



Action F2 – After LIFE Conservation Plan



Authors: Svilen Cheshmedzhiev¹, Sebastian Bugariu², Victoria Saravia-Mullin³, Manolia Vougioukalou³, Radoslava Marinova⁴, Mykhailo Nesterenko⁵, Ioana-Cătălina Petrencu⁶, Annete Mertens⁷, Kateryna Kurakina⁷

1 Bulgarian Society for the Protection of Birds/ BirdLife Bulgaria

2 Romanian Ornithological Society/ BirdLife Romania

3 Hellenic Ornithological Society/ BirdLife Greece

4 Persina Nature Park Directorate

5 Rewilding Ukraine

6 Rewilding Danube Delta

7 Rewilding Europe

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1. Introduction

The Pelican Way of LIFE project is one of the most important conservation initiatives for the Dalmatian pelican (*Pelecanus crispus*) in Europe and at global scale. It aims to reduce the threats to the birds and improve their habitat at 27 sites in Romania, Bulgaria, Greece and Ukraine.

The Dalmatian pelican is classified as Least Concern in the global IUCN 2017 Red List and it is also listed in Appendix II of the Bern and Bonn Conventions and in Annex II of AEWa. The Mediterranean-Black Sea flyway population of the species rounds half of the global population of the species and its breeding distribution is still restricted to a small number of sites, which makes the species extremely vulnerable and conservation dependent. The population increase has only taken place in few colonies, masking fluctuations and decreases that were observed elsewhere.

To face the main threat for this population the project mainly aimed at:

- providing a solid knowledge basis for the monitoring and management of the Dalmatian pelican,
- assessing the severity of current threats and detect new threats that might impact Dalmatian pelican populations
- implementing concrete interventions to reduce mortality and low breeding success (illegal killing, electrocution, disturbance) and to enhance the reproduction (patrolling to reduce disturbance, enhance breeding opportunities by providing artificial breeding substrate/platforms),
- gaining the support of the key stakeholder for the conservation of the Dalmatian pelican.

The activities have successfully been carried out, with the three main threats being actively targeted: collisions with powerlines, illegal killing and lack of breeding places. These activities have been accompanied by a wide-ranging set of awareness raising and educational activities, involving a huge number of local stakeholders and children.

The purpose of this After-LIFE conservation plan is to summarize the knowledge and main results obtained during the implementation of the Pelican Way of LIFE project and to plan the major activities to be continued after the end of the project to reduce the impact of the threats on the Dalmatian pelican. The plan aims to address the main remaining threats in the project areas, in order to guarantee the long-term sustainability of the implemented activities. The project partners, therefore, proposed a list of actions, and a detailed description, outlining the framework, timetable, and indicated sources of funding for the implementation of the given actions.

2. Main results achieved by the Pelican Way of LIFE project

The Pelican Way of LIFE project has contributed substantially to setting the basis for the recovery and conservation of the Dalmatian Pelican not only in the project countries but also in the entire Balkan area.

A first detailed evaluation of the status, distribution, movements and mortality rates of the Dalmatian pelican was made, mainly through tagging Pelicans, direct observations, telemetry, and coordinated Spring counts in all the countries. All this was summarized in a detailed technical report, which provides a knowledge basis also for future management. A methodology has been developed for the assessment of collision risk with powerlines and for the mapping high risk areas at key sites. This methodology has been used for the monitoring of the key intervention sites, where correction of lines was then carried out. This was done in parallel with an investigation of the attitude towards fish eating birds among stakeholders. The data collected in the frame of these actions have been gathered in a GIS database that is now available to be consulted. In order to make sure that all the actors involved in monitoring actions use the same approaches a monitoring manual has been developed following to the development of a dedicated workshop in which the methodological details were discussed.



In order to avoid the killing of Pelicans due to collisions with powerlines, over 11 km of powerlines have been fitted with bird diverters in Romania and Bulgaria, and in Greece 4 km of lines have been completely insulated and another 4 km have been buried by the competent management company. Patrolling schemes have been activated in Greece, Bulgaria and Romania and have been used for patrolling until the end of the project and beyond. On the basis of the production of drawings of nesting platforms, 12 new platforms have been constructed (9 in Bulgaria and 3 in Ukraine) and the existing ones have been restored, leading to formation of a new Dalmatian pelican colonies. The success of all these activities have been monitored constantly and the results as well as the impacts of the project have been analysed and summarized in technical reports.

Also the communication activities have progressed very intensively. A visual archive was created, and 75+ short video clips were produced in different languages. 863.000 persons were reached through project website and social media and more than 10 million by media and other channels. Along with this various information materials (leaflets, banners, gadgets) have been produced and distributed during information activities. Intensive experience exchanges have been carried out with representatives of 9 other LIFE projects and other experts. A rapid rescue corps has been developed, and its activities were documented in 2 video clips. School programs and materials have been developed in all the project countries and been used for educational activities, involving hundreds of children. The international Pelican education camp held in the Romanian Danube Delta concluded the educational programs. The capacity building workshop for conservationists has successfully developed with the participation from Albania, Northern Macedonia, Montenegro, and Turkey. Local guides and boatmen have been involved in 3 training workshops in Bulgaria and 2 in Romania. Meetings and agreements have been made with tourism professionals in all the countries, a bird guide and birding leaflets have been produced (Greece) and visitor infrastructures have been developed (Bulgaria). The Pelican yard at Poda Center was entirely completed, and a surveillance system was installed, which was used also for educational purposes. Replication was encouraged through a training for boatmen and tourist guides in the Oder Delta, and Rewilding Europe has developed a dedicated online learning tool, targeting at least 5000 rangers and nature guides. Besides this, the Pelican Way of LIFE partners contributed to the production of a feasibility study for the reintroduction of the pelican to the Netherlands and Belgium.



Map 1. Countries and areas where the Pelican Way of LIFE project has been developed.

3. Remaining problems in the project areas concerning the Dalmatian pelican

Besides the Least Concern conservation status of the Dalmatian pelican, the survival of the population in the project target countries is crucial because it represents a substantial portion of the global population. The main threats (collisions with powerlines, illegal killing and disturbance, lack of nesting grounds) have effectively been targeted by the Pelican Way of LIFE project but they can still partly remain or locally show up again.

In order to assess the effects of potential remaining or future threats the monitoring of the pelican populations and their mortality are crucial for guaranteeing the knowledge on which to base future management interventions. Especially in cases of diseases and climatic threats the fluctuations of the population might be strong, and in those cases, it is even more crucial to be able to mitigate as many threats as effectively as possible. As a species with very wide home ranges, it is even more important that this knowledge is available at population level and that data is shared effectively.

During the project 15 km of powerlines have been made safe, by burying them or by fitting them by bird diverters. The most critical powerline segments have been selected on the basis of the ex-ante analysis carried out in Action A2. Therefore, now a large part of the most critical areas have been made safe. However, dangerous segments still remain and new critical powerline segments might appear in time, either due to the changes in the movements of the pelicans or due to changes in the powerline network.

Another one of the main threats for Dalmatian pelicans is illegal killing and the indirect disturbance by uncontrolled human activities. The Pelican Way of LIFE project has carried out many activities to gain the support of the local key stakeholder groups and to raise the awareness of the importance to avoid harmful behaviours, but such kind of threats can never be completely eliminated. For this reason, it is vital that activities such as patrolling (either by volunteers or in collaboration with local protected area management personnel) are maintained on a regular basis.

The nesting platforms are mostly made of natural materials (wood, reeds) and they are placed in swampy, remote areas. In such conditions it is natural that the platforms in time can get degraded due to rotting of the materials and overgrowth by plants and they can be damaged by rough water and currents and need regular reconditioning. In some cases, it is advisable also to consider providing breeding substrate by means of island construction/restoration, albeit at high costs.

Finally, thanks to the monitoring and satellite tracking implemented during the project, a new threat was identified: the entanglement of birds in fishing nets. Although most likely incidental, it is currently unknown what is the level of impact of this threat on the pelican populations. Project partners will continue to investigate this problem, in order to gain more information about the severity of the threat, study potential solutions to address it and engage with relevant stakeholders.



4. Activities to be continued

4.1 Monitoring of the pelican populations, their numbers, movements, breeding success and mortality

The monitoring of pelicans, their population sizes, movements, reproductive success and mortality have to be constantly monitored, both in the project countries and in the Balkan area.

Greece:

- HOS will continue to organize the Spring Pelican Census in Greece, in collaboration with the Society for the Protection of Prespa and the Natural Environment and Climate Change Agency (NECCA), and the support of HOS volunteers. The censuses will be organized every two years.
- During the Midwinter counts, organized by HOS in January of each year, HOS will gather the data needed to continue with the winter counts for the species.
- HOS staff will continue to monitor the pelicans tagged in the project.
- Monitoring of the project's breeding colonies will be carried out by HOS in the framework of other running projects, as well as in collaboration with the management authorities of the protected areas.
- HOS will maintain the database for the species that will include all the above-mentioned data and participate in all national efforts towards the conservation of the Dalmatian pelican.
- HOS will strive to obtain more evidence and information on the problem of net entanglement and will engage with the fishing cooperatives as well as the relevant Protected Area Management Authorities to discuss and propose potential solutions.



These actions will be carried out by HOS' own staff, in collaboration whenever needed with local authorities such as NECCA, volunteers, etc, while funding will come from HOS' own sources as well as from current or future projects that will ensure the implementation of the abovementioned actions.

Romania:

- SOR will carry out the Spring Pelican Census in Romania with the help of the organizations' volunteers and in collaboration with the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve Authority and other management bodies of different wetlands protected areas.
- SOR coordinates the Midwinter counts in Romania and its coverage includes all the wetlands and range of the Dalmatian pelicans in the country; past data is available in the SOR database and new data will be gathered every year. When financially possible, direct winter census of the species will also be organized across the species' national range on dates earlier than the yearly Midwinter counts.
- SOR has been monitoring the national breeding population by surveying all breeding colonies for the past 19 years every season and will continue to do so in the future. All data is available in the SOR database.
- SOR staff will continue color ringing and satellite tagging during the next seasons by using all remaining rings and recovered satellite tags and will carry out centralizing all recovery and mortality data and locations (and assess the causes). As SOR staff has taken the role of

coordinating the pelicans color ringing schemes, information on color ringing and recovery plus satellite tagging will be shared with specialists from different countries as this type of information needs to be officially reported across countries.

- In collaboration with protected area management authorities, SOR staff will analyze direct conservation measures needed for the species. Such an example is the potential intervention to restore the breeding surface at the colony of Ceaplace island to avoid seasonal flooding and to increase available surface. In collaboration with authorities and other interested parties, SOR staff will consider applying for funding for further implementation of direct conservation actions
- SOR will implement efforts to evaluate the extent to which the threat of entanglement in fishing nets can potentially impact the population. Monitoring and potential mitigation measures will be agreed with the management authorities of the protected areas

All actions will be carried out by means of SOR own staff and funding, by using the means that have been acquisitioned during the project or that are already owned by the organization. Applications for future funding/grants will be developed in order to ensure the required financial means for implementation.



Bulgaria:

- BSPB will continue to organize the Spring Pelican census in Bulgaria with the support of the BSPB volunteers.
- BSPB coordinates the International waterbird census in the country. During the initiative, all wetland sites across Bulgaria are visited, and data are collected on the species composition and population size of wintering birds. The Dalmatian Pelican is one of the target species. All data from the mid-winter counts over the past 25 years are available in the BSPB database.
- BSPB will continue to implement satellite telemetry activities. It is planned to purchase more transmitters to tag Dalmatian pelicans from Bulgarian colonies.
- BSPB will continue with annual activities for color ringing of young birds from Bulgarian colonies.
- The Dalmatian Pelican is one of the target species that the BSPB has been working with for the last 20 years, so regular monitoring activities of breeding, migrating and wintering pelicans will continue.

These activities will be carried out with the support of the responsible state institutions - Regional Inspectorates for Environment and Water, Persina Nature Park Directorate, etc. and will be financed both with funds from the state budget and within the framework of small grants or new Life projects.



Ukraine:

- Rewilding Ukraine will support the Danube Biosphere Reserve (DBR) in conducting annual Spring Pelican Census in Ukrainian part of the Danube Delta and RU will do the counts biannually in the other parts of the delta.
- RU will support DBR in annual Midwinter counts in January of each year in DBR and biannually in the other parts of the Danube Delta in Ukraine.
- Both winter and spring censuses will be conducted by our two field officers in collaboration with DBR and covering the Ukrainian delta as much as regulations will allow, also resuming the counts in the outer delta after the end of the war and lifting the martial law restrictions.
- Monitoring of the breeding platforms will be carried out by RU as part of our core rewilding framework and funding and will be done by RU field officers in collaboration with the management authorities of the sites where the platforms were installed, as annual spring visits to check the presence of breeding colonies and in winter for any necessary maintenance and repair. RU will also fund the necessary maintenance and repair of the platforms from the core funds.
- RU will maintain the database for the species that will include all the above-mentioned data and participate in all national efforts towards the conservation of the Dalmatian pelican.

Population level

At international level, involving also the other Balkan countries that host the Dalmatian pelican population, the Spring census needs to be synchronized across the countries and its coordination will be carried out in turns by different countries across the Black Sea Mediterranean flyway and distribution range of the species. Communication and coordination between different countries, plus the information exchange needed, will be performed by means of the already existing *Pelecanus* group mailing list, which brings together specialists across the world, and by direct communication. This group will also be used to coordinate the monitoring of the breeding success. It is not in doubt that this effort will function considering the excellent level of cooperation and coordination among the partners of the Pelican Way of LIFE project in the frame of the activities.

4.2 Monitoring of powerlines and maintenance of installed bird diverters

It is important to keep track on potential new powerlines that might pose threats for the pelican populations. Also, the sustainability of the implemented interventions must be assured by monitoring the installed bird diverters to make sure that they are still in place and correctly working.

Greece:

The segments of power lines corrected in the Greek project areas under the coordination of HOS, do not require maintenance. However, HOS will collaborate with the Management Unit of Messolonghi to ensure the regular monitoring of the corrected segment. In addition, HOS will strive to correct other dangerous power lines in collaboration with HEDNO, either in the framework of a new LIFE project or through other means of funding. At the same time, HOS will continue to press HEDNO to accept the use of diverters on their network. Also, HOS will maintain the database on collision mortality and input new data as reported by the HOS staff and volunteers.

Romania:

The sections of the power lines where diverters have been set up will be regularly monitored by SOR staff in collaboration with the DDBRA personnel and volunteers. The effectiveness of the diverters will be assessed and potential new lines posing threats to pelicans and other species will be detected both during monitoring activities for the species and during activities in other projects and activities. Information on mortality will be collected also from other people active in these areas of interest in all sites where the project has been implemented. The monitoring activity will be carried out by means of the organization's own funding, other grants or in the framework of a new LIFE project, as is also the need to set up new diverters or retrofit new power line sections. Collaboration will be maintained with the electricity distribution company to ensure the information exchange and future actions.

Bulgaria:

For more than 15 years, BSPB has been working to minimize the conflict between power lines and birds. The effect of the diverters installed in the Mandra reservoir area within the project will be monitored in the future. BSPB is currently implementing two Life projects with the electricity distribution companies in NE and SE Bulgaria. Within the framework of these projects, additional insulation of power lines dangerous to birds is planned, as well as the installation of diverters in risky areas. The monitoring activity will be carried out by means of the organization's own funding, other grants or in the framework of a new LIFE project.



4.3 Maintenance of the patrolling systems

It is crucial for the wellbeing of the pelican colonies that the patrolling systems that have been created are further operated.

Greece:

Patrolling of the Dalmatian pelican colonies will be carried on as part of the routine patrolling programme of the local Management Units using their existing staff and equipment.

Romania:

Patrolling will be carried out regularly at Lake Tasaul by SOR project staff and volunteers during monitoring activities with own equipment (optical equipment, drone) and in collaboration with the management of the fishery that ensures the presence of their own wardens in the area. A direct surveillance system of the colony using remote camera is already in place and will be used in future years as well. For the colonies located in the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve, patrolling is being ensured by the management's body local rangers, and common activities with SOR staff will be organized regularly during the breeding seasons. The activities will be carried out with SOR own funds or in the framework of future projects/grants.

Bulgaria:

The new established patrol scheme in Persina Nature Park will continue to be implemented with funds being covered by the Park's annual budget, as well as within the framework of new projects.



4.4 Maintenance and repair of nesting platforms

The new platforms as well as the restored ones need to be checked at regular intervals and when needed they have to be repaired or replaced.

Bulgaria:

BSPB started the construction of platforms in 2010. The entire Bulgarian population of the species nests on such artificial structures, so it is of utmost importance that the activities will be maintained. This action will be carried out by means of the organization's own funding, other grants or in the framework of a new LIFE project. Funds will also be used from the annual budget of the Persina Nature Park Directorate.

Ukraine:

RU will carry on necessary checks and maintenance of the installed breeding platforms at least until 2030 according to our organizational strategic action plan. The platforms in the outer delta may be checked and maintained only after the end of the war and lifting the martial law restrictions. We will carry out the work in cooperation with the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve.

The breeding platforms on Ermakov Island and the Kartl lake will be checked and maintained by RU staff (two field officers) as they are located in our core rewilding sites which we visit multiple times during a year.

The budgets for maintenance will be allocated in our core strategic action plan till 2030.



4.5 Awareness raising activities and education campaigns

The activities to gain support of the local communities for the conservation of pelicans must be continued, both for the engagement of the key stakeholders as well as for the education of children and teenagers on the importance of the species and how to avoid harmful activities.

The project website will remain alive, along with the project's social media channels, keeping all posted information accessible to engage a broader audience and convey messages about the need to protect the species and the conservation actions undertaken. All reports and materials produced will be available on the website and will serve as reference for future monitoring and provide vital information for next conservation actions. The project's social media will continue to be updated periodically by reposting relevant content from project partners related to species conservation. The videos produced during the project will also continue to be promoted by the partners, especially the major productions, such as the final project video and others.

The training guidelines for boatmen and nature guides, adapted for online use, have been published on Rewilding Europe's online training platform and will remain available to the relevant audience there. They will also be promoted periodically by Rewilding Europe and the local teams.

Greece:

Regarding public raising activities, HOS will continue to distribute public awareness materials created in the frame of the project during events and HOS activities (e.g. Eurobirdwatch events), while project signboards will be maintained and renewed if necessary. In addition, HOS will continue to communicate all activities related to the Dalmatian Pelican through its media channels and press releases. The project webpage on the HOS website will be regularly updated and enriched. Regarding the project actions aimed at promoting and enhancing birding tourism will continue beyond the end of the project, as HOS will ensure that the birdwatching materials and guides produced for the areas of Messolonghi and Amvrakikos are made available to local businesses and relevant authorities and will be replenished on a yearly basis. In addition, at least one open event or seminar for tourism professionals will be organized annually in collaboration with local stakeholders (e.g., Management Units of Protected Areas, local municipalities, and the Prefecture). Furthermore, the areas of Messolonghi and Amvrakikos will be promoted by HOS at national and international bird fairs and ecotourism events, such as the Global Birdfair in Oakham, UK, and the “Philoxenia” exhibition in Greece.

As regard to environmental education activities, the digital education material created in the project was approved by the Ministry of Education and was distributed and widely used among the schools in the project areas ensuring its long term utilization. The project material is available online and all school units



can have easy access to its digital form (available [here](#)). The project material will continue to be promoted by the HOS educational team at the beginning of each school year (September) among all schools of the areas where the project species is present. In addition, the field visits implemented in the project sites with school groups gave the opportunity to local educators to gain experience in outdoor education actions (birdwatching, Dalmatian Pelican spotting and identification, nature hunt based on local biodiversity etc). Those educators are now able to organize such field trips on their own. HOS educational team will support all educators willing to organize a field trip with their students to local project sites (Messolonghi Lagoon, Amvrakikos Gulf) by giving advice related on a safe and successful field trip (route, period etc).

Bulgaria:

The Dalmatian Pelican has been one of the flagship species for the BSPB since the organization's establishment. As a globally threatened species and an emblematic representative of the wetland ecosystems in the region, the Dalmatian Pelican has consistently been at the core of BSPB's long-term conservation strategy.

Over the years, the species has held a central place in a wide range of BSPB's educational and public awareness activities, including school presentations, university lectures, ornithological competitions, conservation volunteer camps, and community outreach initiatives. These efforts aim not only to raise public awareness but also to foster a sense of responsibility and engagement in the protection of this iconic species and its habitats.

Moving forward, the BSPB is committed to continuing and expanding these educational and informational activities. Emphasis will be placed on working with local communities, youth, and

stakeholders in key wetland areas to promote the ecological significance of the Dalmatian Pelican and the urgent need for its conservation. We plan to present a photo exhibition dedicated to the species in other cities and towns in the country.

The implementation of these activities will be supported through a combination of the organization's core funding as well as resources secured via national and international conservation and education projects.



Romania and Ukraine:

The Dalmatian pelican plays an important role in the communications of Rewilding Ukraine and Rewilding Danube Delta as one of the symbols of the Danube Delta rewilding area. It will continue to be featured in various awareness-raising and educational materials, articles, and posts.

Printed materials, such as posters, leaflets, stickers, games, etc., will continue to be distributed to relevant target audiences during public events and campaigns, as well as used in educational activities and events.

The educational module about the Dalmatian pelican, developed within the project, will continue to be used during the ongoing education campaign in the Danube Delta and adjacent areas. Similarly, the presentation and other materials prepared for the Pelican Education Camp will continue to be used during the joint rewilding education camps organized annually in the Danube Delta, bringing together children from Ukraine and Romania. Educational activities in the Delta are a significant part of Rewilding Ukraine's and Rewilding Danube Delta's communications and will thus be funded from the core budget.

The informational boards, including the bilingual and tourist boards produced during the project, will be maintained and used for as long as they remain relevant and in good condition. Afterward, they may be replaced with updated boards about the species, funded through the core budget or other sources.

The project videos and the Layman's Report will continue to be promoted and distributed at events, on other relevant occasions, and online through RU and RDD communication channels.

For the past two decades, the species has been a primary focus also of SOR's conservation and monitoring efforts. SOR has also incorporated the species into its educational strategy and will continue to organize activities in schools across its range through the national educational program Nature Friendly Schools. In addition, SOR plans to participate in future educational and outreach activities — such as presentations, camps, and informational trips — in collaboration with partners like Rewilding Europe and representatives of management authorities such as DDBRA, as well as at other sites along the Danube. These activities will be funded through the organization's core budget or future grants that include provisions for such work.



5. SWOT analysis

Strengths	Weaknesses
• Reduction of threat of collision and electrocution on powerlines on 15 km. • Constant presence on the ground to control the territory. • Availability of nesting areas. • Availability of a shared monitoring protocol that will guidance population monitoring activities at population level. • Increased know-how on pelican monitoring at population level. • Fruitful cooperation with local stakeholders. • Increased awareness of locals about pelicans and their role in nature. • Contribution to reintroduction of pelicans in NL and BE.	• Delays in the interventions on powerlines due to scepticism of powerline companies. • Bird flu, decreasing the pelican population in 2022. • Drought of the Danube in 2022, causing a lack of breeding pairs in the Persina area. • Need for constant future funding for both monitoring and needed conservation actions
Opportunities	Threats
• Presence of a patrolling tool on the ground, to protect the populations in the future. • Excellent cooperation between the pelican experts in the different countries, will lead to fruitful exchanges also in the future. • Better framework for collaborating with protected areas management authorities • Increased awareness of children and teenagers can lead to a stronger support towards pelicans in the future. • Increased awareness of local population on the tourism opportunities linked to the presence of the species • Online learning tool can raise awareness and provide best practices to a great number of practitioners and key stakeholders.	• Potential new outbreaks of bird flu can affect the populations locally or at population level. • New threats needing assessment of severity – such as entanglement in commercial fishing nets. • Conflict in wetlands that are both protected areas but function as commercial fisheries can further lead to persecution • Droughts can reduce the breeding potential. • Resources needed to assure maintenance of the patrolling schemes.

6. Detailed After-LIFE plan per country

Greece

Action	Intervention	Methods/techniques	Who (organization/staff etc.)	Cost	Funding source	Timing	Comments
A1/D1	Monitoring of Pelican population, movements, breeding	1. Biennial National Spring census 2. Annual Winter census (Midwinter counts) 3. Monitoring of tagged birds 4. Monitoring of breeding colonies 5. Maintenance of Dalmatian pelican Data Base 6. Investigation of net entanglement threat	→ HOS in collaboration with SPP, NECCA and volunteers → HOS in collaboration with NECCA and volunteers → HOS → HOS & NECCA → HOS → HOS with collaboration of fishing associations and NECCA	5,000 € (annually)	HOS, NECCA, future new projects	Annually except for the Biennial Spring Census	
C1	Monitoring and maintenance of bird diverters	1. Monitoring of corrected power lines. 2. Intense efforts to correct other dangerous lines 3. Data Base maintenance	→ HOS in collaboration with NECCA → HOS & HEDNO → HOS		HOS, NECCA, HEDNO, future new projects	Annually	
C2	Running of patrolling schemes	1. Patrolling as part of Management Units regular patrolling programme	→ NECCA		NECCA	Annually	

E3/E4	Continuation of awareness raising and children education	1. Public awareness materials distributed in events & HOS activities. 2. HOS special edition magazine on the DP distributed among public at relevant events. 3. Communication of activities related to DP through HOS media channels, press releases & HOS website. 4. Promotion of EE material among schools and support during implementation. 5. Support of field trips organized by schools implementing project's EE material.	→ Public awareness activities carried out by HOS. → Environmental Education activities organized by local schools with the support of HOS	2800 €	HOS	Annually	
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E8	Maintenance of tourism services	1. Birdwatching materials produced continued to be distributed and made available to tourism professionals. 2. At least one open event or seminar for tourism professional organized per year. 3. Signboards maintained and renewed if necessary. 4. Promotion at national and international bird fairs and ecotourism events.	→ HOS → HOS in collaboration with local stakeholders	5000 €	HOS, future new projects	Annually	
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Bulgaria

Action	Intervention	Methods/techniques	Who (organization/staff etc.)	Cost	Funding source	Timing	Comments
A1/D1	Monitoring of Pelican population, movements, breeding	National Spring Census Monitoring of the breeding colonies Monitoring of tagged birds Monitoring of the wintering population (Annual winter counts and IWC)	BSPB in collaboration with state institutions (RIEW, PNPB) and volunteers	5000 €	BSPB, PNPB, Ministry of environmental and water, future new grants	Annually	
C1	Monitoring and maintenance of bird diverters	Regular impact monitoring Assessment and identification of newly high-risk sections of power lines Installation of bird diverters	BSPB in collaboration with the electricity companies	10000 €	BSPB, electricity companies, future new grants	Permanent	
C2	Running of patrolling schemes	Continuation of the established patrolling scheme with combination of video surveillance system	Persina Nature Park Directorate experts and forest ranger	400 €	PNPB own budget	Permanent	This is part of the activities of the staff
C3	Maintenance/repair of nesting platforms	Continuation of the maintenance/repairing of nesting platforms, using the same methods and some innovative techniques and materials.	Persina Nature Park Directorate staff, volunteers and external assistance	1200 €	PNPB own budget, external fundings, grants, donation, etc.	Yearly	The cost depends of what is necessary to be done

E3/E4	Continuation of awareness raising and children education	Continuation of organization of volunteers camps, lessons and many educational activities	Persina Nature Park Directorate Staff	1000 €	PNPD own budget, external fundings, grants, etc.	Permanent, pelican awareness is part of all educational activities and programmes that PNPD implements	
E3/E4		Organization and presentation of a photo exhibition dedicated to the species	BSPB	200 €	BSPB own budget	Permanent	
E8	Maintenance of tourism services	The 3D model of the Pelican colony in the Visitor Centre of Persina Nature Park attracts all the visitors. All of them have the opportunity to see the life cycle of the Dalmatian Pelican and the specie in real size and to learn more about the actions for its protection	Persina Nature Park Directorate staff	300 €	PNPD own budget, external fundings, grants, etc.	Permanent	The costs are related to the maintenance of the good conditions of the model and visitor center

Romania

Action	Intervention	Methods/techniques	Who (organization/staff etc.)	Cost	Funding source	Timing	Comments
A1/D1	Monitoring of Pelican population, movements, breeding	1. National Spring census 2. Annual Winter census (Midwinter counts) 3. Monitoring of tagged birds 4. Monitoring of breeding colonies	SOR staff and volunteer network in collaboration with DDBRA, Romanian Bird Ring Centre, Agigea Bird Observatory, INCDD, Milvus Group	8000 €	SOR core funds, future grants	Once every year except for biannual Spring census	The cost includes travel, fuel for aircraft for breeding colonies assessment, intervention equipment in the field, data transfer for satellite tags. Does not include staff costs
C1	Monitoring and maintenance of bird diverters	1. Monitoring of diverter functioning and efficiency on sections of power lines 2. Detecting new dangerous sections of power line 3. Restoring or setting up new diverters	SOR staff and volunteer network in collaboration with DDBRA and electricity distribution company	1000 €	SOR core funding, future grants		The cost is for travel/monitoring. Additional costs required for intervention or new diverters depend on the necessity

C2	Running of patrolling schemes	Patrolling at Tasaul colony	SOR staff and volunteer network, Agigea Bird Observatory	500 €	SOR core funding, future grants	5 times every year during breeding season	
C3	Maintenance/repair of nesting platforms	1 Assess future potential intervention at Ceaplace island colony	SOR staff in collaboration with DDBRA, INCDD		Future grants		The costs are currently unavailable/ difficult estimate as this would require feasibility study, hydrological works etc.
E3/E4	Continuation of awareness raising and children education	1. Awareness-raising and educational materials, articles, and posts. 2. Distribution of produced materials (posters, leaflets, stickers, games, etc.) during public events and campaigns. 3. Using the module about the DP during the education campaign.	RDD and RU	Working time of the RDD and RU comms officers	RDD and RU core funding	1. Annually At least 2 articles and 2 materials 2. During 2025-2026 3. During 2025-2026	

		4. Using the PPT and materials about the DP during education camps in the delta. 5. Distribution of the project videos and the Layman's Report during events and actions and online. 6. SOR educational activities	SOR staff in collaboration with RDD	1000 €	SOR core funding and alternative or future grants	4. During 2025-2028 5. During 2025-2026 Every year	
E8	Maintenance of tourism services	1. Maintenance of the information boards. 2. Replacement of the information boards with updated versions.	1. RDD 2. RDD	1. 400 € 2. 600 €	RDD core funding	Maintenance for 2 years, replacement after that	

Ukraine

Action	Intervention	Methods/techniques	Who (organization/ staff etc.)	Cost	Funding source	Timing	Comments
A1/D1	Monitoring of Pelican population, movements, breeding	1. Annual Spring and winter census in DBR; Biannual in other parts of the delta (spring and Midwinter counts) 2. Monitoring of breeding platforms 3. Maintenance of Dalmatian pelican Data Base	1. RU in collaboration with DBR 2. RU in collaboration with the managers of the sites with platforms 3. RU	2000 €	1. RU core funding (unrestricted) 2. DBR monitoring scheme	Annual spring and winter in DBR. Biennial Spring Census in other parts of the delta Annual monitoring of platforms except for outer delta (only post war)	
C3	Maintenance/repair of nesting platforms	Check of the conditions and maintenance/repair	RU in collaboration with the site managers	3000 €		Annual except for the platforms in the outer delta that may be checked and maintained annually after the war only	
E3/E4	Continuation of awareness raising and children education	1. Awareness-raising and educational materials, articles, and posts. 2. Distribution of produced materials (posters, leaflets, stickers, games, etc.) during public events and campaigns.	RU and RDD	Working time of the RU and RDD comms officers	RU and RDD core funding	1. Annually at least 4 articles, 2 materials 2. During 2025-2026	

		3. Using the educational module about the DP during the education campaign. 4. Using the PPT and materials about the DP during education camps in the delta. 5. Distribution of the project videos and the Layman's Report during events and actions and online.				3. During 2025-2026 4. During 2025-2028 5. During 2025-2026	
E8	Maintenance of tourism services	1. Maintenance of the informational boards. 2. Replacement of the informational boards with updated versions.	1. RU and DBR 2. RU	1. 200 € 2. 400 €	RU core funding, DBR		