

Report from the discussions on Filling the gaps

Group 1: Increasing geographical coverage

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Issues:

New countries?

(coverage within countries – not discussed)

Common Bird Monitoring versus other projects

Countries with limited resources:

Experience: CBM is demanding. Better to start with „easier projects“ better for increasing number of volunteers.

Depends on priorities within countries

- IBA
- Priority species
- Atlas projects
- Develop online recording schemes for „casual“ records, but with some control of observer effort, e.g. species lists (data can then be used for different projects)

Ideas:

- promote regional schemes, e.g. in western Balkans if too few sites in one country
- start with a small area or small number of sites and increase gradually
- but alternative opinion: only start when you can be sure to have some kontinuity

Overall:

- if a country sees a potential, CBM should be developed (Croatia, Ukraine, Moscow)
- if not, maybe concentrate better on other projects, such as contributing to new European atlas. Basis for establishing CBM afterwards