

14th Meeting of the Standing Committee
23rd Meeting of the Advisory Committee

Tallinn, Estonia, 14 – 17 May 2018

Report of the Intersessional ad-hoc Working Group on Bats
and Climate Change



Convenors: Daniela Hamidović and Hugo Rebelo

The ad-hoc working group was established during 22nd Advisory Committee Meeting in Belgrade, Serbia, 2017 based on evidence collected during preparation of the article for the IUCN SSC Bat Specialist Group Newsletter dedicated to the effect of climate change on bats. Most evidence from Europe was presented to the EUROBATS auditorium by Rebelo *et al.* 2017: “Bats, climate change and challenges for conservation” https://www.iucnbsg.org/uploads/6/5/0/9/6509077/bsg_newsletter_vol3_2017.pdf). It was decided to prepare the resolution for the next MoP in order for the group to continue its work.

The conveners met during the European Bat Research Symposium 2017, Baskia, San Sebastian to discuss on the possible work-frame of the group. There were a number of presentations dealing with bats and climate change impacts or mitigation (http://www.ebrs2017.eus/EBRS2017_AbstractBook.pdf). Evidence on the impact of the climate change on bats continues to accumulate with the most recent example being the recording of bat pups in Portugal early in January/February 2018 in one cave where bats did not hibernate (<http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-43812484>). Gather data indicates so far that bats may suffer from climate change at different levels, from large-scale range shifts of phenology changes to local changes in populations’ life cycle. It is still unclear the magnitude and direction of potential impacts though climate change will affect populations at large geographical scales.

The resolution is drafted by convenors and Orly Razgour, in line with other EUROBATS Resolutions and the last UNEP/CMS Resolution 12.21 Climate change and migratory species

(https://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/document/cms_cop12_res.12.21_climate-change_e.pdf).