best practice





- Spain: 18%-26% increase over the decade 2008-2018, growth rate declining
- France: keeps increasing, geographic expansion linked to past reintroduction projects; 51% increase in the French Pyrenees between 2012 & 2019
- Balkans: trends overall positive, but spatial variations in population growth rates, strongest increases in Bulgaria & Serbia



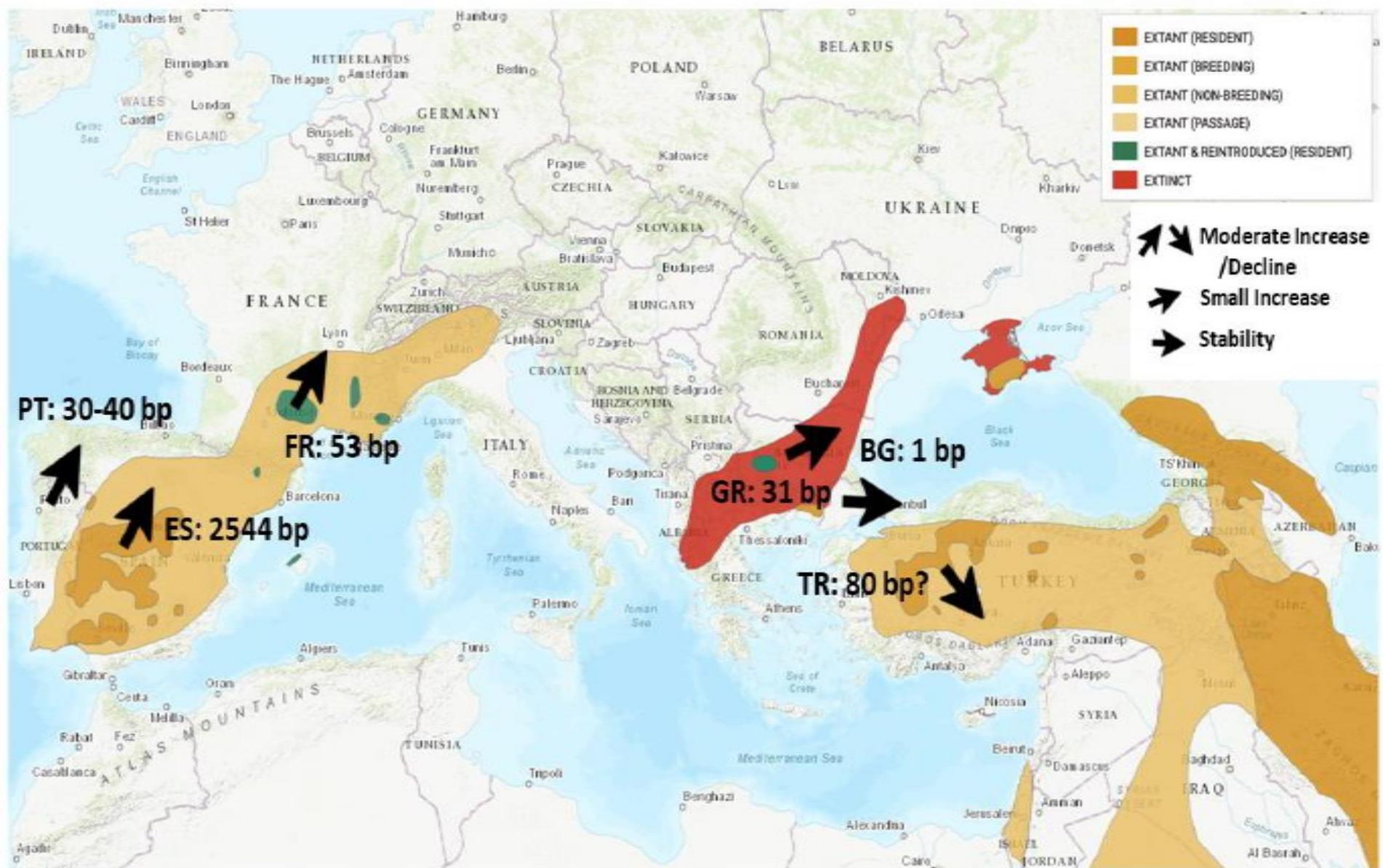
Conservation Effort

- Reintroduction Project in France
- Reintroduction Project in Bulgaria (3 LIFE Projects)
- Restocking Project in Sardinia, Italy (2 LIFE Projects)
- Restocking Project in Cyprus (1 LIFE Project)
- Wild born birds from Spain (Extremadura and Andalusia)





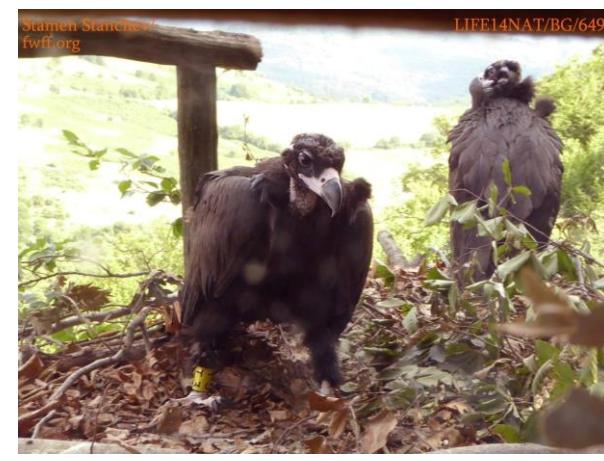
- Continue to increase in France & Portugal
- Spain: continues to grow in several areas (+ 51% in Sierra de San Pedro & + 24% in the Monfragüe National Park since 2016)
- Greece: stable
- Bulgaria: reintroduction, six breeding pairs and successful breeding in 2021-2022



Conservation Effort

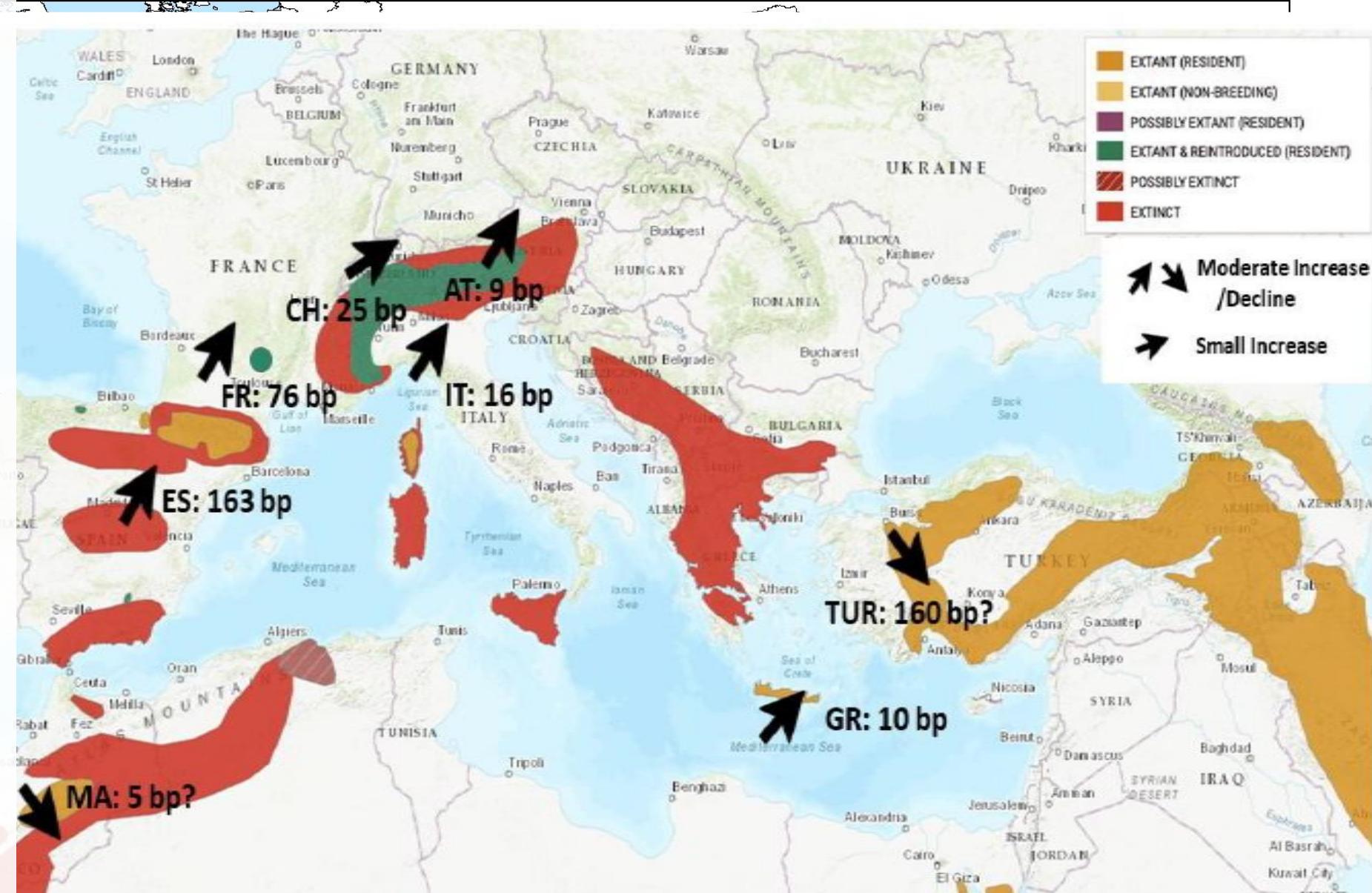
- Reintroduction Project in France
- Restocking Project in Mallorca
- Reintroduction Project in Bulgaria
- Reintroduction Project in Cataluña (GREFA)
- Reintroduction Project in Castilla y León (GREFA)

Source: Wild born birds from Spain (Extremadura and Andalusia)





- Overall: 465 breeding pairs, positive dynamic with an increase
- Alps: 65+ occupied territories, record number of fledglings. New breeding pairs every year
- Critical in Corsica, 2 breeding pairs, with 1-2 pairs lost since the last update
- Spain: stable or slightly increasing in the Pyrenees, new breeding territories recorded in areas where the species was recently reintroduced
- Crete: increased since 2018 from 7 to 10 breeding pairs.
- Morocco: less than 10 pairs remain in Morocco
- Turkey: declining



Bearded Vulture

Conservation Effort

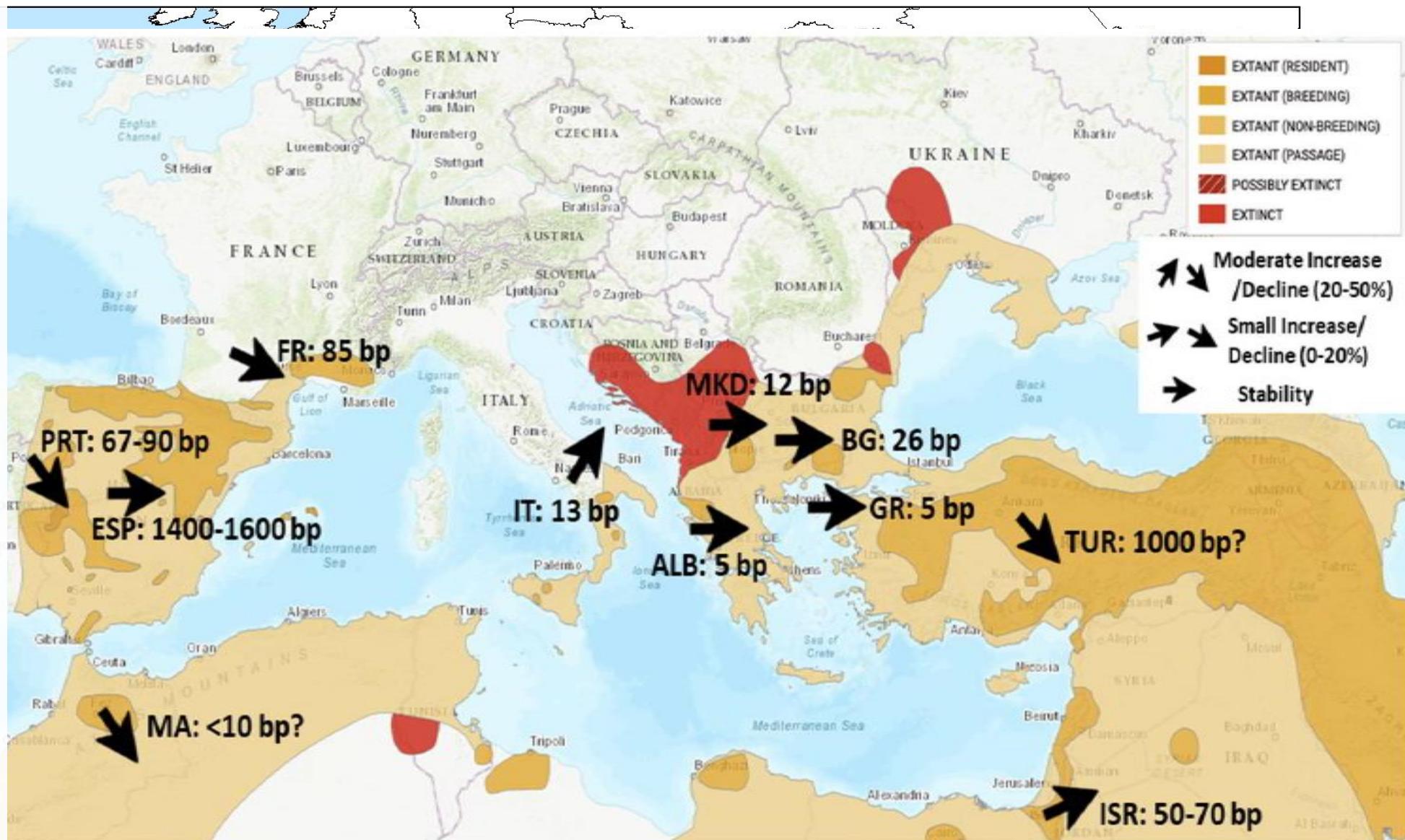
- Reintroduction Project in the Alps (France, Austria, Italy, Switzerland and Germany)
- Reintroduction Project in Andalusia, Spain
- Reintroduction Project in Maestrazgo, Spain
- Reintroduction Project in Bulgaria

Source: Captive breeding programme EEP





- Spain: Largest European population with slight increase at the national scale (2018)
- France: local population declines again after long-term population stability
- Balkans: overall stable



Egyptian Vulture

Conservation Effort

- Massive conservation effort in Balkans (Albania, Bulgaria, Greece and North Macedonia)
- Experimental releases in Italy
- Experimental releases in Bulgaria
- Captive breeding programme EEP





Population estimates for the five European vulture species: 2022 update.

Terraube, J, Andevski, J, Loercher, F, & Tavares, J

20th June 2022



Overall positive population trends for the Griffon, Cinereous & Bearded Vultures, with small to large population increases observed in Western Europe and even in the Balkan countries

3 species hold a favourable conservation status in core areas of Western Europe

Project coordination: The Vulture Conservation Foundation
info@4vultures.org

Recommended citation: Terraube, J, Andevski, J, Loercher, F, & Tavares, J. 2022. Population estimates for the five European vulture species across the Mediterranean: 2022 update. The Vulture Conservation Foundation, Koninklijke Burger's zoo b.v. Antoon van Hoooffplein 1, 6816 SH Arnhem. Netherlands.

Vulture Conservation Foundation (VCF)
Wuhrst, 12 CH-8003 Zurich, Switzerland
info@4vultures.org, www.4vultures.org



WILDLIFE CRIME ACADEMY

COHORT 1



COHORT 2



	Cohort 1	Cohort 2
Level 1	June 2021	May 2022
Level 2	November 2021	October 2022



WILDLIFE CRIME ACADEMY

LEVEL 3 – Wildlife Crime Analysis and Intelligence



Funding

* fuente: <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/>



Project N°	Year Of Finance	Country	total budget	EU contribution	Species
LIFE00 NAT/E/007340	2000	España	1,036,378.00	621,827.00	Aegypius monachus /
LIFE00 NAT/E/007348	2000	España	1,853,176.00	1,297,223.00	Aegypius monachus / Neophron percnopterus
LIFE02 NAT/E/008624	2002	España	683,142.00	364,878.00	Gypaetus barbatus /
LIFE02 NAT/GR/008489	2002	Greece	1,248,000.00	936,000.00	None or non applicable /
LIFE02 NAT/GR/008492	2002	Greece	2,286,108.00	1,371,665.00	Gypaetus barbatus /
LIFE02 NAT/GR/008497	2002	Greece	1,566,345.00	939,807.00	Aegypius monachus /
LIFE03 NAT/E/000050	2003	Spain	3,286,882.00	1,972,129.00	Aegypius monachus /
LIFE03 NAT/F/000100	2003	France	1,726,194.00	1,035,716.00	Gypaetus barbatus /
LIFE03 NAT/F/000103	2003	France	2,256,971.00	1,128,485.00	Neophron percnopterus /
LIFE04 NAT/ES/000034	2004	Spain	2,082,923.00	1,249,754.00	None or non applicable /
LIFE04 NAT/ES/000036	2004	Spain	1,237,532.00	618,766.00	None or non applicable /
LIFE04 NAT/ES/000056	2004	Spain	1,649,250.00	1,236,937.00	Gypaetus barbatus /
LIFE04 NAT/ES/000067	2004	Spain	829,937.00	414,968.00	Neophron percnopterus /
LIFE05 NAT/IT/000009	2005	Italy	866,062.00	649,546.00	Neophron percnopterus /
LIFE06 NAT/E/000214	2006	España	1,826,559.00	913,279.00	Gyps fulvus /
LIFE06 NAT/IT/000026	2006	Italy	955,631.00	716,723.00	Neophron percnopterus /
LIFE07 NAT/E/000742	2007	Spain	3,699,135.00	1,625,400.00	Aegypius monachus /
LIFE07 NAT/E/000762	2007	Spain	3,869,850.00	1,934,925.00	Aegypius monachus /
LIFE07 NAT/IT/000436	2007	Italy	1,411,144.00	705,572.00	Gypaetus barbatus / Gyps fulvus / Neophron percnopterus /
LIFE08 NAT/BG/000278	2008	Bulgaria	1,332,328.00	666,164.00	Aegypius monachus / Gypaetus barbatus / Gyps fulvus /
LIFE08 NAT/E/000062	2008	Spain	1,672,020.00	646,737.00	Aegypius monachus / Gypaetus barbatus / Gyps fulvus / Neophron percnopterus /
LIFE08 NAT/P/000227	2008	Portugal	2,640,556.00	1,980,417.00	Aegypius monachus /
LIFE09 NAT/ES/000533	2009	Spain	5,660,886.00	2,730,790.00	Aegypius monachus / Gypaetus barbatus / Neophron percnopterus /
LIFE10 NAT/BG/000152	2010	Bulgaria	2,625,742.00	1,312,871.00	Neophron percnopterus /
LIFE11 NAT/BG/000363	2011	Bulgaria	376,891.00	188,445.00	Aegypius monachus / Canis lupus / Gyps fulvus / Neophron percnopterus /
LIFE11 NAT/FR/000734	2011	France	2,128,061.00	1,060,532.00	Neophron percnopterus /
LIFE12 NAT/ES/000322	2012	Spain	1,582,854.00	1,061,936.00	Gypaetus barbatus /
LIFE12 NAT/ES/000595	2012	Spain	2,103,209.00	1,049,627.00	Aegypius monachus / Neophron percnopterus /
LIFE13 NAT/ES/001130	2013	Spain	759,811.00	455,886.00	Aegypius monachus / Neophron percnopterus /
LIFE13 NAT/FR/000093	2013	France	1,810,276.00	905,136.00	Gypaetus barbatus /
LIFE13 NAT/IT/000311	2013	Italy	2,414,270.00	1,265,077.00	Gypaetus barbatus / Gyps fulvus / Neophron percnopterus /
LIFE14 NAT/BG/000649	2014	Bulgaria	3,483,411.00	2,607,648.00	Aegypius monachus /
LIFE14 NAT/FR/000050	2014	France	5,632,328.00	4,157,440.00	Gypaetus barbatus /
LIFE14 NAT/IT/000484	2014	Italy	1,733,385.00	1,039,985.00	Gyps fulvus /
LIFE14 NAT/IT/001017	2014	Italy	2,877,095.00	2,071,508.00	Neophron percnopterus /
LIFE14 NAT/NL/000901	2014	Nederland	2,198,572.00	1,648,015.00	Aegypius monachus / Gyps fulvus /
LIFE14 NAT/PT/000855	2014	Portugal	3,578,924.00	2,672,481.00	Aegypius monachus / Neophron percnopterus /

Total:
206.090.148€

EC contribution:
130.733.619€



Thank you!

Jovan Andevski
Programme Manager
j.andevski@4vultures.org

Vulture Conservation Foundation
Together for Vultures!

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