

Conference Agenda

Flagey, Pl. Sainte-Croix 1050 Brussels, Belgium

Tuesday | 15 October 2024

- 08:00 **Welcome & Registration**
- 08:45 **Vendor Fair until 17:30**
- 08:45 **Opening Words from organisers**
- Dr. Rainer Raab, CEO, TB Raab
 - Liam Innis, Senior Manager – Energy Ecosystems, Renewables Grid Initiative
 - Olivier Feix, Head of Strategy, Elia Group
- 09:20 **High-Level Keynotes**
- Andrea Vettori, Head of Unit, Directorate-General for Environment
 - Representative from Directorate-General for Energy (tbc)
- 09:40 **Keynote: Potential impacts of grids & renewables infrastructure on birds**
- Tris Allinson, Senior Scientist, BirdLife International
- 10:10 **Panel: Unlocking the path to a bird-friendly energy transition**
- Guillaume Marchais, Senior Environmental Specialist, EDP Renewables France
 - José Tavares, Director, Vulture Conservation Foundation
 - Lisa Garnier, Senior Expert Grid & Biodiversity R&D, RTE
 - Stefania Charisiadou, Nature Conservation Policy Officer, DG Environment
 - *Moderator: Olivier Feix, Head of Strategy, Elia Group*
- 11:15 **Coffee Break**
- 11:45 **Keynote: Low and medium-voltage cable undergrounding in Austria**
- Klaus Maras, CEO, BE Energy GmbH
- 12:15 **Presentations: Technologies & solutions to reduce bird mortality around energy infrastructure**
- Overview of technologies to protect birds around power lines*
- Brian McGowan, Founder & Managing Director, Scientias Ireland Limited
- Probabilistic methods to predict collision risk at wind turbines*
- Dr. Moritz Mercker, Managing Director, Bionum GmbH
- Bird protection measures in Bulgaria*
- Dilyana Vasileva, Expert Environment, EVN Bulgaria
 - Lyubka Vasileva, Team Leader Innovation & EU Projects, EVN Bulgaria
- Video monitoring of power lines*
- Rainhard Raab, Deputy CEO, TB Raab
- 13:30 **Lunch**
- 14:30 **Panel: From Science to Practice – Translating scientific findings into legislation and effective implementation of measures**
- Dr. Constance Blary, Postdoctoral Researcher, CNRS
 - Ricardo Martins, Researcher, BIOPOLIS/CIBIO
 - Liam Innis, Senior Manager – Energy Ecosystems, RGI
 - Anouk Puymartin, Policy Manager, BirdLife Europe and Central Asia
 - *Moderator: Frank Vassen, Policy Officer, DG Environment*

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15:30 **Coffee Break**

16:00 **Presentations: Data & sensitivity mapping to understand and prevent mortality risks for birds**

Mitigating bird-caused electrical faults in a transmission grid in Portugal

- Dr. Joana Bernardino, Researcher, BIOPOLIS/CIBIO

The Avian Sensitivity Tool for Energy Planning

- Bruna Arbo-Meneses, Science Officer Bird & Energy, BirdLife International

Sensitivity maps for collision and electrocution in France

- Ingrid Marchand, Coordinator LIFE Project SafeLines4Birds, LPO France

Habitat use and influence of the energy infrastructure on Great Bustard

- Soňa Svetlíková, Team Leader Modelling & Scientific Studies, TB Raab

Results of mortality of red kite in Europe

- Dr. Rainer Raab, CEO, TB Raab

17:20 **Closing Words**

17:30 **End of Day**

Wednesday | 16 October 2024

- 08:30 **Welcome & Registration**
- 09:00 **Panel: Balancing nature-positive with accelerated renewable energy deployment**
- Miguel Mascarenhas, Biologist and Environmental Specialist, Bioinsight
 - Lukas Zantopp, Head of Environmental Planning & Nature Protection, Amprion
 - Zuzana Guziová, Executive Director, Raptor Protection Slovakia
 - Dr Sebastian Dunnett, Senior Programme Officer, Nature Economy, UNEP-WCMC
 - *Moderator: Liam Innis, Senior Manager – Energy Ecosystems, RGI*
- 10:00 **Coffee Break**
- 10:30 **Presentations: Case studies of successful multi-stakeholder collaborations**
- Opening words on the LIFE Programme*
- Sylvia Barova, Advisor, EU LIFE Programme
- SafeLines4Birds*
- Manon Quetstroey, Manager – Energy & Nature, RGI
- LIFE Great Bustard*
- Dr. Rainer Raab, CEO, TB Raab
- NGO-TSO collaboration in Belgium*
- Olivia Geels, Environment Expert, Elia
 - Jean-Yves Paquet, Director Department of Studies, Natagora
- LIFE EUROKITE*
- Dr. Rainer Raab, CEO, TB Raab
- 12:00 **Poster Presentations**
- 12:15 **Lunch & Poster Session**
- 14:00 **Group One: Workshop – Connecting Biodiversity 2.0**
- Group Two: Poster Session & Networking Opportunity**
- 15:00 **Coffee Break**
- 15:30 **Group One: Workshop – Connecting Biodiversity 2.0**
- Group Two: Presentations – Global Solutions for Global Challenges: Case studies from around the world**
- Bird protection measures on power lines and wind farms in Africa*
- Andre Botha, Vulture for Africa Programme Manager, Endangered Wildlife Trust
- Impact of overhead power Lines on avifauna in India*
- Vidhi Modi, Doctoral Candidate, M. K. Bhavnagar University
- EUFLYNET COST Action in Europe, Africa and Asia*
- Dr. Ivan Maggini, Scientific Coordinator, Austrian Ornithological Centre
- Mapping priority areas for reducing bird electrocution of Lear's in Brasil*
- Dr. Larissa Biasotto, Science Officer Birds & Energy, BirdLife International
- 16:40 **Closing Remarks**
- 17:00 **End of Day**

Poster list

- The importance of high-quality data about wind energy infrastructures for biodiversity conservation – [Jacopo Cerri](#)
- Conservation of threatened bird's through retrofitting of hazardous overhead powerlines in Natura 2000 sites in Western Bulgaria – [Mariya G. Georgieva](#)
- Cumulative impact of wind energy on red kite population in Wallonia and feedback on the use of two automatic bird detection systems – [Arnaud Beckers](#)
- Effects of wind turbine dimensions on the collision risk of raptors: a simulation approach based on flight height distribution – [Tonio Schaub](#)
- We make the power lines along the Danube river safe for birds – [Marek Gális](#)
- Automatic Detection Systems (ADS) – [Charlène Gémard](#)
- Mitigating Bird Electrocutation: Conservation Efforts and Successes in Andalusia, southern Spain – [Jose Rafael Garrido Lopez](#)
- The value of cooperation and knowledge transfer to reduce raptor mortality due to power lines in the Western Mediterranean – [Helena Clavero Sousa](#)
- Reducing bird mortality by wind turbines: a multidisciplinary approach between Europe and the USA – [Arnaud Vansteenkiste](#)
- Effective collaboration method between NGOs and grid operators in Spain – [Alfonso Godino & Catarina Machado](#)

Thursday | 17 October 2024

Get ready for an immersive day exploring nature and conservation technologies around Elia's infrastructure!

We ask all participants to join us at **7:45** to board the buses before we hit the road at **8:00**. We will then head to Elia's Noordschote substation, where we will get an up-close look at the wire markers. Experts from Elia and Natuurpunt will share insights on how their successful collaboration helps preventing bird mortality by collision.

We will arrive at our next stop at **11:00**, the beautiful [Blankaert Nature Reserve](#) for a guided tour. The tour involves a walk through the reserve and a stop by the observation tower where we will be able to observe different bird species in the reserve. Afterwards, we will head back to the visitor centre – a total walk of 3 km – for a lunch before our return trip to Brussels.

We will arrive back in Flagey by **15:30**, wrapping up a day filled with exploration, learning, and nature.

We recommend you to bring good shoes and appropriate clothing (warm and rainy).



Venue and programme

Our programme kicks off on Tuesday 15 October and continues until 16 October at [Flagey, Place Sainte-Croix, 1050 Bruxelles](#). The field excursion will take place on the 17 October.

Due to high demand, for those who could not register we now offer the possibility to join the conference online. Feel free to share the online registration with your colleagues that wish to attend:

- [Day 1](#)
- [Day 2](#)

Side activities

Networking dinner – 14 October

The dinner will take place at Volle Gas and will begin at 19:30 with a vegetarian walking buffet that includes vegan options.

We are pleased to offer the dinner free of charge to all registered participants.

Vendor Fair – 15 October

A full-day fair will be held on 15 October, showcasing technological solutions aimed at protecting birds around power lines and wind turbines. This is an excellent opportunity to explore and learn more about these innovative technologies. The fair will run from 8:45 to 17:30.

Poster Session – 16 October

On 16 October, posters will be displayed, highlighting projects, successful collaborations, and best practices from around the world focused on protecting avian species near energy infrastructure. A dedicated session in the afternoon will provide further insights into these initiatives.