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LIFE EUROCITE

(LIFE18 NAT/AT/000048)

„Cross-border protection of the Red Kite in Europe by
reducing human-caused mortality”

LIFE EUROCITE online Workshop
“Overview of wildlife poisoning in whole
Europe”

11.11.2021

Mag. Dr. Rainer Raab,
DI Jochen Steindl &
Hannah Böing, MSc.



LIFE EUROKITE (LIFE18 NAT/AT/000048)



PROJECT LOCATION:

- 26 Countries

BUDGET INFO:

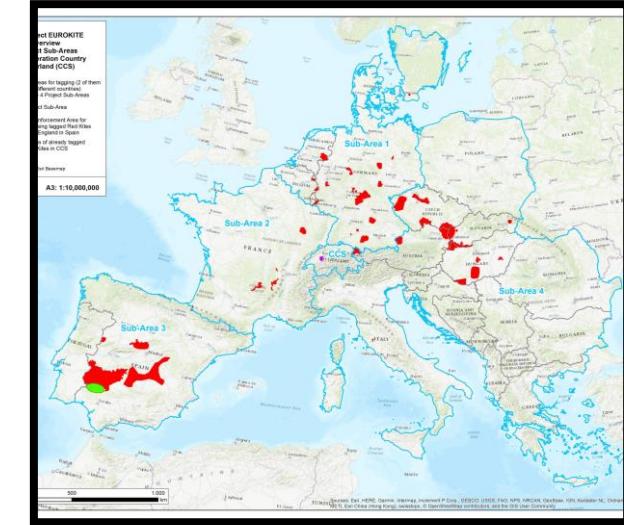
- Total amount: € 9,537,423
 - % EC Co-funding: € 5,722,454 (60%)

DURATION:

- (01/08/19) 07/12/19 - 31/01/27

PROJECT'S IMPLEMENTORS:

- Coordinating Beneficiary: Mitteleuropäische Gesellschaft zur Erhaltung der Greifvögel (MEGEG) (Central European Society for Raptor Protection)





Coordinating Beneficiary



The TB Raab was commissioned to implement the LIFE EUROKITE project after a pan-European publictender.



Project partner (Associated Beneficiary)



Co-financier



Cooperation partner



This project is co-financed by the LIFE Nature Programme of the European Union





OBJECTIVES & SCOPE

- Core idea
 - telemetry technology to
 - identify and quantify the key reasons of mortality of bird of prey species in the EU,
 - and to implement actions to combat the main man-made causes of death
- Main target species: Red Kite (*Milvus milvus*)
- Other targets:
 - Imperial Eagle (*Aquila heliaca*), White-tailed Sea-eagle (*Haliaeetus albicilla*) and Black Kite (*Milvus migrans*)



EXPECTED IMPACTS

- total reduction of anthropogenic mortality by 5% due to reduction of poisoning cases
- In total until 2027 (project end): increase of the population of Red Kite by +4,6%
- In total until 2032 (5 years after project end): increase of the population by +9,5%
- In southern ES in the long term: securing 4-7 good breeding sites with 20-30 pairs

MORTALITY REASON ILLEGAL KILLING



- According to existing data illegal killing by poisoning (and poaching) seems the most relevant mortality reason
- In case a bird crime is suspected initiate and support prosecution in collaboration with authorities
- Complementary actions to increase social pressure on offenders and to raise awareness
 - Search of approx. 500 dead tagged red kites and start the legal prosecution if necessary
 - 10 exemplary lawsuits
 - 20 social media campaigns
 - 20 local media campaigns
 - actions against illegal trade of poisons
 - Awareness raising in more than 100 forums with hunters
 - 6 general campaigns, awareness raising stakeholders and decision makers / politicians / authorities.

Red Kite Telemetry Tagging 2013 to 2021

(Status 10/2021)

- LIFE EUROKITE (445 RK)
 - shared by partners with LIFE EUROKITE (149 RK)
 - shared by SOI with LIFE EUROKITE (470 RK)
 - shared by TB Raab with LIFE EUROKITE (224 RK)
 - shared by TB Raab and AG Naturschutz, Philipps-Universität Marburg with LIFE EUROKITE (24 RK)
 - shared by MPIO with LIFE EUROKITE (33 RK)

1:12,000,000



Map preparation:
Technisches Büro
für Biologie
Mag. Dr. Rainer Raab

Background data:
Copernicus Land Monitoring

TB Raab
Technisches Büro für Biologie

LIFE Nature Project "LIFE EUROPAL"
(LIFE18 NAT/AT/000048)



Project Partner (Associated Beneficiary)



VENTO



Umwelt, Klimaschutz



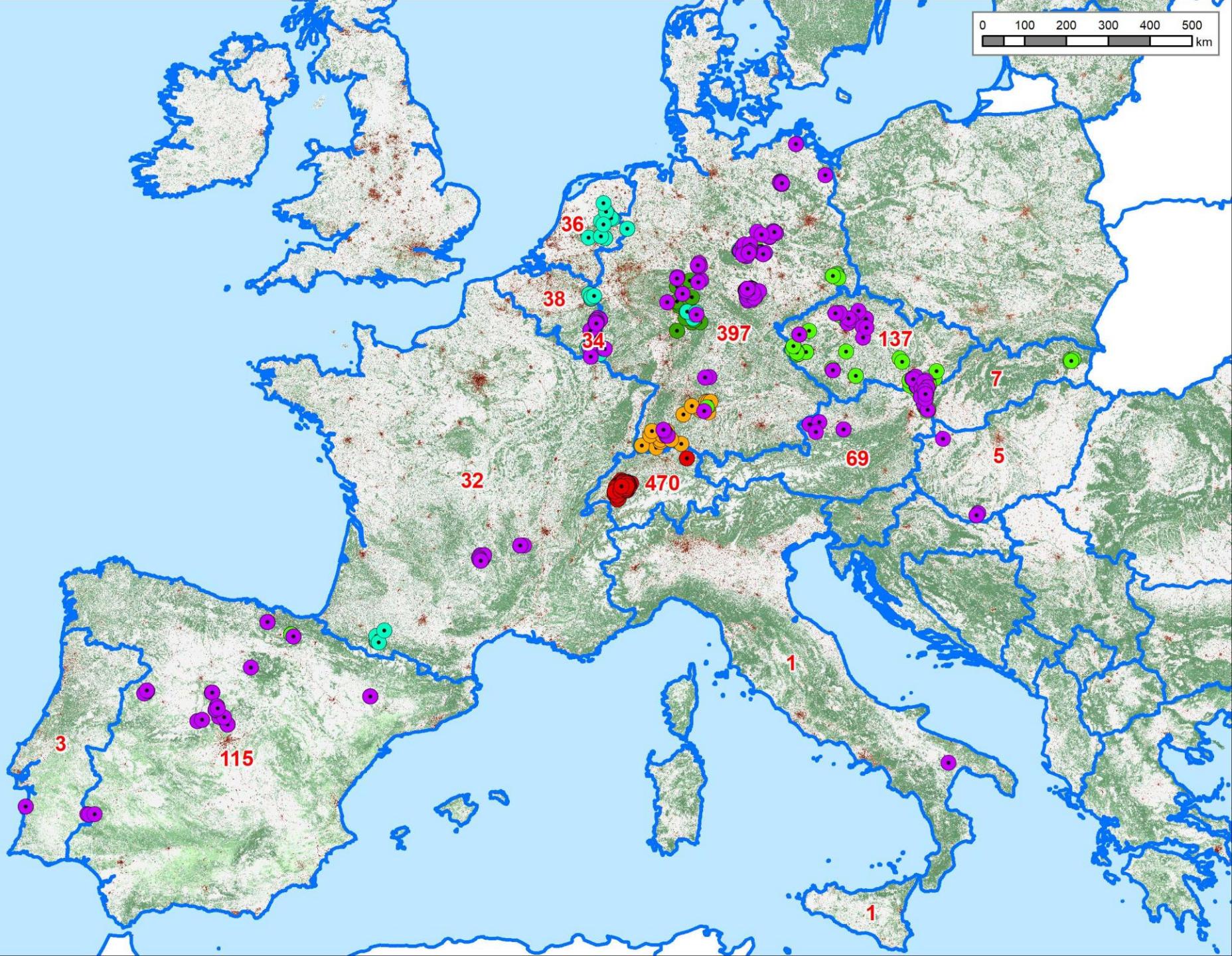
Das Land
Sachsen-Anhalt



20



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Red Kite Telemetry 2014 - 2021

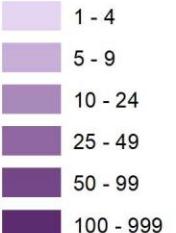
10 x 10 km Raster

Individuals in Europe

1.221 individuals in the period

10/7/2014 to 27/9/2021

(Status: 6/10/2021)



• wind turbine

National Border

1:12,500,000



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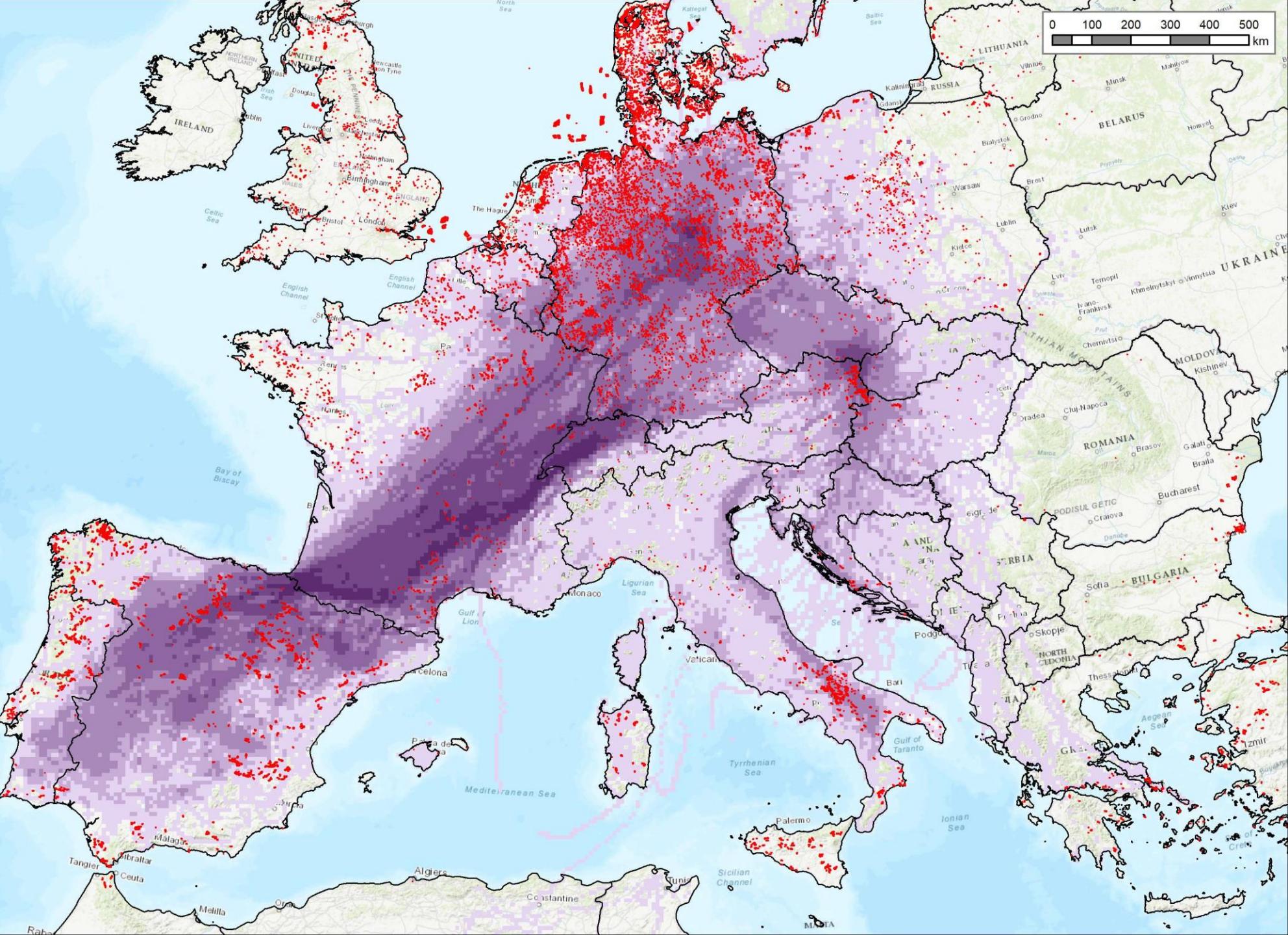
TB Raab
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Background data:
Basemap

LIFE Nature Project "LIFE EUROCITE"
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Mortality reasons – results so far

- Poisoning seems to be one of the most important mortality reason for red kites

Sixteen poisoned animals including 6 birds of prey found in Czechia



21.02.2021

Sixteen poisoned animals including 6 birds of prey (1 White-tailed eagle, 2 Northern goshawks, 3 Common buzzards) found on Saturday 20th February in Czechia near Rožmitál pod Třemšínem in the Central Bohemian Region.

[Read more](#)

(LIFE PannonEagle)

- So far 445 red kites where tagged for the LIFE EUROKITE project
 - Data access to 1.348 red kites
 - 556 dead red kite were examined

Status: 10.11.2021

Mortality reasons – results so far

From 556 birds we do know the mortality reason of 426 birds
(106 outstanding & 24 unknown)

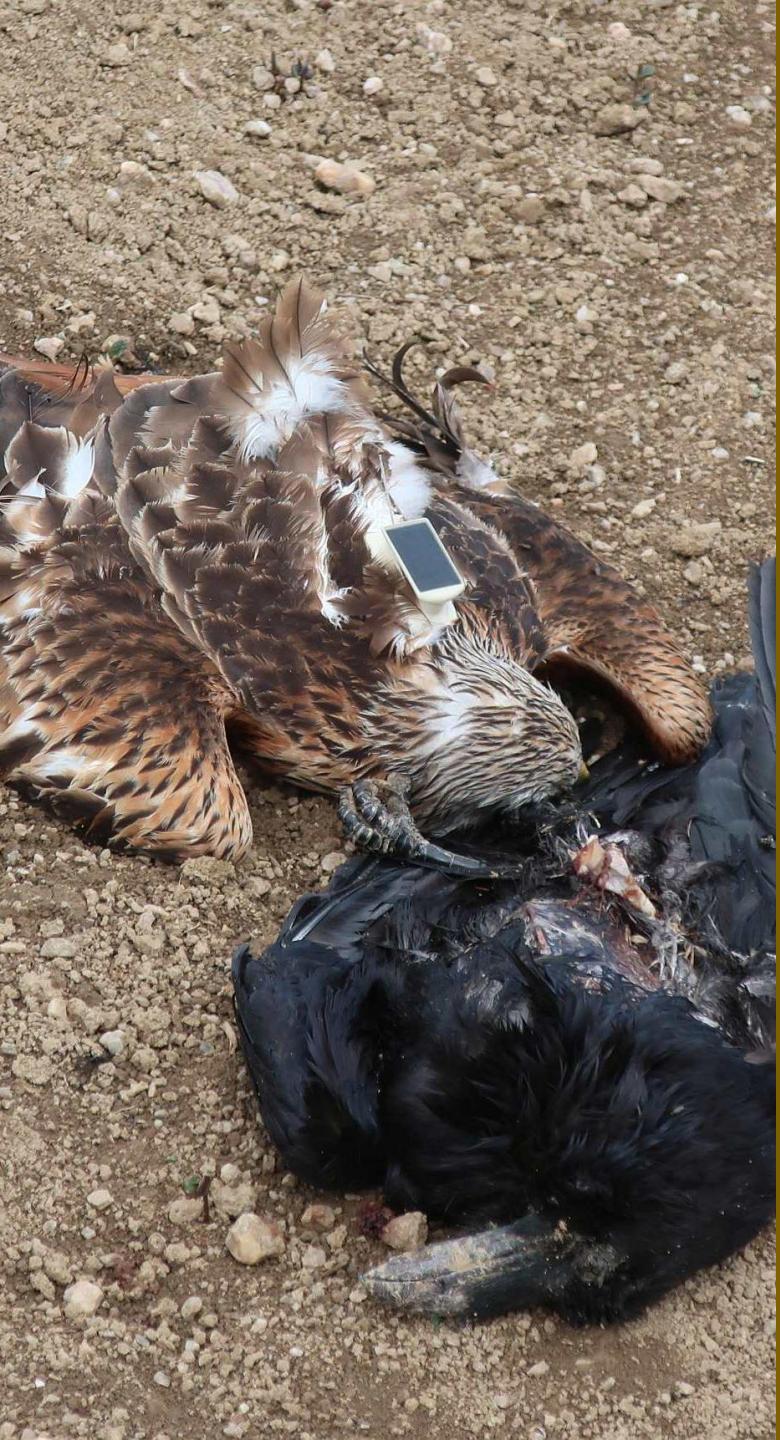
- Intoxication: 83 (+ 2) → 19,95 %
- Shooting: 28 → 6,57 %
- Trapping: 1 → 0,23 %
- Other reasons: 312 → 73,24 %

- Legal actions: 5 (4 in France & 1 Czech Republic)

Status: 10.11.2021



Mortality reasons – results so far



Intoxication: 83 (+2)

- Waste disposal site: 2
- Anticoagulants / Coumarin derivatives: 2
- Carbofuran: 17
- Other substances: 12
- Substance unknown: 52



Red Kite Telemetry Mortality - tagged in Germany

(Status 11/2021)

- + found dead, tagged in Germany (170 Ind.)
- + found dead, tagged in another country (386 Ind.)
- logger problem, tagged in Germany (31 Ind.)
- logger problem, tagged in another country (74 Ind.)
- countries, where reasons of death are examined



1:12,500,000



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TB Raab
Technisches Büro für Biologie

Background data:
Basemap

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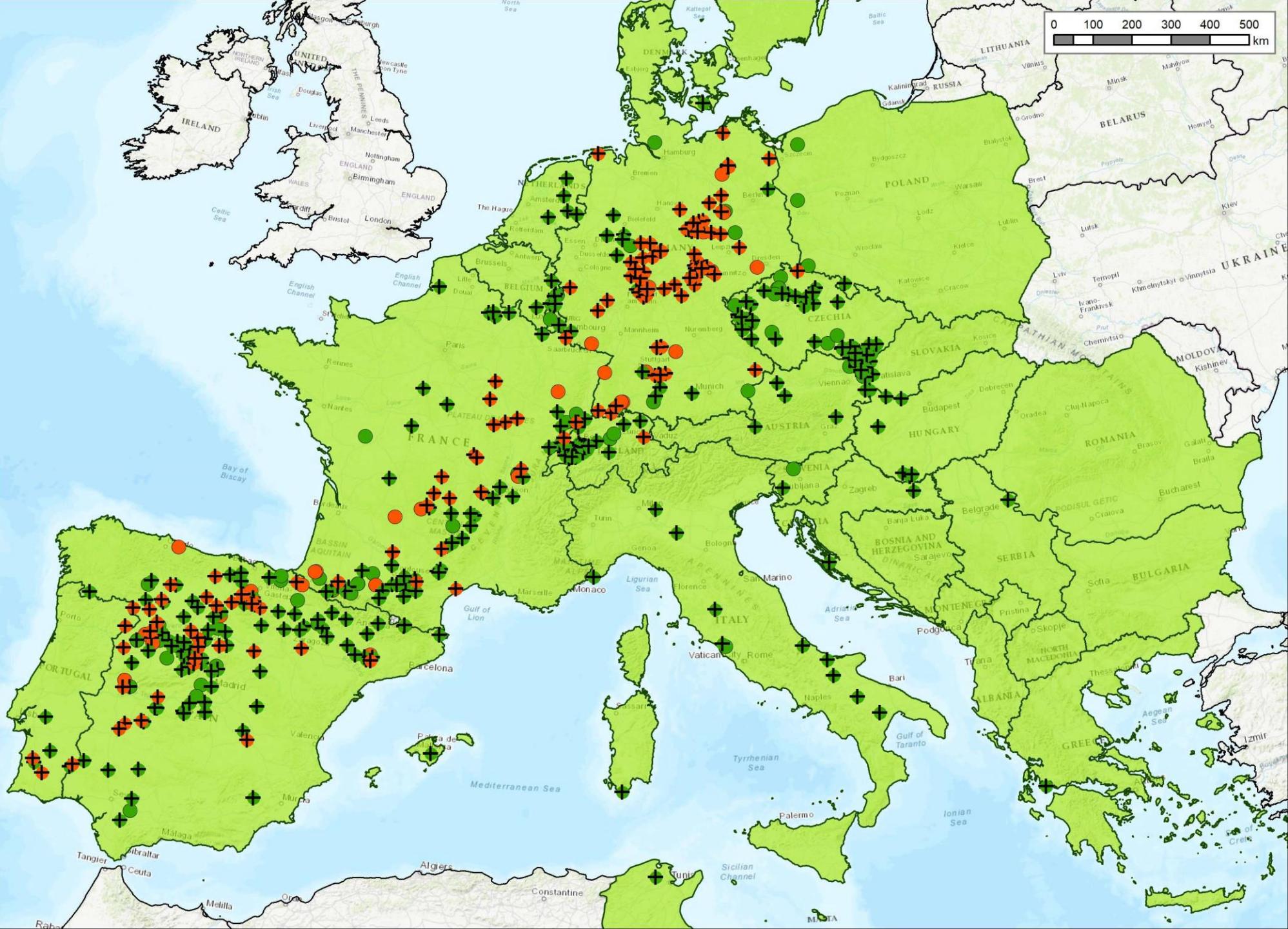
Project Partner (Associated Beneficiary)



Co-financiers



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Red Kite Telemetry Mortality - tagged in Switzerland

(Status 11/2021)

- ✖ found dead, tagged in Switzerland (191 Ind.)
- ✚ found dead, tagged in another country (365 Ind.)
- logger problem, tagged in Switzerland (5 Ind.)
- green circle logger problem, tagged in another country (100 Ind.)

countries, where reasons of death are examined

1:12,500,000



TB Raab
Technisches Büro für Biologie

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Background data:
Basemap

LIFE Nature Project "LIFE EUROCITE"
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Project Partner (Associated Beneficiary)



Co-financers

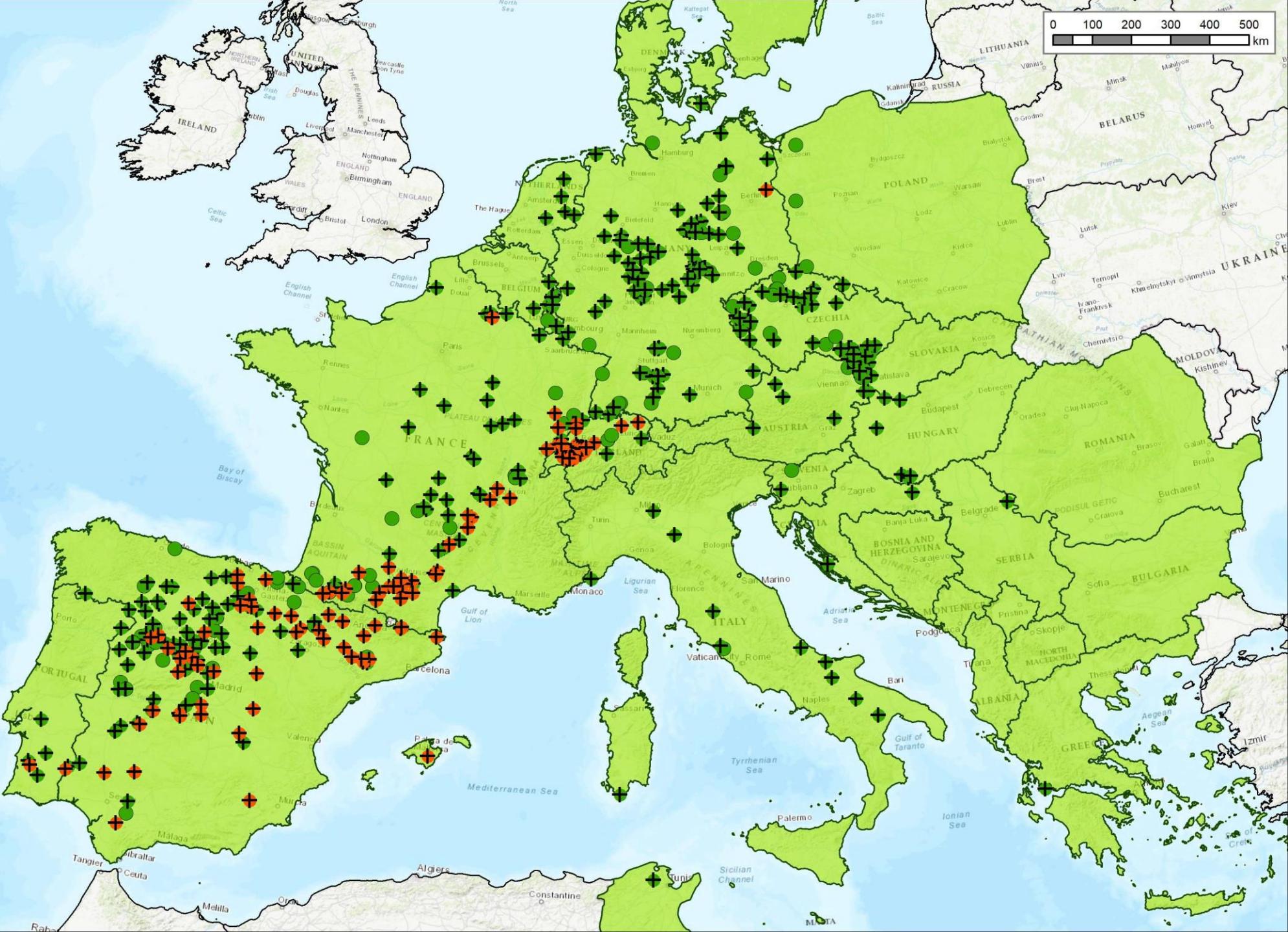


Cooperation Partner (contributor of telemetry data)



IWN

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Red Kite Telemetry Mortality - tagged in Austria

(Status 11/2021)

- + found dead, tagged in Austria (36 Ind.)
 - + found dead, tagged in another country (520 Ind.)
 - logger problem, tagged in Austria (8 Ind.)
 - logger problem, tagged in another country (97 Ind.)
- countries, where reasons of death are examined



1:12,500,000



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Background data:
Basemap

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Project Partner (Associated Beneficiary)



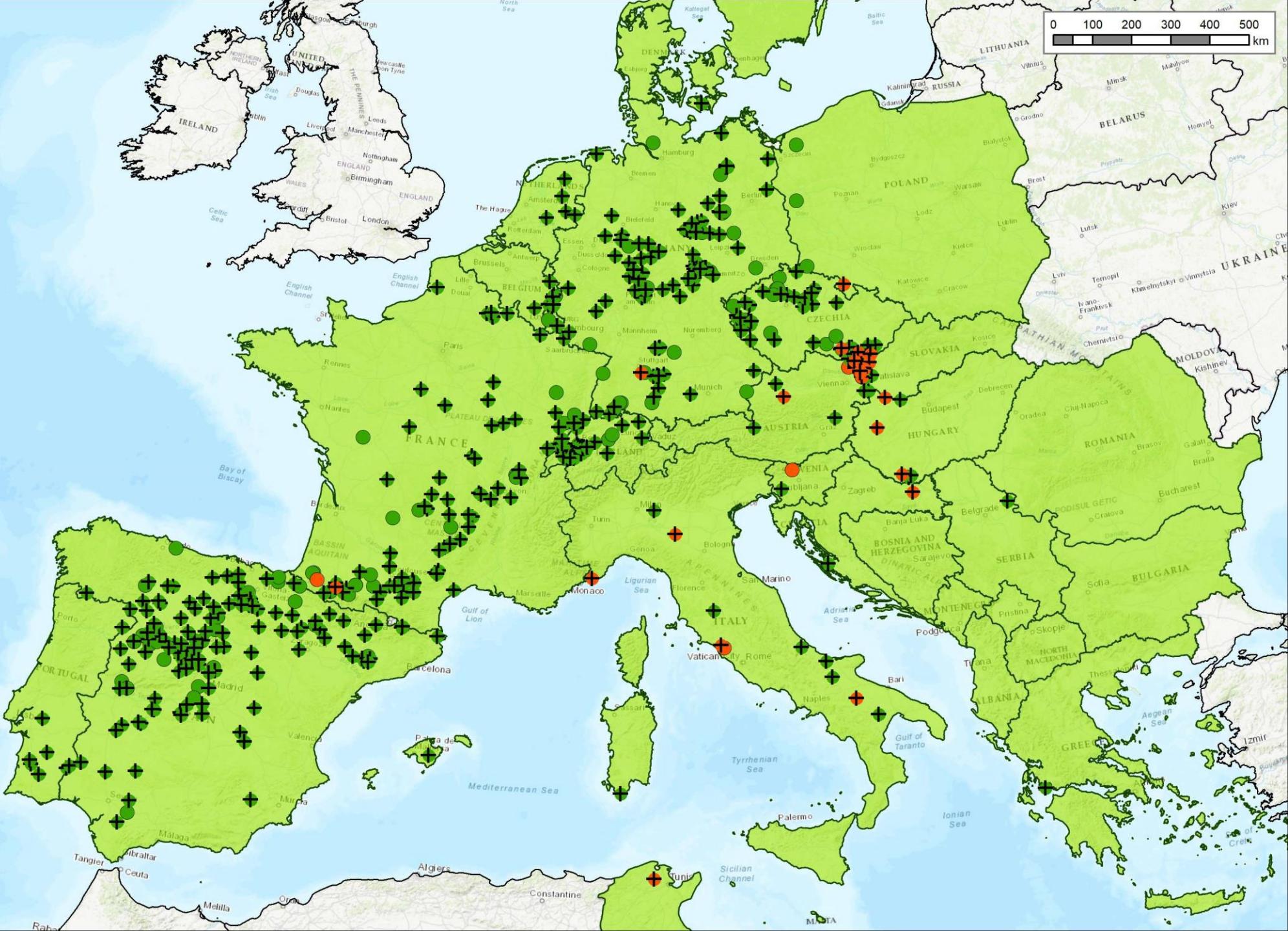
Co-financers



Cooperation Partner (contributor of telemetry data)



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Red Kite Telemetry Mortality - Poisoning 85 Individuals

(Status 11/2021)

- + sure poisoning (57 Ind.)
- + probable poisoning (21 Ind.)
- ◆ possible poisoning (7 Ind.)

countries, where reasons of death are examined

1:12,500,000



TB Raab
Technisches Büro für Biologie

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Background data:
Basemap

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Project Partner (Associated Beneficiary)



Co-financers



in natura (New Mission & Technik erarbeitet)



Das Land Steiermark

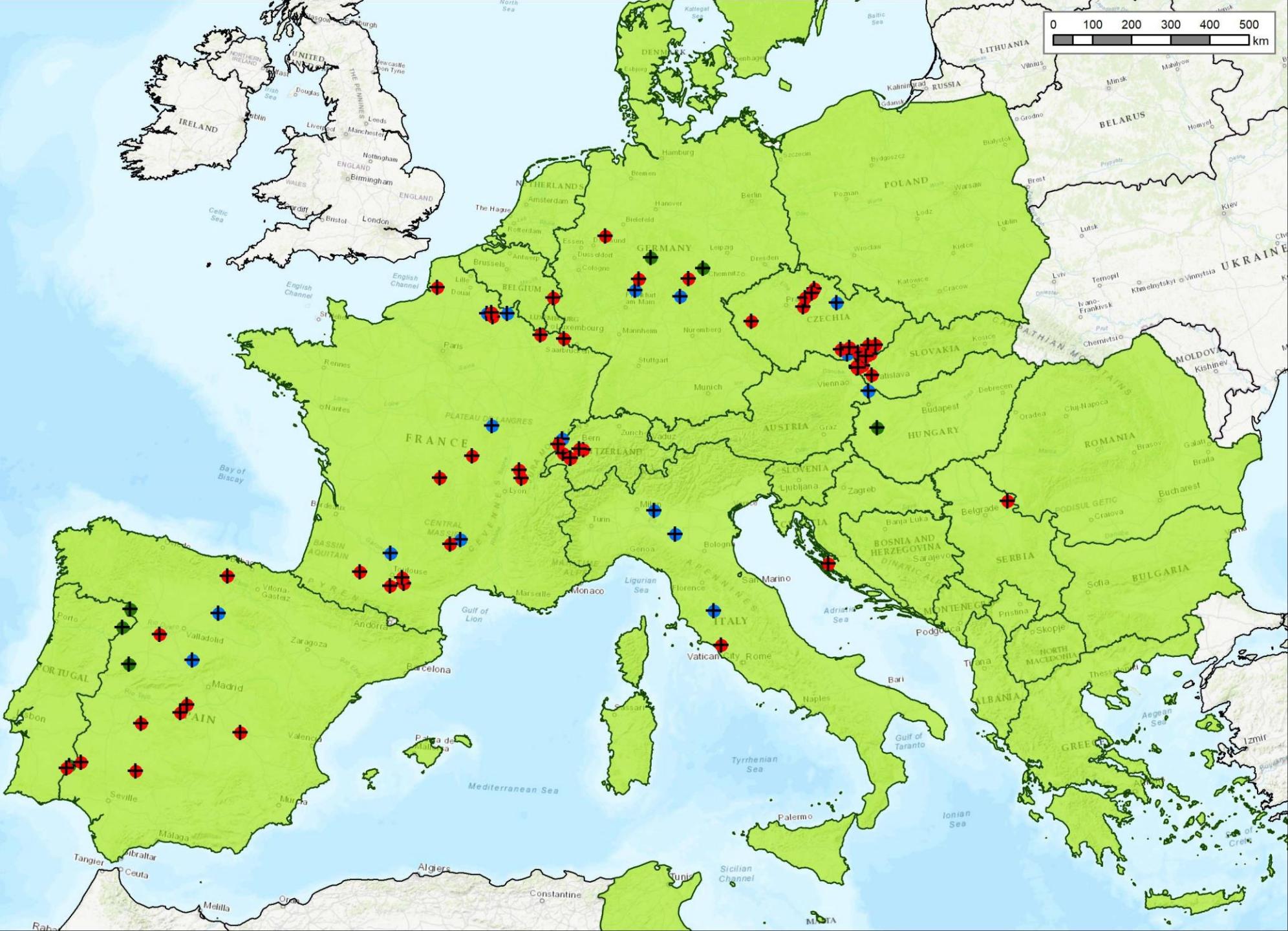


Cooperation Partner (Contributor of telemetry data)



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**Red Kite Telemetry
Mortality - Shot
28 Individuals**
(Status 11/2021)

- ✖ surely shot (16 Ind.)
 - ✚ probably shot (10 Ind.)
 - ◆ possibly shot (2 Ind.)
- countries, where reasons of death are examined

1:12,500,000



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TB Raab
Technisches Büro für Biologie

Background data:
Basemap

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Project Partner (Associated Beneficiary)



Co-financers



in natura (New Mission & Technik erarbeitet)

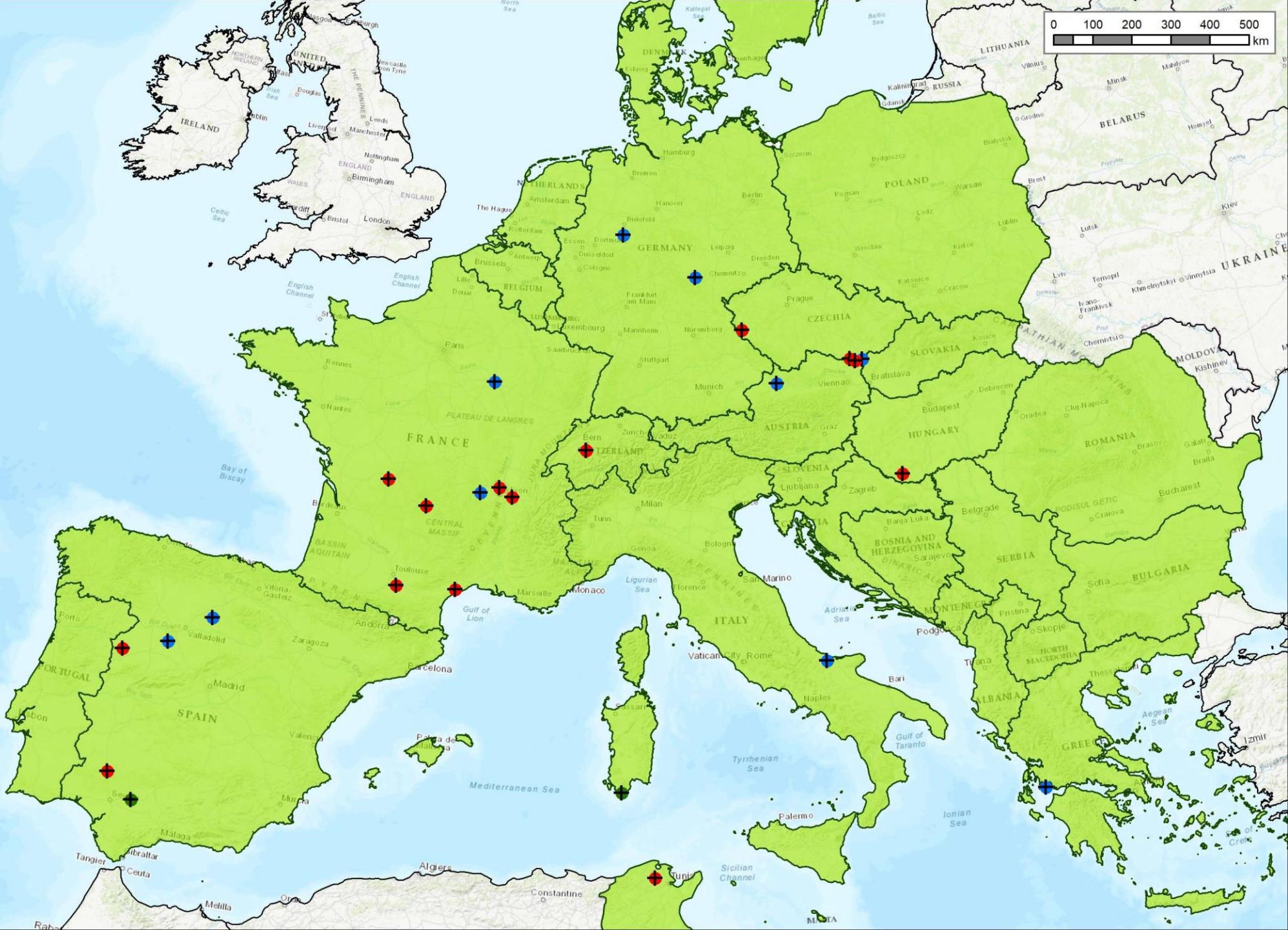


Cooperation Partner (co-provider of telemetry data)



The preparation of this map is co-financed by the
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0 100 200 300 400 500 km



**Red Kite Telemetry
Mortality - Trapping
1 Individual**
(Status 11/2021)

sure trapping (1 Ind.)

 countries, where reasons of death
are examined

1:12,500,000



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Project Partner (Associated Beneficiary)



Co-financiers



in natura

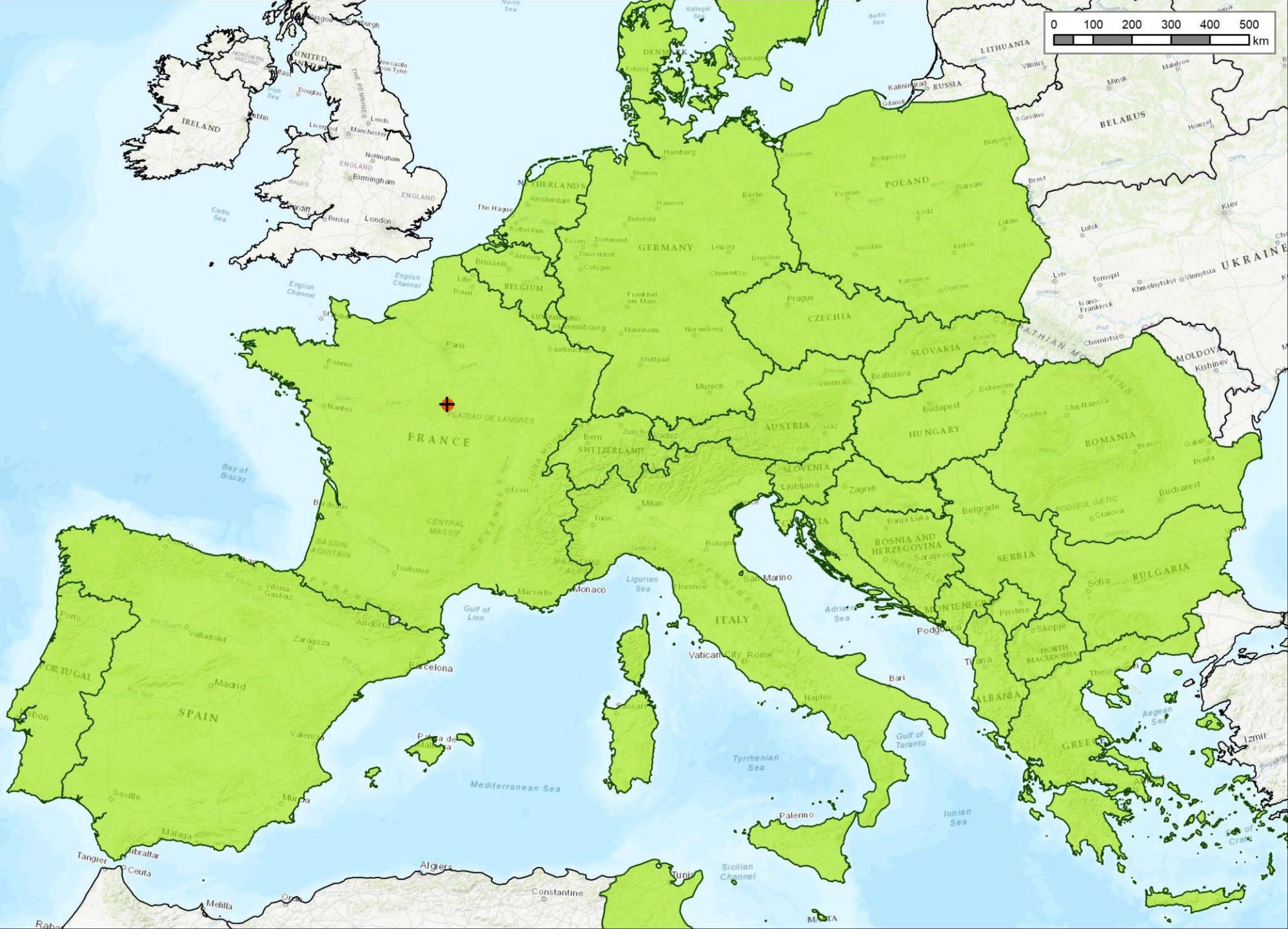


Cooperation Partner (contributor of telemetry data)



IWEN

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International Cooperation

- Better control of the prosecution
- Why does illegal poisoning is not persecuted in most of the cases?
 - Insufficient proofs?
 - Insufficient taxological investigation
 - Insufficient cooperation with the police or responsible departments?





"We are in the middle of the sixth major species extinction caused by environmental degradation, climate change and industrial agriculture. LIFE EUROKITE is an important project that helps us to formulate effective action measures in politics and to better protect particularly threatened species."

Martin Häusling
Member of the European Parliament (MEP) - Germany



"In wetlands lead ammunition is already not allowed in 23 EU Member States and the Commission is now working on an EU-wide ban on lead ammunition in wetlands. Conservative forces want to prevent that and have objected. The EUROKITE LIFE project helps us to counter this and to show that birds of prey are still threatened by hunting. Let's fight together for a strong protection of our birds of prey."

Thomas Waitz
Member of the European Parliament (MEP) - Austria



"LIFE EUROKITE makes an important contribution to the understanding of the way of life and habitat situation and thus to the cross-border protection of the red kite in Europe. Sustainable coexistence between humans and animals can only be achieved through active involvement of the local population in the protection and management of these proud birds."

Simone Schmiedtbauer
Member of the European Parliament (MEP) - Austria



"The Green Deal encompasses different objectives. We will deploy renewables at larger scale and need to ensure this will not be to the detriment of biodiversity related goals. Through the LIFE EUROKITE project we will have more data about routes used by birds of prey and this can inform and underpin our strategic choices at all levels, which for me as a scientist this is of crucial importance."

Michal Wiezik
Member of the European Parliament (MEP) - Slovakia



"The cross-border protection and conservation of biodiversity, species and sustainability in Europe is not only particularly important but also a matter close to my heart. I am committed to this in my work in the European Parliament and also at home. Therefor I welcome the efforts of LIFE EUROKITE to identify the problems in species conservation through scientific analyses and thereby develop solution concepts for a sustainable protection of the Red Kite in our European cultural landscape, so that future generations of animals and humans will also have a future together."

Christine Schneider
Member of the European Parliament (MEP) - Germany



(Statement follows)

Sven Giegold
Head of the Green Delegation,
Member of the European Parliament (MEP) - Germany





More information

www.life-eurokite.eu



[Großstrappe Otis tarda - Rotmilan Milvus milvus und Co](#)



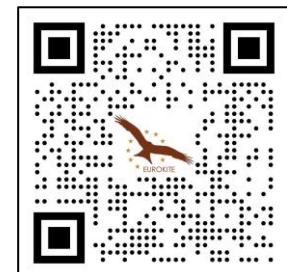
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Thank you for your attention



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