

## Kick-off meeting of the BalkanDetox LIFE project

Monday, 30 November 2020 | 10:00 – 16:00 CET | Zoom

The Vulture Conservation Foundation (VCF) is thrilled to announce the BalkanDetox LIFE Kick-off Meeting, scheduled for Monday, 30 November 2020 between 10:00-16:00 CET on Zoom, to officially mark the start of the LIFE-funded project, which aims to combat illegal wildlife poisoning across seven Balkan countries.

### Meeting overview

The BalkanDetox LIFE project team invites all project beneficiaries and relevant stakeholders to join the Kick-off Meeting, where we will provide an overview of the project, its actions, and discuss the situation of wildlife poisoning in the Balkan Peninsula, focusing on the project implementation areas.

The importance of setting up official working groups in each of the relevant Balkan countries, in order to secure institutional cooperation and support for combating this illegal practice, is one of the key priorities of this project, and initial discussions towards their establishment under the BalkanDetox LIFE project will be conducted with all attending stakeholders.

During the technical sessions planned in the afternoon, the project beneficiaries will engage in establishing the coordination, finance and communication teams, which are needed in order to ensure the successful implementation of all actions foreseen within the BalkanDetox LIFE project.

### Meeting objectives

- Presentation of the BalkanDetox LIFE project.
- Establishment of the Steering Committee for the BalkanDetox LIFE project.
- Establishment of Coordination team for the BalkanDetox LIFE project.
- Establishment of Financial team for the BalkanDetox LIFE project.
- Establishment of Communication team for the BalkanDetox LIFE project

*The 'BalkanDetox LIFE' project is a five-year endeavour with a €1.8 million budget, which aims to raise awareness and strengthen national capacities to fight the problem of wildlife poisoning across Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, the Republic of North Macedonia and Serbia. It is funded by the EU's [LIFE Programme](#), and it is co-financed by the [Vulture Conservation Foundation](#), the [MAVA Foundation](#) and [Euronatur](#), as well as by the [Whitley Fund for Nature](#) and [Environmental Protection and Energy Efficiency Fund](#) for specific actions. Project partners are the VCF as the coordinating beneficiary, and the [Albanian Ornithological Society](#), [Association BIOM](#), [Bird Protection and Study Society of Serbia](#), [Fund for Wild Flora and Fauna](#), [Hellenic Ornithological Society](#), [Macedonian Ecological Society](#), [Ornitološko društvo NAŠE Ptice](#) and the [Protection and Preservation of Natural Environment in Albania](#) as associated beneficiaries. Furthermore, this project is based on Spanish best practice experience and counts with the support from the [Junta de Andalucía](#) and the Spanish Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge.*

## Meeting Agenda

- 10:00 - 10:15 Welcome speech (*José Tavares, Director of VCF; Malamo Korbetis, NEEMO Monitoring expert*)
- 10:15 - 10:25 Introduction to the meeting agenda (*Jovan Andevski, VCF*)
- 10:25 - 10:45 Presentation of the BalkanDetox LIFE project and progress (*Uroš Pantović, VCF*)
- 10:45 - 11:25 Progress update from each project partner
- Albania (*Klea Duro, AOS*)
  - Albania (*Ledi Selgjekaj, PPNEA*)
  - Bosnia and Herzegovina (*Tarik Dervović, Naše ptice*)
  - Bulgaria (*Hristo Peshev, FWFF*)
  - Croatia (*Nera Fabijanić, BIOM*)
  - Greece (*Victoria Saravia, HOS*)
  - Republic of North Macedonia (*Nenad Petrovski, MES*)
  - Serbia (*Aleksa Vukićević, BPSSS*)
- 11:25 - 11:00 Key multi-institutional engagement processes of the BalkanDetox LIFE project (*Jovan Andevski, VCF*)
- National Anti-poisoning Working Groups
  - National anti-poisoning road maps
  - Standard Operational Protocols for wildlife poisoning
  - Wildlife Crime Academy
- 11:40 - 12:10 Q&A
- 12:10 - 12:20 Coffee break
- 12:20 - 12:30 BalkanDetox LIFE project 2021 event calendar (*Uroš Pantović, VCF*)
- 12:30 - 12:40 Steering Committee ToR (*Jovan Andevski, VCF*)
- 12:40 - 13:00 Introduction of the Steering Committee members
- 13:00 - 13:30 Q&A
- 13:30 - 14:30 Lunch break
- 14:30 - 15:30 Afternoon technical sessions for project beneficiaries
- 14:30 - 15:00 Formalization of Partnership agreements and Coordination Team
- 15:00 - 15:30 Finance Team
- 15:30 - 15:50 Communication Team
- 15:50 - 16:00 Quick wrap up

## How to Join the Zoom Meeting

To participate, you need to register by filling in the details required on this online registration form: <https://bit.ly/378Kv1i>

Then, you will immediately receive an email with instructions on how to join the meeting.

Here is a guide on how to use Zoom, in case you never used the platform before:

<https://bit.ly/3l9Hsej>

## General Instructions and Meeting Rules

- Find a quiet space where you will not be disturbed.
- Try to be the only one using the internet connection for download and upload at least during the live session to avoid any connectivity problems.
- If possible, use headphones with an integrated microphone. Otherwise, please use the microphone of the computer.
- Please join the meeting at 09:55 CET to make sure we avoid delays.
- TURN ON your microphone and Camera ONLY when you have the floor to speak, or as instructed by the moderator of the meeting.
- TURN OFF your microphone as soon as you have finished talking.
- If you have any questions or comments during the presentations, please write them in the chat.
- If you are sharing a screen, have your presentations ready in full-screen mode.  
Please note that the VCF moderator will share the slides presented by the associated beneficiaries.
- If there is a technical problem, the moderator will intervene.
- If your connection drops, don't worry, try to reconnect as soon as possible.
- If you are experiencing any problem please send an email to:  
[e.karatzia@4vultures.org](mailto:e.karatzia@4vultures.org)

**Thank you!**