

European Database of non-natural mortality of vultures

I. Introduction

The database will serve as a reference on non-natural vulture mortality cases in Europe, including poisoning, electrocution and collision. It should further allow the comparison of data sets between different regions and countries.

The data will be provided by different organisations and partners all over Europe. The database has the main goal to harmonize available data and to store it in one single and simple database. This should ensure that data can easily be accessed and analysed on an international and regional level.

This database is an output of a project funded by Foundation MAVA on “Documenting vulture populations’ demography and trends – baseline data, causes of mortality and indicators towards the priority species outcome”, and is an integral part of the MAVA strategy on priority bird species in the Mediterranean, which is co-coordinated by the VCF, BirdLife International, WWF and Euronatur.

II. General definitions

- a) Vulture Mortality Database (henceforth VMD): Is the short name for the European Database of non-natural mortality of vultures that this document refers to.
- b) Contributor: Every user that, in representation of an organization, institution, or as an individual, provides information to the VMD following the requirements stated below.
- c) VCF Database Administrator: Is the person appointed by the Vulture Conservation Foundation (VCF), in its role of project coordinator, to manage the VMD following the requirements stated below.
- d) User: Every individual that has been granted access to information stored in the VMD. The VCF reserves the right to provide the forenamed access based on the nature of the request, taking into consideration the objectives of the petitioner and the suitability of the information requested.
- e) Italian Compiler: Is the responsible to compile and gather data from Italian partners and report it to the VCF Database Administrator. This role has been assigned to **Dr Enrico Bassi**, whom henceforth will be responsible of coordinating the data gathering from all Italian partners.
- f) Data sharing agreement: A document signed both by the VCF and the petitioner (User) where the goal and details of the data used are specified, declaring that the data received cannot be used for any other purpose other than that agreed upon by both parties beforehand, as well as clearly stating that no data rights other than the usage for the agreed purpose are transferred to the User.

Project partners:



euronatur

III. Requirements

1. Each Contributor is responsible of communicating the name and contact information of a person to serve as “permanent contact” in the VMD. It is possible to substitute this person simply by informing the Italian Compiler by email.
2. The Contributors should inform the Italian Compiler about new mortality incidents within their area of coverage as soon as possible and the Italian Compiler will consequently inform the VCF Database Administrator so the data can be included in the VMD.
3. At all times, the ownership of the data remains within the original holder of the data (Contributor) and is not transferred to the VCF or any other third parties.
4. Each data entry will be clearly labelled with the origin and ownership of the data for future reference.
5. In all publications, news, presentations, etc. the data providers (Contributor) as well as the Italian Compiler will be acknowledged.
6. The Contributor gives permission to the VCF to analyse, summarize, and present the available data without the requirement explicit confirmation on every occasion, unless the data is considered as “sensible” (see point 9 in this section)
7. Scientists or data analysers (Users) can ask the VCF for access to some records of the VMD. Data analysis on a local level can be granted to specific Users after the signing of a “data sharing agreement” without prior notification to every Contributor, unless the data is considered as “sensible” (see point 9 in this section), but with the obligation of acknowledging them when publishing any results.
8. For more extensive analysis/studies, each data provider (Contributor) will be formally asked by the VCF for their approval to share their data for the forenamed analysis/study. The User must sign a “data sharing agreement” after approval by the Contributors have been granted.
9. Data considered and marked as sensible by the Contributor (e.g. open legal cases following a mortality incident), which publication could be prejudicial, cannot be distributed unless it has been specifically allowed by the Contributor. This applies to both local and extensive analysis
10. The VCF agrees on periodically informing all Contributors and collaborators on the progression of the VMD.



José Tavares
Director
Vulture Conservation Foundation



Dr Enrico Bassi
Italian Compiler
Parco Nazionale dello Stelvio

Project partners:



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