

RGI-Greece workshop ‘Bird protection around the grid – for nature protection and system security’

RGI collaborates with HOS (BirdLife Greece) to share European experiences with Greek stakeholders on managing bird protection around the electricity grid.

In early December, RGI worked with the Hellenic Ornithological Society (HOS) to organise a workshop for the Greek transmission system operator – IPTO - distribution system operator, HEDNO, and the National Environment and Climate Change Agency (NECCA). The goal of the workshop was to explore the intricate balance between grid infrastructure and bird protection and share experiences from several EU Member States regarding mitigation measures, planning, and policy.

In the half-day workshop, speakers from Greece, Germany, Belgium and Bulgaria exchanged their experiences on, for example, the technical requirements of bird flight diverters, sensitivity mapping and national guidelines. In the discussions, participants agreed that taking steps to ensure bird protection along the grid is indispensable, not only as it affects biodiversity protection goals, but also network reliability and public perception of grid infrastructure.

RGI is glad to collaborate with colleagues in Greece and supports their commitment towards a nature-friendly electricity grid.