

EUROBATS National Implementation Report

In the Resolution 7.4, the 7th Meeting of Parties to EUROBATS decided to adopt a new format for the National Implementation Reports and instructed the Secretariat to make this new format available for online completion in time for MoP8.

Present format of national reports was carefully revised by the relevant Intersessional Working Group during the 20th Meeting of the Advisory Committee (2015) in order to include the Resolutions of MoP7 and is now available on the CMS Family Online Reporting System (ORS).

Please visit the Support Centre page in case of any questions regarding the Online Reporting System. The link is available in the bottom left corner.

A. General Information

Name of your country

> Georgia

Period covered by this report

> 2014-2018

Is your country a party to EUROBATS Agreement?

Yes

Competent authority

Title, address, phone, fax, e-mail and other contact details

> Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia

Personal details of administrative focal point (s)

> Irine Lomashvili, Chief Specialist of the Department of Biodiversity and Forestry of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia

Please give details of designated scientific focal points

> Ioseb Natradze

Filed Researchers` Union - CAMPESTER, Institute of Zoology of Ilia State University

Compilers and contributors to this report

> Field Researchers Union CAMPESTER

Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia

B. Status of bat species within the territory

Please assess a national status ONLY for those bat species from the Annex 1 to EUROBATS Agreement that were recorded in your country

Rhinolophus blasii Peters, 1866

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

General comments

Comments

Add specific comments, if required

> Restricted Distribution

Overall national trend

Not studied

Has the status been reported under the Article 17 of the Habitat Directive or for the Emerald network (non-EU countries)?

No

Rhinolophus euryale Blasius, 1853

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Stable

Status in the National Red List (when it exists)

VU, Vulnerable

Year of assessment

> 2006

Has the status been reported under the Article 17 of the Habitat Directive or for the Emerald network (non-EU countries)?

No

Rhinolophus ferrumequinum (Schreber, 1774)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

General comments

Comments

Add specific comments, if required

> Wide spread

Overall national trend

Stable

Has the status been reported under the Article 17 of the Habitat Directive or for the Emerald network (non-EU countries)?

No

Rhinolophus hipposideros (Bechstein, 1800)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Stable

Has the status been reported under the Article 17 of the Habitat Directive or for the Emerald network (non-EU countries)?

No

Rhinolophus mehelyi Matschie, 1901

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

General comments

Comments

Add specific comments, if required

> Very Rare

Overall national trend

Not studied

Status in the National Red List (when it exists)

VU, Vulnerable

Year of assessment

> 2006

Has the status been reported under the Article 17 of the Habitat Directive or for the Emerald network (non-EU countries)?

No

Barbastella barbastellus (Schreber, 1774)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Stable

Status in the National Red List (when it exists)

VU, Vulnerable

Year of assessment

> 2006

Has the status been reported under the Article 17 of the Habitat Directive or for the Emerald network (non-EU countries)?

No

Eptesicus nilssonii (Keyserling & Blasius, 1839)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Not studied

Eptesicus serotinus (Schreber, 1774)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Stable

Hypsugo savii (Bonaparte, 1837)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Not studied

Myotis alcathoe von Helversen & Heller, 2001

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Not studied

Myotis aurascens Kuzyakin, 1935

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Not studied

Myotis bechsteinii (Kuhl, 1817)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Not studied

Status in the National Red List (when it exists)

VU, Vulnerable

Year of assessment

> 2006

Has the status been reported under the Article 17 of the Habitat Directive or for the Emerald network (non-EU countries)?

No

Myotis blythii (Tomes, 1857)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Stable

Myotis brandtii (Eversmann, 1845)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Not studied

Myotis daubentonii (Kuhl, 1817)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Not studied

Myotis emarginatus (Geoffroy, 1806)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Not studied

Myotis mystacinus (Kuhl, 1817)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Not studied

Myotis nattereri (Kuhl, 1817)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Not studied

Nyctalus lasiopterus (Schreber, 1780)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Not studied

Nyctalus leisleri (Kuhl, 1817)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Not studied

Nyctalus noctula (Schreber, 1774)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Not studied

Pipistrellus kuhlii (Kuhl, 1817)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Stable

Pipistrellus nathusii (Keyserling & Blasius, 1839)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Not studied

Pipistrellus pipistrellus (Schreber, 1774)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Stable

Pipistrellus pygmaeus (Leach, 1825)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Stable

Plecotus auritus (Linnaeus, 1758)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Stable

Plecotus macrobullaris Kuzyakin, 1965

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Not studied

Vespertilio murinus Linnaeus, 1758

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Not studied

Miniopterus schreibersii (Kuhl, 1817)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Not studied

Tadarida teniotis (Rafinesque, 1814)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Not studied

C. Measures taken to implement Article III of the Agreement

Does the national legislation protect all bat species?

Yes

Please, give details of the legislation which is protecting bats

> Bats are protected by the National Legislation of Georgia. Two laws can be highlighted in this regard - (i) the Law on Wildlife and (ii) the Law on the Red List and Red Book. A new Law on Biodiversity is being developed, which will replace the existing Law on Wildlife.

Which species are not protected and why?

> N/A

1. Guidelines for the issue of permits for the capture and study of captured wild bats

Does the system of permits or licenses for the capture of bats exist in your country?

Yes

Comments (optional)

> It is required to apply to the Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture to get a letter of permission for capture of bats. There is no official permit or license system in force.

System of permits or licences to keep bats for educational or animal welfare purposes

Doesn't exist

System of permits or licences for sampling, ringing, killing of bats for scientific studies

Exists

Comments (optional)

> It is required to apply to the Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture to get a permission for these activities.

2. Identified and protected sites which are important to the conservation of bats

Click "expand" to see the questions!

Resolution 5.7. Guidelines for the protection of overground roosts, with particular reference to roosts in buildings of cultural heritage importance

2.4. List of national important overground roosts (including legal/physical protection status)

Doesn't exist

Comments

> N/A

2.5. National guidelines for custodians of historical buildings on the protection of bat roosts have been developed

No

Comments

> N/A

2.6. Summary report on interactions between the relevant cultural and natural heritage agencies (attach a file or provide a description)

> N/A

Comments

> N/A

Other activities carried out under this resolution (optional)

> N/A

Resolution 7.6. Guidelines for the protection and management of important underground habitats for bats

Updated counts of bats at each listed site are submitted to the Secretariat

Yes

2.1. List of important underground sites

2.1. List of important underground sites for bats and measures of their protection (including Natura 2000, Emerald or other status) was submitted to EUROBATS

Yes

When the latest update was submitted?

> 2014

Comments

> Georgia is being defined sites to be included in Emerald Network, and according to the Resolution 6 of Bern Convention, species listed in this Resolution will be provided with special protection, including their habitats. These requirements will be reflected in national legislation.

2.2. Management of important underground sites for bats is in accordance with EUROBATS Publication n°2

Yes

2.3. Other relevant activities for the protection of underground habitats

> N/A

3.Consideration given to habitats which are important to bats

Click "expand" to see the questions!

Resolution 7.7. Bat conservation and sustainable forest management

National guidance has been developed based on the principles in the EUROBATS Bats and Forestry leaflet

No

Examples of best practice for forest management are submitted to the Secretariat

No

If no, provide explanations or give links to available examples

> N/A

Research in forest management that is sustainable for bats (attach file or provide links)

> N/A

Other activities carried out under this resolution (optional)

> N/A

Resolution 7.8. Conservation and management of critical feeding areas, core areas around colonies and commuting routes

Awareness of the importance of critical feeding areas, core areas around known colonies and commuting routes for bats exists

Yes

Give details of activities devoted to raising awareness

> While fieldworks and research, we do some activities to raise awareness of local communities.

Measures to take bats into account in land use and planning decisions

Yes

Measures, if yes

Describe these measures, please

> These measures are part of Environmental Impact Assessments of infrastructural projects. All EIAs, if the developments concern bats, contain compensatory measures, such as, for instance, installation of artificial wooden cages.

Research and monitoring to improve understanding of the use of landscape by bats are ongoing

Yes

research, if yes

Please, specify or give referencies to studies

> Results of all fieldworks and research are processed in a way to help understanding of the use of landscape by bats.

National guidelines, drawing on the general guidance published in EUROBATS Publication have been developed

No

Other activities carried out under this resolution (optional)

> N/A

4. Activities to promote the awareness of the importance of conservation of bats

Click "expand" to see the questions!

4.1. International Bat Night. Give details for each year: number of events and number of people participated

> N/A

4.2. Details of other important activities which are worth to mention (educational centres, etc.)

> There are some activities when bats-component is part of general environmental awareness raising measures, such as interviews, TV-shows, meetings etc.

4.3. Information on training and awareness raising for forest managers and workers, farmers, road workers, stakeholders involved in insulation of buildings, etc.

> Not planned strategic approach does exist, however while having research in protected areas, some staff members of PAs are involved in fieldworks.

Resolution 4.11. Recognising the important role of NGOs in bat conservation

4.4. Details of NGOs participating in /contributing to bat protection and most valuable activities that have the potential to substantially improve transboundary cooperation and mutual assistance

> NGO Field Researchers` Union - CAMPESTER has been actively working on bats for many years. This organization significantly contributes to bat conservation in Georgia and it has a potential to improve transboundary cooperation and assistance.

5. Additional actions undertaken to safeguard populations of bats

Click "expand" to see the questions!

Resolution 2.2. Consistent monitoring methodologies

5.1. Implementation of EUROBATS guidelines published in EUROBATS Publication n°5 to ensure consistency and information exchange between Parties and Range States

Yes

Please give details

> Guidelines for Surveillance and Monitoring of European Bats are implemented. Requirements of guidelines are applied and considered during bats research.

Resolution 5.4. Monitoring bats across Europe

5.11. Involvement in a long-term pan-European surveillance to provide trend data

No

Awareness-raising of the importance of underground sites

Yes

Collaboration and information exchange with other Parties and range states on surveillance and monitoring activities

Yes

Please provide details

> Information and data are exchanged as required and needed upon request.

5.14. Monitoring bats in accordance with EUROBATS Publication n°5

Yes

5.15. Capacity building of bat workers and surveyors to support the undertaking of bat surveillance projects

Doesn't exist

Other activities under Resolution 5.4.

> N/A

Resolution 6.6. Guidelines for the prevention, detection and control of lethal fungal infections in bats

5.17. Surveillance for the presence of fungal infections

No

Resolution 6.13. Bats as indicators for biodiversity

5.19. Does your country support a development of national, regional and pan-European biodiversity indicators for appropriate target audiences, using bat data

Yes

Please provide details

> This is ongoing process led and facilitated by the Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture. Also, there are ongoing projects supporting development of biodiversity indicators systems; e.g. ongoing project on "Harmonization of information management for improved knowledge and monitoring of the global environment in Georgia" (GEF/UNDP).

5.20. Bat data is incorporated within high profile national multi-taxa indicators

No

5.22. Cooperation platforms that facilitate the required data exchange

Don't exist

Other activities carried out under this resolution (optional)

> N/A

Comments (optional)

> N/A

Resolution 7.5. Wind turbines and bat populations

5.2. Raising awareness on the impact of turbines on bats and the existence of some unsuitable habitats or sites for construction

Yes

If yes, how?

> While working on Environmental Impact Assessments.

5.3. Pre-construction impact assessments, if possible, undertaken by suitably experienced bat experts

Yes

Please, give details

> This is a part of Environmental Impact Assessment, which is the legally required procedure before issuing the permission for the construction.

5.4. National guidelines were developed following Eurobats Pub. No. 6

No

National guidelines are implemented

No

5.5. Investigations and research for mitigating bat mortality have been undertaken

No

5.6. Additional information on research on the impact of wind turbines on bat populations

List new references, attach reports or articles

> There is no national guidelines following Eurobats Pub. No.6, however itself this publication is required to be used as the main guidance.

5.7. Post-construction monitoring, if possible, is undertaken by suitably experienced bat experts

If yes, give details

No

5.8. Raw data from environmental impact assessment and post-construction monitoring is available for independent scientific analysis

No

5.9. Blade feathering, higher cut-in wind speeds and shutting down turbines are used to reduce or avoid bat mortality

No

Other activities carried out under Resolution 7.5 (optional)

> N/A

Comments (optional)

> We do not have much experience in developing wind turbines in Georgia, just taking first steps and because of this reason, in many cases above our answer is - "No".

Resolution 7.9. Impact of roads and other traffic infrastructures on bats

5.23. Bats are taken into account during the planning, construction and operation of roads and other infrastructure projects

Yes

Please give details or attach a file with description

> This is part of the legally required Environmental Impact Assessment.

5.24 Pre-construction strategic and environmental impacts assessment procedures are mandatory

Are mandatory

5.25. Post-construction monitoring

Required occasionally

5.26. Raw data from environmental impact assessment and post-construction monitoring is available for independent scientific analysis

Yes

Please list references and attach reports and articles

> List is not available, though this is public information and in case of interest from scientists' side, they can obtain it.

5.27. Research into the impact of new and, where appropriate, existing roads and other infrastructure on bats and into the effectiveness of mitigation measures

No

5.28. National guidelines are developed

No

Other activities carried out under Resolution 7.9 (optional)

> N/A

Comments (optional)

> N/A

Resolution 7.10. Bat Rescue and Rehabilitation

5.29. Animal rescue and rehabilitation systems are effective in the country

No

5.30. Collaboration between bat rehabilitators and scientists

Doesn't exist

5.31. Bat rehabilitators contribute their data to a national database

No

Other activities carried out under Resolution 7.10 (optional)

> N/A

Comments (optional)

> N/A

Resolution 7.11. Bats and building insulation

5.32. Are there conflicts between insulation regulations and bat conservation?

No

5.34. Impacts on bats are included in the environmental assessment of insulation programs

No

Other activities carried out under Resolution 7.11 (optional)

> N/A

Comments (optional)

> No special insulation programs do exist in the country.

Resolution 7.12. Priority species for autecological studies

Rhinolophus blasii Peters, 1866

Some studies have been conducted (are ongoing) for this species in the country

Yes

Studies on:

	Winter roosts	Summer roosts	Swarming sites	Migration	Spatial and habitat use	Foraging behaviour	Diet
Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please add below or attach a list of references

> N/A

Eptesicus isabellinus (Temminck, 1840)

Some studies have been conducted (are ongoing) for this species in the country

No

Myotis escalerae Cabrera, 1904

Some studies have been conducted (are ongoing) for this species in the country

No

Nyctalus azoreum (Thomas, 1901)

Some studies have been conducted (are ongoing) for this species in the country

No

Pipistrellus hanaki Hulva & Benda, 2004

Some studies have been conducted (are ongoing) for this species in the country

No

Pipistrellus maderensis (Dobson, 1878)

Some studies have been conducted (are ongoing) for this species in the country

No

Plecotus kolombatovici Dulic, 1980

Some studies have been conducted (are ongoing) for this species in the country

No

Plecotus sardus Mucedda, Kiefer, Pidinchedda & Veith, 2002

Some studies have been conducted (are ongoing) for this species in the country

No

Plecotus teneriffae Barrett-Hamilton, 1907

Some studies have been conducted (are ongoing) for this species in the country

No

Other activities carried out under Resolution 7.12 (optional)

> N/A

Comments (optional)

> N/A

6. Recent and ongoing programmes (including research and policy initiatives) relating to conservation and management of bats

Click "expand" to see the questions!

Resolution 2.3. Transboundary programme: species proposals

6.1. Inclusion of *Myotis dasycneme* and *Pipistrellus nathusii* in transboundary cooperation

No

Comments (optional)

> N/A

Resolution 2.4. Transboundary programme: habitat proposals

6.2. National research on underground sites has been undertaken since the last reporting

Yes

Please list references

> 1. Report on Monitoring on Bats in selected areas, with support of the Ministry of Environment

6.3. National research on bats in forests

Yes

Please list references

> There is not a survey on national level, though certain data exist in the frames of different small scale studies.

Resolution 5.2. Bat rabies in Europe

6.5. National bat rabies surveillance network

No

6.6. Vaccination against rabies is compulsory

No

6.7. Details of the institution(s) in charge of recording of all test results and their submission to the World Health Organisation

> N/A

6.8. Other activities carried out under this resolution (optional)

> National Center for Disease Control and Public Health in the frame of DTRA project conduct survey in different regions of Georgia, and in accordance with the conditions indicated in the letter of permission from the Ministry of Environment and Agriculture of Georgia, they should submit the results to the Ministry.

Resolution 6.5. Guidelines on ethics for research and field work practices

6.9. National Code of Practice that addresses the context and legitimacy of acquisition, due diligence, long-term care, documentation, relevance and institutional aims

Doesn't exist

Resolution 6.8. Monitoring of daily and seasonal movements of bats

Please select a species for which a research in daily/seasonal movements has been conducted from the list

Pipistrellus nathusii (Keyserling & Blasius, 1839)

New data on seasonal movements was obtained

Yes

6.12. Other activities carried out under this resolution (optional)

> No special target-species oriented monitoring takes place in the Country. There are some data available from more general research projects; e.g. in 2017 the research on existence of bats seasonal movements was conducted at particular target area along the Black Sea coast.

7. Consideration being given to the potential effects of pesticides on bats, and their food sources and efforts to replace timber treatment chemicals which are highly toxic to bats

Click "expand" to see the questions!

Resolution 4.5. Guidelines for the use of remedial timber treatment

7.1. Small projects to provide basic data to allow an assessment of the potential impact of industry on bat populations

No

7.2. Raising awareness of product users is taking place

No

7.3. Legislation on products which have any adverse effects on bats

Doesn't exist

Comments (optional)

> N/A

Resolution 6.15. Impact on bat populations of the use of antiparasitic drugs for livestock

7.4. Efficient non-chemical methods to control livestock parasites and use of products of least toxicity to non-target species implemented

No

7.5. Research on the use of antiparasitic drugs

No

7.6. Recommendations in Annex I to the Resolution 6.15 are adopted

No

7.7. Other activities carried out under this resolution

> N/A

Comments (optional)

> N/A

8. Further important activities to share with other Parties and Range States

Give details or provide links

> N/A

Confirmation

Confirmation of information verification and approval for submission

Please confirm:

In addition a scanned copy of an official letter from the relevant state institution, approving the report for submission, can be attached.

I declare that the information provided in the Report on the implementation of EUROBATS has been verified and the report has been approved for submission by the appropriate state institution in the country.

Date of submission

Fill as follows: dd.mm.yyyy

> 03.08.2018