

Report from the discussions on indicators

Group 2, chair Mark Eaton

Monday 15.20-17.00

Main points

Species selection:

National vs European issues - guidance needed for countries on (simple, number of options) for identifying what to include in national versions e.g. farmland birds. Communication of Eurosat indicator vs. national version.

Guidance on technical issues - adding/dropping species. Issues of missing species - 'wish list', credibility related to % of species included

Weighting suggestions e.g. by habitat specialisation

Geometric means:

We like (not broke, don't fix)

But... consider alternative supplementary information, context such as total abundance, biomass, % increasing/decreasing, biotic homogenisation (even single species)

Confidence limits:

Yes, but consider when used, might not be appropriate for all levels of communication. Guidance needed for generation at national level.

Other indicators:

Climate change, ecosystem services, others that increase relevance of bird indicators outside of biodiversity

Creating indicators for specific drivers of change e.g. forest management, wetland

Broadening scope to other species (PEBMS) inc. scarce/rare. Consider working together on this e.g. alpine species

Inland wetlands:

Again, need to broaden scope, more sources.

Consider pressure indicators (e.g. drainage), but should first produce a state indicator to fit with existing PECBMS 'suite'

Communication

Guidance on using national and European indicators - policy and wider communication