



7th Meeting of the Advisory Committee

Bucharest, Romania, 27 - 29 May 2002

Synthesis of the National Implementation Reports

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Annex B: Publicity/Public-Awareness Initiatives

As sometimes it is not specified in detail if initiatives are carried out by governmental or non-governmental organisations (for example publications or European Bat Nights), the following list is not divided in a "official / governmental" and a "NGO" part as in former synthesis of National Implementation Reports. But if NGOs are mentioned by name, their activities are listed at the end of each country's paragraph.

Parties

Albania:

No initiatives are mentioned.

Bulgaria:

Most of the activities have been carried out by the Bat Research & Protection Group (BRPG) with the assistance of several other nature conservation NGOs.

Publicity materials published:

- leaflets: The Bats. BRPG, 1999; Bats in the Eastern Rhodopes. BSPB/BSBCP, 1997.
- sticker: Keep the bats! BRPG, 1999.
- posters: Cave-dwelling Bats. BRPG, 1997.
- set of 3 post cards & calendars
- articles in newspapers and journals

Education:

- In the frame of an UK/BG Project a Teaching Resource Book was published "Adventures in the Environmental Education: From the Classroom to the Karst" (Barker & Elliott 2000) with special Chapter designated to Bats and Karstic Landscape Conservation. The book was approved as official teaching resource by the Ministry of Education and Science and distributed in more than 300 schools in Bulgaria.
- Guidelines for Bat Conservation and Protection in Bulgaria (1999) has been prepared by BRPG and distributed among the responsible governmental institutions.

European Bat Night:

BRPG has organized European Bat Nights in 1998 and 1999.

Czech Republic:

A) Activities targeted to professional and amateur bat researchers:

- ?? Journals: CBCT Bulletin, Vespertilio (international journal of chiropterology)
- ?? Yearly CBCT excursions and training sessions, including bat-training workshops (two bat-detector training workshops were held in 2000, organised by the Czech Bat Conservation Trust)
- ?? The book "Fauna of the Czech Republic - Mammals I and II" (summarizing the recent knowledge of all species of mammals recorded in the country, including bats) was prepared to be published in 2000

B) Activities targeted to the public:

- ?? European Bat Night - four sites in 1998 (Brno, Olomouc, Liberec, Mikulov), in 1999 (Brno, Liberec, Mikulov, Vlasim), in 2000 (Liberec, Brno, Mikulov, Znojmo) and in 2001 at a record number of 14 sites
- ?? Several articles have been published in various newspapers and magazines
- ?? Various brochures and posters on bats and their conservation and folding picture-books with bat photos have been released by both the Czech Bat Conservation Trust and the Czech Union of Nature Conservationists; new series of bat postcards were released by the Czech Union of Nature Conservationists
- ?? Exhibitions in museums, caves accessible to the public and other places (in 1999 a specialised exhibition on bats and their conservation was held in a castle close to Liberec)

Denmark:

- ?? Articles in magazines, newspapers, radio and television programmes
- ?? Free booklet (author: Has Baagoe) (10.000 ex.) about the biology of bats and how to handle bats in houses. Published by the Forest and Nature Agency, the Zoological Museum of Copenhagen and the Animal Welfare Society of Denmark
- ?? Balanced information about the bat-related rabies virus
- ?? Gamekeepers from the 25 State Forest Districts in Denmark are instructed to give advice on how bats inhabiting houses can be managed in the best way to avoid problems
- ?? The Zoological Museum is used as a consultant for advice in special cases
- ?? Some NGOs (Non-Government Organisations): organisation of bat-excursions to make the public aware of the bats and their problems

Finland:

- ?? Articles in magazines, newspapers, radio and television programmes
- ?? Excursions
- ?? Exhibitions in museums
- ?? Leaflet issued (during summer 2000?) by the Ministry of the Environment

France:

- ?? Educative leaflets about bats and bat protection in different regions of France
- ?? Post cards and posters
- ?? Excursions
- ?? Brochures - one general for the public and one with technical advice for people working in forests
- ?? Two websites about bats: www.museum-bourges.net and www.mnhn.fr/sfepm
- ?? Activities at many sites on the occasion of the European Bat Nights 1999 and 2000 with support of the French Ministry of the Environment

Germany:

Brochures, posters and other publications were drafted and distributed by nature conservation authorities, associations and committed individuals; furthermore, exhibitions were staged, lectures held, and guided tours organised. The following deserve particular mention:

- ?? Information and education events for local bat conservationists (Bavaria, Hesse, Lower Saxony Rhineland-Palatinate)
- ?? Publicity for the creation of bat roosts on buildings (Berlin and Thuringia)
- ?? Creation of a bat museum in the Märkische Schweiz nature park (Brandenburg)
- ?? Two full-day education seminars for around 100 employees of the forestry administration (Hesse)
- ?? Preparation of a "Practical bat conservation manual" to inform the general public and, in particular, authorities, associations and countryside groups, about the requirements, risks and opportunities for protection of these animals (North Rhine-Westphalia)
- ?? Information boards sited at important, public accessible bat roosts (Saarland)
- ?? Annual organisation of a "noctule bat camp" (Saxony-Anhalt)
- ?? Publication of a conference volume on "The situation of the Barbastelle bat in Europe" and preparation of a conference on "The situation of the Leisler's bat in Europe (Saxony-Anhalt)
- ?? A bat project to record and protect all roosts in the town of Neumünster with the involvement of the general public (Schleswig-Holstein)
- ?? Planning of a bat conservation centre on the Kalkberg mount at Bad Segeberg (Schleswig-Holstein)
- ?? Development of Internet versions of the public relations material and other information on bat conservation (Thuringia)
- ?? A conference by the *Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Fledermausschutz* <Federal Working Party on Bat Conservation> at NABU (10-12 September 1999) in Hesse
- ?? An international expert conference on the biology and conservation of endangered migratory species of Central European bat using the Nathusius' pipistrelle and the pond bat as examples (2-3 December 1998) at the Gut Sunder NABU Academy
- ?? Publication of a stamp by the German post office with the Greater horseshoe bat as its motif
- ?? Development of information leaflets, a teacher's folder and a rucksack for project work, as well as work instructions for architects outlining the contents and objectives of bat conservation, as part of the trial and development project "Creation of an interlinked system of roosts for building-dwelling bat species" by the Federal Office for Nature Conservation
- ?? A wide range of campaigns and events for the "European Bat Night" in 1998 and 1999 and a central closing event in both years in Berlin with the "European Bat Festival" at Spandau Citadel
- ?? In Hesse, the government ornithological station organised an evening-long programme in Frankfurt as part of the European Bat Night. Technical information about bats was linked to cultural and mythological components, particularly to J.W. Goethe.

Hungary

- ?? Publications:
 - Proceedings of the I. Conference on the Bat Conservation in Hungary, pp.69
 - Bell towers, owls, bats (colour leaflet, pp.12)
 - Bakos, Beáta - Molnar, Victor (1998): Bat protection activities for children. Budapest, pp. 23
 - Miklós Szatyor (2000): Európa denevérei (Bats of Europe). 142 pp. (book)

- ?? Information booklets
- ?? TV and radio programmes and newspaper articles
- ?? Lectures to pupils in primary and secondary schools and universities
- ?? Camps organised for bat ringing
- ?? Organisation of the Bat Night in several towns
- ?? II. Conference on the Bat Conservation in Hungary was organised in December 1999

Lithuania:

- ?? So far, the LSFBC (Lithuanian Society for Bat Conservation) has prepared 1 leaflet and 1 poster to increase awareness of bat issues.
- ?? Regular members of the LSFBC wrote several papers in environmental magazines.
- ?? Talks about bat conservation have been given in meetings of amateurs and in schools.
- ?? 1st Bat Detector Training Workshop held on 16 - 21 May 2001 in the village Plateliai
- ?? European Bat Night events in 2000 and 2001 in Vente Cape with attendance of the major national and commercial TV broadcasting companies.
- ?? Several appropriate measures to promote conservation of bats and several public awareness campaigns.

Luxembourg

- ?? Numerous conferences and bat detector excursions have been organised during the past years.
- ?? Important promotion activities were done in relation with the EU-Life programme: Trans-boundary Protection of Bats in Western Central Europe
- ?? A press conference was held on the occasion of the opening of the casemates (historic underground fortifications) in the city of Luxembourg
- ?? Leaflet "Trans-boundary bat protection" and a full colour information magazine (35 pp. In all) edited by "Science & Nature: Special bats" were published via the Life-programme. The magazine is available for free in French and German.
- ?? Luxembourg organized the 2nd, 3rd and 4th European Bat Night in the towns of Echternach (1998), Koerich (1999) and Wellenstein in the Moselle valley (2000).

Macedonia:

- ?? In 2000, the Environmental Information Centre (EIC) on the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning has promoted the awareness of the importance of bats with his activities.
- ?? EIC has focused on education of journalists from Eco-Press Centre in Republic of Macedonia (EPC/RM) for future co-operation in the conservation of bats.
- ?? In the office of NCA, "Naturopa" presented the actual situation of Biological Diversity conservation in the Republic of Macedonia, including conservation of bats and natural habitats.
- ?? Macedonian Bat Night 2000 on 5 June (World Day of Environment) was organised in many events by ecological sections of schools and NGOs. Also, the National Committee on Biological Diversity (NCBD) has organised on 29 Dezember 2000 a ceremony with support of the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning and the participation of scientific institutions and NGOs. The national focal point of the CMS, CBD and other international conventions and agreements has promoted EUROBATS' decision to organise the International Year of the Bat 2001.

Moldova:

- ?? For the period 1995 - 1998, Grupul FAUNA organised more than 50 workshops on the biodiversity importance including bats importance as well in the rural schools in the Northern and Central part of Moldova.
- ?? In 1998, the Bat Night was organised for the first time in Moldova, which brought together a lot of people, especially young generation, to take part in different activities. It ended with a big concert on the central square of Chisinau city.

Monaco:

- ?? Successful public requests for information on bat observations.
- ?? Young students took part in the localisation of species in the city and in a Conference of Mr. Joulot, member expert of the French UICN scientific Committee and expert for the Monaco national inventory.

Netherlands:

- ?? Exhibition "Bats, masters of the night" in the "Museum" Municipal Museum in The Hague
- ?? The Netherlands Bats Group of the Dutch-Belgian Mammal Society organised the European Bat Night 1998 and 1999
- ?? Leaflets:
 - "Vleermuizen in huis" ("Bats as guests") (1995)
 - "Vleermuizen in en om huis" ("Bats in and around the house")
 - "Vleermuizen in Overijssel" ("Bats in the province of Overijssel")
- ?? The Foundation for Building Research in Rotterdam has issued a manual for the application of nest and roost constructions in buildings for birds and bats respectively
- ?? The Landscape Management Foundation of Limburg has set up a network of volunteers and of local government officials involved in pest control to act as consultants in cases of bat colonies in houses and other buildings (including a training programme for the consultants)

Norway:

- ?? A number of newspaper articles, radio and television interviews relating to bat issues have appeared, and a 30 minutes programme was shown on national TV in March 2002, relating to *ia* the bat rescue centre.
- ?? Information leaflet on bats in Norway published by the Norwegian Zoological Society (NZF) with support from the Directorate for Nature Management
- ?? A number of workshops have been arranged by NZF in relation to the ongoing national mammal-atlas project, and information on the project has been widely distributed in naturalists magazines as well as in the media.
- ?? Leaflets produced by the Norwegian Chiroptera Information Centre (NFF): Bats in churches, general information on bats and their identification, how to handle bats in relation to houses and towards construction companies etc.
- ?? NIFF also publishes a national journal and a Fennoscandian journal, both aimed at the general public.
- ?? In co-operation with the Ministry of Agriculture and the NZF a new brochure on bats and forestry has been prepared for publication in 2002.

- ?? The web site of the Norwegian Zoological Society has been developed to focus on bats as one of its main topics (cf. www.zoologi.no/flmus). A second organisation, the Norwegian Information Centre for Bats (NIFF) also has a web site (cf. www.flaggermus.no).
- ?? A discussion forum for bat issues on Internet (Tragus) was established by the NZF in September 2001, drawing bat workers around the country closer together and offering a forum for exchange of ideas and news. By April 2002 Tragus has approximately 45 subscribers.
- ?? In 2001 the bat night was a nation-wide arrangement, with events in ca. 20 different places.
- ?? A national rescue centre for injured bats or bats in distress was established by NZF after permits had been issued by the Directorate and the National Veterinary Service.
- ?? Information on the rescue centre and on guidelines for handling of injured bats have been distributed by the Directorate to all public veterinarians and County Governors.
- ?? A telephone for bat-related questions and emergencies was established by NZF in 2001. During the first year ca. 100 inquiries were received.
- ?? It should also be mentioned that a number of bat detectors are now at hand in Norway, purchased by individuals as well as organisations. These are used during public events, and some may be made available for interested individuals when not applied for surveys. Hence, the technical capacity for bat surveys in Norway has been greatly enhanced in recent years.

Publications:

1. WINGAN, R. 2000. Langøreflaggermus i Snillfjord. *Trøndersk Natur* 27 (1): 23. (In Norwegian; reports on a new northerly locality for *Plecotus auritus* at 63°31' N).
2. ANON. 2000. Langøreflaggermus i Mære, Steinkjer. *Trøndersk Natur* 27 (1): 23. (In Norwegian; brief report on the northernmost known locality for *Plecotus auritus* in Norway at 63°56' N).
3. SYVERTSEN, P. O. 2001. The world's northernmost bats. Topic 2.1. in: *Eptesicus* 1, January 2001. (electronic newsletter on boreal bats released by the Estonian Bat Group).
4. ISAKSEN, K. 2001. Kartlegging av flaggermus i Nord-Hedmark. *Kunnskapsstatus 2000. Strix Miljøutredning, rapport 2/2001*. February 2001, 27 pp. (In Norwegian; results of bat surveys in northern parts of Hedmark county, SE Norway in 2000).
5. ODDANE, B. 2001. Nordflaggermus *Eptesicus nilsonii* på insektjakt langs Jærstrendene. *Fauna* 54(4): 121-123. (In Norwegian; The northern bat *Eptesicus nilsonii* hunting insects along the beaches in Southern Norway).
6. FRAFJORD, K. 2001. Flaggermus nord for polarsirkelen. *Fauna* 54 (4): 124-131. (In Norwegian with English summary; Distribution of the northern bat *Eptesicus nilsonii* above the Arctic Circle in Norway).

Poland:

Publications:

?? Journals:

- Acta Chiropterologica vol.1 no. 1 and 2
- Bulletin CIC
- "Mopek" bulletin of the All-Polish Society for Bat Conservation
- "Nietoperze" vol. 1 no. 1 (2000), Polish Society of Wildlife Friends "Pro Natura"

?? Annals:

- Studia Chiropterologica. Annals of the Chiropterological Information Center in Kraków. First volume 1: 1-142 (2000).

?? Publication in book form:

- Kowalski, M., Lesinski, G. (eds.): Poznajemy nietoperze. ABC wiedzy o nietoperzach ich badaniu i chronie. OTON, Warszawa, 1-140.
- Zagrodniuk, I., Postawa, T., Woloszyn, B.W. (1999): A field key for bats from the underground of Eastern Europe (in Ukrainian). Publication of the Chiropterological Information Center, Polish Academy of Sciences in Kraków.
- Woloszyn, B.W. and Cruz, M. (in press): VIIIth EBRS Looking back - a memory of the VIIIth EBRS in Kraków.
- Proceedings of the VIIIth EBRS (in preparation)

?? Other publication:

- Miss Minnie Cruz, Peace Corp Volunteer, prepared an interactive CD-rom in two versions: Polish and English

Actions:

- ?? Organisation of the VIIIth European Bat Research Symposium by the Chiropterological Information Centre, held from 23 to 27 August 1999.
- ?? Organisation of "The 4th European Bat Detector Workshop" by Polish Society of Wildlife Friends "Pro Natura" and Pieniny National Park, held from 27 to 30 August 1999.
- ?? Three nation-wide Chiropterological Conferences were organised:
 - 12th Krzyklina Mała (near Wrocław, Western Poland) on 14-15 November 1998. It was organized by Group on Bat Researches and Conservation PTPR "Pro Natura" (Wrocław).
 - 13th Blazejewko (near Poznań) on 5-7 November 1999. It was organized by Polish Society for Nature Conservation "Salamandra" (Poznań).
 - 14th Rogów (near Łódź) 10-12 Nov. 2000. It was organized by the Polish Zoological Society, Division Łódź and the University of Łódź.
- ?? Fifth and Sixth International Bat Nights were celebrated by Chiropterological Information Centre on 21 of September of 1999 and 2000.
- ?? Third International Symposium "Sacral Architecture in Animal Protection" was organized on 20 and 21 October in Kalwaria Paławska (near Przemyśl).
- ?? 2nd SCB (Second Seminar on the Carpathians Bats) was held on 6 and 7 December 2000 in Kraków, conducted by Chiropterological Information Center PAS in Kraków, Nature Conservation Committee Polish Academy of Sciences and Polish Copernicus Society of Natural History.
- ?? Several information in mass-media on bats and protection of bats.
- ?? Dissemination of information materials on significance of bats protection (posters, postcards, printing, leaflets, folders etc. were published)
- ?? Exhibition "Face to face with bats" was presented in April 2000 in Ministry of the Environment. The exhibition was organized by Chiropterological Information Center and Bureau of Education and Public Relations of the Ministry of the Environment.
- ?? Specialistic (monographic) lectures "Natural History of Bats" are delivered for students of Biology and Earth Sciences of the Jagiellonian University in Kraków. The course took place during the winter semester in 1999 and 2000.

Portugal:

- ?? Publication of a book on the bat fauna of nine protected areas (includes maps of known distribution of the species, an evaluation of the use of the most abundant types of habitats as bat feeding areas and also recommendations of management measures that benefit bats in those areas)
- ?? Republication of a leaflet about bats prepared some years ago by the "Instituto da conservação da Natureza"
- ?? Preparation of a report on the status of the conservation of bats in the country
- ?? Preparation of materials to be exposed in the World Exhibition EXPO98, including a poster about bat conservation
- ?? Support of several activities of bat awareness carried out by NGOs. "Associação dos Tempos Livres de Alfama" developed a project during 1999 called "Bat habitats in Portugal". The project was done in co-operation with several schools, and more than 600 students took part
- ?? Portuguese Bat Night 2000 was organised in two phases: (i) 5 June - A ceremony to close a project with schools organised by an NGO took place. (ii) 22 and 23 September - Several activities were organised in Lisbon's Castle.
- ?? A sticker with the International Year of the Bat-Logo prepared by the Secretariat is being produced, and will be circulated in ICN's mailing.
- ?? Several talks and ateliers about bat conservation were done in conferences and symposiums.
- ?? Two TV documentaries were produced.
- ?? Field trips with students from primary schools and universities were organised.

Romania:

- ?? A "Guide of Romanian Chiroptera" has been elaborated in 2000 by the "Grigore Antipa" National Museum of Natural History together with the Speleological Institute and with financial support of the Ministry of Waters, Forests and Environmental Protection. This book will be published in 2001.
- ?? The "Red Book of Romanian Vertebrates" (incl. bat species) has been elaborated by the "Grigore Antipa" National Museum of Natural History with the financial support of the Ministry of Waters, Forests and Environmental Protection and will also be published in 2001.
- ?? Two public lectures were held in the "Grigore Antipa" National Museum of Natural History (MNINGA) by Radulet Nastase and Dumitru Murariu.
- ?? In May 2002, the MNINGA will organise a temporary exhibition on the biology and behaviour of bats in co-operation with "Emil Racovita" Speleological Institute, Romanian Green Cross and the Group for Underwater and Speleological Exploration (GESS). About 15 pictures for the exhibition were kindly offered by the Chiropterological Information Center in Krakow, Poland.

Slovak Republic:

- ?? Publication of a lot of various articles in newspapers and magazines
- ?? Questionnaires on bats are given to the public (activities organised by the Slovak Public Caves Office among visitors)
- ?? Drawing competition "Stork and Bat" in schools (organised by SEO BAMBI - an Environmental Education Center - in co-operation with hungarian partners)
- ?? Discussions via Internet between slovakian bat workers

- ?? European Bat Night - in 1998 organised during the 2nd International Conference on Carpathian Bats in the Poloniny National Park, in 1999 organised in several sites, in 2000 organised in the Muránska Planina National Park
- ?? Slovak Public Caves Office published a colour book on bats
- ?? A slovak bat bibliography was published in 2000
- ?? Publication of several leaflets (e.g. bats in loft spaces), postcards and small material (e.g. stickers), supported by NGOs
- ?? SON ("Slovakian Group for Bat Protection") publishes the information newsletter "Trúlelek" (traditional slovakian bat name) for members with information on activities, on literature, stories etc.
- ?? SON and CBCT (Czech Bat Conservation Trust) publish a international journal of chiropterology called "Vespertilio"

Ukraine:

- ?? Preparation of a 'Guideline on Cave Bats' by Dr. I. Zagorodniuk - in 1998 as electronic edition, in 1999 as pre-print and now as a final edition. The final version was prepared together with colleagues from Polish "Centrum Informacji Chiropterologicznej" (CIC) Prof. B.W. Woloszyn and T. Postawa.
- ?? Every year, an agenda of the Theriological School (Annual meeting of the Ukrainian Theriological Society) includes a special session devoted bats and their protection, as well as the event "European Bat Night in Ukraine" that includes presentations of slides and photos, new editions, films, scientific findings, projects etc.
- ?? In 1999, the Rehabilitation Centre for Bats was organised in the Kyiv Zoo as a result of activists of the Ukrainian Centre for Bat Protection (for some information see: *Novitates Theriologicae No. 1, 2000*). 10 bats of 4 species were kept there in captivity during the year 2000. Special activity of the Centre was addressed to secondary schools located in Kyiv and a letter has been sent to all the teachers of biology and to the pupils encouraging to protect bats.
- ?? A competition of children's pictures devoted to bats was carried out during the 3rd International Conference on Carpathian Bats. The winners were awarded with the popular scientific books about the nature.
- ?? The information materials on significance of bat conservation, their role and importance are published in mass media on both national and local level.
- ?? Significant development of amateur chiropterological movement has taken place recently. It has been caused by several reasons: general increase of interest in bat researches, increase of accessibility of equipment for researches (detectors) - mainly thanks to the German contribution to the "Bat conservation expert training and data collection in Southeast Europe".
The two main groups of chiropterologists are:
 - Ukrainian Centre on Bat Protection
 - Bat Research and Protection Group

Publications in book form:

Only several books concerning bats have been published since 1998. The most important are as follows:

Pokynchereda V. 1997: A field key to bats of Ukraine. Rakhiv, 24 pp.

Zagorodniuk I. (ed.) 1998: European bat night'98. Kyiv, 198 pp.

Zagorodniuk I. 1999: A field key to bats hibernated in the caves of Ukraine. Intern. Solomon. Univ, Kyiv, 35 pp.

Zagrodniuk I. (ed.) 1999: Mammals of Ukraine, protected by the Bern Convention. Kyiv, 222 pp.

Zagrodniuk I., Postawa T., Woloszyn B. 1999: A field key to bats from the underground roosts of Eastern Europe. Publ. of the Chiropterological Information Center, Krakow-Kyiv, 34 pp.

It is prepared for publication:

Woloszyn B., Bashta A.-T. A field key to the bats of the Carpathians Mts.

United Kingdom:

- ?? Funds and support for publications and activities to make the public and institutions sympathetic to the conservation status of bats have been provided by a range of Government institutions including the DETR (Department of Environment, Transport and the Regions), the SNCOs (Statutory Nature Conservation Organisations) and the FC (Forestry Commission). In Gibraltar, action is currently funded directly by the Gibraltar Ornithological and natural History Society (GONHS) following initial financial support from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.
- ?? Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) continue to produce an advisory publication "The Design and Construction of Bat Boxes in Houses" and a technical report "Natural Heritage Interest of Road Verges and Bridges in Highland Region".
- ?? SNH has also revised and re-styled its booklet "Bats and People" ("Scottish Wildlife" series). In 2001, SNH continued to distribute, free of charge, its advisory booklet "Bats and People".
- ?? SNH also continued to provide grant-aid to local bat groups for the purchase of equipment and as a contribution towards travel costs for appointed voluntary bat workers when undertaking bat roost visits on behalf of SNH.
- ?? CCW (Countryside Council for Wales) published "Action for Wildlife" about biodiversity in Wales (in particular Greater horseshoes and Pipistrelles)
- ?? CCW grant-aided BCT to undertake awareness raising, training and bat group support in Wales in 1999, 2000 and 2001. CCW hosted the annual meeting of the Welsh Bat Groups and a meeting of bat trainers. CCW also hosted a Wildlife and Environmental Crime Conference.
- ?? A bat detector workshop was held in August at Plas Tan y Bwlch in North Wales by Gwynedd Bat Group and was grant-aided by CCW. The workshop aimed to identify whether barbastelle bats were present, although this was not confirmed. Through the newly launched Species Challenge Fund, CCW has grant-aided two bat related projects involving raising awareness – the Deeside Urban Wildlife Group who developed leaflets and a slide show for local community talks and Pembrokeshire Bat Group who prepared a bat talk for use by the Bat Group. (See section 12 for further details.)
- ?? In 1998, English Nature (EN) published "Managing Landscapes for the Greater horseshoe bat"
- ?? EN and bat group, Cumbria, prepared a Bats and Bridges Survey and the production of the Highway Agency Advice note "New Roads: Nature Conservation Management in Relation to Bats"
- ?? In the Isle of Man, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry ran a course for roofing contractors.
- ?? Forest Enterprise District staff presented 33 talks and organised 38 local bat walks for the public. Bats are also include within general wildlife walks and talks
- ?? JNCC (Joint Nature Conservation Committee) prepared the booklet "Habitat Management for Bats"
- ?? In 2001, the main provider of funds for the BCT's National Bat Monitoring Programme (NBMP) was the JNCC with additional funding from the People's Trust for Endangered Species. The Environment Agency (EA) also agreed to provide funding to purchase new broadband ultrasonic detectors for use

by NBMP volunteer surveyors and to carry out an analysis of waterway factors, identified on the River Habitat Survey (RHS), affecting Daubenton's bat abundance.

- ?? JNCC produced and distributed a publication entitled 'Habitat Management for Bats'. The publication is intended to provide advice for landowners and farmers on how to manage their land to benefit bats. Copies have been sent to all EUROBATs countries, not just those that are Parties to the Agreement.
- ?? The Manx Bat Group continued to provide advice to the public, attend agricultural shows and give talks and bat walks. The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry have an officer advising on statutory protection. The BCT leaflet 'Treatment of Bat Casualties' has been sent to all of the veterinarians on the island.
- ?? English Heritage's guidance note "Bats in Churches"
- ?? The Arboricultural Association's guidance note "Bats and Trees"
- ?? VWT (Vincent Wildlife Trust) is preparing a new leaflet on the Barbastelle bat
- ?? EN provided funding to the BCT with the aim of helping to support local bat groups and continuing work to promote awareness of bats
- ?? In 2000, Forest Enterprise conducted at least 53 walks, 9 talks and 8 bat days/visits, promoting bat conservation. 36 or more bat hibernation sites are known to be present on Forest Enterprise-owned land.
- ?? In June a group of experienced Scottish bat workers ran a bat work training weekend at Kindrogan Field Centre, with assistance from the BCT and grant support from SNH, to train and update 30 professional and volunteer bat workers.
- ?? SNH continued to provide grant aid to local bat groups for the purchase of equipment and to contribute towards travel costs for appointed voluntary bat workers when undertaking bat roost visits at SNH's request. An annual SNH grant was also paid to the BCT to support their work. Discussions with the Trust are ongoing with respect to future funding arrangements.
- ?? CCW grant-aided the Millennium Welsh Bat Conference at Plas Tan y Bwlch, in addition to supplying speakers. CCW continued to support the work of BCT in Wales.
- ?? The Department of the Environment in Northern Ireland continued to provide grant-aid to the Northern Ireland Bat Group, and fund an advisor post at the Ulster Museum who spends 75% of their time dealing with bat issues.
- ?? Press releases, television interviews and educational activities with school children took place at the Gibraltar Ornithological & Natural History Society (GONHS) Conservation Park in the Botanic Gardens. Here some captive Egyptian Fruit bats provided by Jerez Zoo were used to show visitors that bats are not the creatures that horror movies portray them as.
- ?? A one-day training course was held for Countryside Stewardship Project Officers at Bristol on 'Bats and their habitat requirements' (FRCA/ English Nature, 2000).
- ?? A meeting took place between Project Officers in Bristol to discuss management prescriptions for bats (FRCA/EN, 2001).

Initiatives by the Bat Conservation Trust (BCT):

- ?? BCT's helpline continues to deal with over 6,000 enquiries about bats from members of the public (particularly roost owners) and professionals and provides educational resources to bat groups. Their website, which can be found at www.bats.org.uk is regularly updated, providing information about bats and their conservation.

- ?? BCT has contributed on bats to a national review of the importance of dung to wildlife and the potential impact of endectocides
- ?? BCT organised training courses for industry
- ?? BCT has also produced a "bat house" model for use at professional tradefairs and a bat poster for the building industry
- ?? The BCT ran a National Bat Week in May 1998, including a press launch with Michael Meacher (Minister of the Environment), events, widespread publicity (nationally and locally on TV, radio, and in newspapers and magazines), an information pack about activities to raise awareness of bats, and production of a national poster of British bats. Over 1 500 people took part in 'batty' games and activities at a 'Bats are Brilliant' day at London Zoo.
Local bat groups organised bat walks, talks and other events throughout the UK. The BCT ran series of beginners' courses (with funding from Esmee Fairbairn Trust), and maintains and improves its 'resource centre'.
- ?? European Bat Week 2000 was held from 26th August until 3^d September 2000. A number of events were held across the country, which included: the Welsh Bat Bonanza run by Radio Wales in conjunction with BCT (this involved walks, talks and bat box making workshops); the Old Moor Wetland Centre's Batty Arts & Crafts; and the UK Bat Conference in Belfast. In addition, BCT staff were interviewed by a number of radio stations.
- ?? BCT supported European Bat Night 1998 with an event in Battersea park attended by about 200 members of the public.
- ?? In 1999, BCT and local bat groups provided a programme of 32 local events for European Bat Night
- ?? The BCT completed a bat exhibition at Woodchester Mansion which provides the unique opportunity for the public to view some of the UK's rarest bats
- ?? The BCT produced and distributed a new "Bats in Trees" leaflet aimed at people working with trees. In addition, a bats and trees display was produced which was exhibited at various events during the year 2000 including the Games Fair, County Shows and training courses for those working with trees.
- ?? In August 2000 BCT conducted a 2-day course to train 30 new licensed bat workers on behalf of EN's North Thames and Chiltern Region. BCT and EN jointly ran a 2day training course for new bat worker trainers in September and ran a bats and trees course for tree wardens for the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers in London in December.
- ?? In September 2000 the BCT conducted a two-day course entitled "An Introduction to Bats and Bat Surveys" for ecological consultants and other environmental professionals. This included bat biology and behaviour, legislation, when a survey is required, survey planning and methods, impact assessment, mitigation and monitoring and recognising when to bring in more experienced bat workers. A pilot accreditation scheme was also tested. The BCT continues to develop this and other aspects of the course.
- ?? The BCT's newsletter, Bat News, was shortlisted for the BBC Wildlife Magazine's award for the Best Environmental Newsletter.
- ?? BCT launched a campaign in 2000 to improve law enforcement. BCT staff addressed the Police Wildlife Liaison Officer (PWLO) National Conference in Bristol in October calling for a clamp down on those who break the laws protecting bats and outlining ways in which BCT, and the network of voluntary bat workers, can help the police to do this e.g. by gathering evidence and providing expert

advice. "Bats and the Law", a booklet produced by BCT and RSPB, was distributed to all PWLOs at this event and made freely available at several others. BCT has made forms available to bat groups to report suspected offences and, with help from the RSPB, has set up the first UK database of crimes against bats to monitor levels of suspected offences and prosecutions.

- ?? The BCT Bat Group Forum meeting, which aims to facilitate communication between the bat groups, the BCT and the Statutory Nature Conservation Organizations is composed of BCT regional representatives, representatives from EN, CCW, SNH and DoE NI, BCT staff and relevant Trustees, representatives from other wildlife organizations, such as the Mammal Society and Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), met three times in 2001 in January, May and September.
- ?? With funding from DEFRA, BCT coordinated International Year of the Bat in the UK - a programme of events across the UK in August/September 2001 to publicise bats and their conservation. BCT launched the week with an event at the Wetland Centre in London with celebrity support and attended by DEFRA and Andreas Streit from the EUROBATs Secretariat. In total, BCT publicised 33 International Bat Week events held across in the UK, Eire and the Channel Islands; of these, 7 were held in Scotland, 1 in Wales, 1 in Eire, 2 in the Channel Isles, and 22 in England. Of the 33 events, 16 were bat walks, 12 were bat walks and talks, 3 were children's bat workshops, and 2 were Family Fun sessions.
- ?? International Bat Week was mentioned in UK national newspapers, on television and radio programmes, as well as 35 articles in local newspapers across the UK.
- ?? BCT had an exhibition stand at the 3-day British Bird Watching Fair. Over 3000 people passed through the BCT stand, which focussed on profile raising and membership recruitment. Display board funded by DEFRA was produced in 2001 and used at this event, Bat Week events and others.
- ?? BCT organised the Scottish Bat Day for 17 March 2001 but was postponed at the last minute due to Foot and Mouth Disease (65 delegates booked in, 10 more showed interest at last minute, 16 speakers/workshop leaders arranged). It was rearranged and held on 24th November 2001, and was a very successful event. BCT assisted Scottish Wildlife Trust with a 'Wildlife Watch' summer bat survey and ran an Introduction to Bats Course in November 2001 in Aberdeenshire, and a Refresher Course for Licensed Bat Workers in July 2001 in Ayrshire. A Bat Detector Weekend, in June 2001 in Pembrokeshire, included a BCT NBMP training workshop.
- ?? In September 2001 BCT conducted a 2-day course to train 30 roost visitors on behalf of English Nature (Norfolk).
- ?? Following a pilot two-day course in 2000 and further extensive development, BCT conducted four, three-day courses, on 'Bats and Bat Surveys for Environmental Professionals' in 2001. This included tuition on survey and reporting methods, bat biology and behaviour, legislation and policy, mitigation measures, case studies, an update on recent developments in licensing procedures and their implications for consultants, an opportunity to discuss ideas with other consultants, guidance on how to recognise when to involve a more experienced bat worker in a case. Participants were issued with certificates of attendance.
- ?? Work began on a new leaflet, Bats, Development and Planning, for circulation to all planning offices in England and to be given out freely to developers in their area.
- ?? Other leaflets in the BCT professional support series have been updated in particular, Bats & Trees in England, Bats in Buildings. BCT published a new "World of Bats" slide pack in September 2001 with slides of bats throughout the world and commentary notes.

?? BCT worked closely with Sussex bat group to publicise the exciting find of a mouse-eared bat in January 2001. BCT issued a press release on the finding in January 2001 which led to coverage in two national newspapers, national television and national radio, as well as local media.

?? BCT attended Pest Tech November 2001 to promote bat conservation to the pest control industry.

Examples of leaflets and booklets:

?? Greater Horseshoe Bat Project, November 2000 – 2001, Abbott, S. & Powne, J., Unpublished report to English Nature

?? Greater Horseshoe Bat Project: Annual Report 2000-2001, Diamond, J., Unpublished Report to English Nature

?? Outbreeding increases offspring survival in wild greater horseshoe bats (*Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*), Rossiter, S.J., Jones, G., Ransome, R.D., & Barratt, E.M., *Proceedings of the Royal Society, London*, 268B: 1055-1061

?? World of Bats slide pack, BCT, September 2001

?? Bats and trees in England, BCT, Updated edition to take account of CROW

?? Bats and buildings, BCT, Updated edition to take account of CROW

?? Bats and the law – what to do when the law is broken, BCT, Updated edition to take account of CROW

?? The BCT's teachers pack, BCT, ongoing publication.

?? The effects of torchlight on foraging Daubenton's bats in Surrey, MSc thesis, University College, London (2001).

?? The use of landscape elements by bats in N. E. Scotland, PhD Thesis, The University of Aberdeen, (2001).

Non-Party Range States

Armenia:

?? Use of TV and radio to fight the superstitious attitude to bats with the hope to protect them and their shelters

?? The book "The mammals of Armenia" (incl. bats) will be published

Azerbaijan:

No special public-awareness initiatives are mentioned, only some publications (that seem to be more of scientific interest):

?? Ed. D. Hadjiev & I. Rakhmatulina (2000): *Animal World of Azerbaijan - Vertebrates*. Baku, Elm: 654 pp (in Russian)

?? The monography "Bats of the Eastern Transcaucasia (Fauna, Ecology, Zoogeography)" is prepared for the english edition

?? Rakhmatulina, I. (2000): Sex ratios in bat population of the Eastern Transcaucasia. *Plecotus et al.* N3 (in Russian with English summary)

?? Rakhmatulina, I.K. (2001): Altitudinal distribution of bats in the Eastern Transcaucasia. *Plecotus et al.*: 41-50 (in Russian, English abstract).

?? Rakhmatulina, I. & N. Hasanov (2001): Our winged friends. *J. "Ecologica"*, N1 (in Azerbaijan).

?? Publication of several articles in various newspapers and symposiums

Belarus:

No initiatives are mentioned.

Belgium (Wallonie):

- ?? Exhibition about bats at the Royal Institute of Natural Sciences of Belgium (in the framework of the transborder LIFE European project for bats protection)
- ?? Realisation of a film titled "Les demoiselles de la nuit" in collaboration with the Belgian TV to allow a better view to the public on the world of the bats
- ?? The 4th European Bat Night was organised on 26 August 2000 in 21 different places; the 5th European Bat Night took place on 25 August 2001 in 25 different places.
- ?? Different actions are being prepared for the International Year of the Bat (a poster is already printed)

Lithuania:

- ?? Public Bat Night in Tartu on 22 June 2000 (M. Masing)
- ?? Connected with the "International Year of the Bat 2001", the First Baltic Bat Detector Workshop and the increasing activities of bat-workers in Estonia (because of the start of regular financial support to the local bat projects since 2000) many bat-related events were carried out by the Estonian Bat Group in 2001.
- ?? Public Bat–Day in Tartu, 20 June 2001 (guided by Lauri Lutsar & Matti Masing).
- ?? Bat-Night at Kirna near Puurmani. Learning echolocation calls of *Vespertilio murinus* at Pedja River, 21 June 2001 (guided by Lauri Lutsar, for the members of Estonian Bat Group; Lauri Lutsar, Matti Masing, Eve Roos & Maili Palubinskas).
- ?? Bat-Night at Vissi near Peedu, 22 June 2001 (guided by Talis Markovskis & Matti Masing, for the members of Estonian Bat Group; Lauri Lutsar, Matti Masing & Eve Roos).
- ?? Public Bat–Day in Pärnu, 12 July 2001 (guided by Matti Masing; Matti Masing, Eve Roos & Merike Palginõmm).
- ?? Bat-Night around Omedu and Alatskivi, 17 July 2001 (guided by Mrs. Vaarma & Matti Masing, for the members of Estonian Bat Group; Lauri Lutsar, Matti Masing, Eve Roos & Mikk Vaarma).
- ?? Public event "Nightlife in Suuremõisa park" (Hiiumaa), 23 August 2001 (guided by Matti Masing).
- ?? Bats in Radio and on TV in Estonia in 2001:
 - 20 June 2001: Information about Public Bat–Day in Tartu (Radio Tartu).
 - 12 July 2001: Information about Public Bat–Day in Pärnu (Radio Kuku).
 - 21 October 2001: A short film about bat sites at Aruküla and Piusa (Estonian TV).
 - December 2001: information about the Estonian bat conference (Vikerraadio).
- ?? Publications:

Due to the immense amount of manuscripts and other publications it is not possible to list them all here. For further information see National Implementation Report of Estonia (Inf.EUROBATS.AC7.19) and electronic newsletter on bats "Eptesicus" (www.hot.ee/sicista/eptesicus).

Georgia:

- ?? Private conversations
- ?? Lectures to school children and students

- ?? One popular-science article has been published by A. Bukhnikashvili, dedicating to conservation of small mammals and in particular bats. In: WWF-Georgia magazine "Garemo da Ganvitareba" (Environment and Development) N'2, p. 11-15.
- ?? Posters "European bat Night", received from Germany, distributed among governmental Nature Protecting bodies, NGOs, in University.
- ?? Small groups of bat experts and amateurs of wild nature participated in collective observation on bats in frame of European Bat Night in Tbilisi and Rustavi, at the end of September 2000.
- ?? In the brochure "Field-guide of terrestrial vertebrates' of Borjom-Kharagauli National Park" are described 13 species' of bats. This brochure is in preparation in WWF-Georgia office with a support of German Government.
- ?? Preparation for printing 7 leaflets granted by Belgium and Germany has begun.

Russian Federation:

- ?? A TV talk about bats dwelling inside the country houses was carried out by TNT Channel in summer 2000. A number of crucial problems regarding monitoring and conservation of synanthropic bat species had been discussed.
- ?? A special exhibition, dedicated to the international Year of the Bat (YB), was made in the Zoological Museum of Moscow State University.
- ?? Posters dedicated to the YB and the European Bat Night (received from the Advisory Committee / the EUROBATS Secretariat) were distributed among a number of institutions, organisations and private bat workers.
- ?? The Russian Bat Research Group website is back online and is available at the address <http://zmmu.msu.ru/bats>.

Publications:

- ?? The third issue of the Russian bat journal "Plecotus et al." was published in February 2001, the fourth issue in February 2002 (incl. bibliography).
- ?? Red Data book of Russian Federation. 2000. Moscow. Astrel, 872 p.
- ?? Proceedings of the National Conference "Ecology and Protection of Caves", 2002. Published by The Russian Union of Speleologists. Contains rules of conduct in the caves inhabited by bats.

Slovenia:

The European Bat Night was conducted for the first time in 1999 by the NGO.

Yugoslavia:

Most of the activities to promote the awareness of the importance of the conservation of bats in Yugoslavia have been carried out by the Wildlife Conservation Society MUSTELA and Natural History Museum, Belgrade.

Publicity materials published:

- ?? leaflet: The Bats. What we know about them, MUSTELA 2001.
- ?? postcard: Portrait of *Rhinolophus blasii*, MUSTELA 2001.
- ?? articles in newspapers and journals.

Education:

- ?? In the frame of educational activities, WCS MUSTELA and Natural History Museum, both from Belgrade, Serbia, in last 10 years have provided more than 100 lectures, slide presentations and

performances of popularisation of bats in all levels of schooling, from kindergarten through elementary, middle and high schools to university level.

?? Manifestations of European Bat Night and International Year of Bat: Natural History Museum and WCS MUSTELA, both from Belgrade, Serbia, have been organising European Bat Night on 25 August 2001 for the first time in Yugoslavia. The performance included appropriate lectures, slide shows and interaction with audience. More than 150 persons of all ages were present, including two reporting teams from TV stations, as well as several newspaper journalists. The EBN manifestation was announced in daily newspapers, and after it was commenced the lecturers gave several interviews for newspapers and magazines.