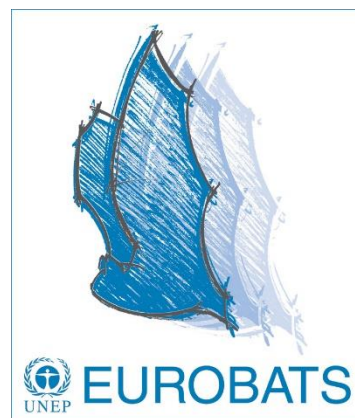


25th Meeting of the Advisory Committee

Videoconference 30 April 2021

Report of the ad hoc Working Group to review the methodology of assessing the conservation status of bat species in the Article 17 reports



The group met online on 31st March 2021, 10:00-11:30 AM (CET).

The group decided to define the Group's Terms of Reference. After a short discussion, agreement was accomplished.

In accordance with Target 4 of the EU Bat Action plan (Issue: Lack of capacity or common approach to assess bats population trends and defining conservation status; Target: Capacity building sufficiently developed with common approaches to assess population trends and bat's conservation statutes), this group plans to:

1. analyse current practice based on data publicly available on the EEA platform from 2013-2018 period Article 17 Reporting (2020 dataset),
2. give examples of good practice,
3. make recommendations to improve practice regarding bats,
4. propose capacity building to improve evaluation of conservation status,
5. explore possibility to make it more official - through EUROBATS as an observer in the Expert Group of Reporting under Nature Directives.

In the meantime, make comments through members of the Expert group of each country.

It was also suggested that the group may use outcomes from the IWG on Monitoring and Indicators regarding current practice across EUROBATS agreement based on questionnaire that was already circulated by CLIMBATS COST Action WG2 to EUROBATS experts.

Links:

Conservation status Article 17 of the EU Habitat Directive reporting period 2013-2018: dataset: <https://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/data/article-17-database-habitats-directive-92-43-ee-2/article-17-2020-dataset>

EU Action plan for the conservation of all bat species in the European Union (2018-2024):
https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/conservation/species/action_plans/index_en.htm

CLIMBATS- COST Action: <https://climbats.eu/>