

## EBBA2 Data Access and Co-authorship Policies

### Introduction

EBBA2 receives data on bird distribution and abundance from atlas coordinators in European countries/territories. These will be used for the EBBA2 goals, and we also expect interest of external parties (e.g. researchers, policy people) in EBBA2 data at various spatial and temporal scales. The aim of this document is to clarify the type of available data and the rules for data access and provision, also for co-authorship in cases of scientific publications. A similar document exists for PECBMS and the principles remain the same to keep consistency within EBCC:

- raw national data are owned by their providers
- European aggregated data are owned by EBCC on behalf of its partners across Europe
- providers of national data should be invited to take part in scientific analyses/publications
- the process of data provision approvals should be as fast and flexible as possible
- supranational outputs should be made available to users as much as possible

These principles were presented at two EBBA2 workshops (2013 Barcelona, 2015 Mikulov).

### Overview of EBBA2 data

Main EBBA2 data at 50x50 km square scale:

- Species breeding occurrence
- Species breeding status (possible, probable or confirmed breeding)
- Abundance in logarithmic scale (1-9, 10-99, etc.)
- Comparison with EBBA1, i.e. distribution change between the periods of the two atlases

EBBA2 data at 50x50 km resolution use the same UTM grid that was implemented in the first European atlas. This grid was selected for several reasons but the main one is to keep comparability between atlases.

Main EBBA2 (potential) data at 10x10 km square scale:

- Modelled probability of occurrence of selected species at 10x10 km scale
- Raw 10x10 km data used to develop the modelled distribution

The original data provided to EBBA2 come from different types of grids. However, EBBA2 data at 10x10 km resolution are projected in the ETRS1989 grid across the whole of Europe. This is an appropriate grid for modelling purposes.

### Rules for data availability

#### 1. Open access<sup>1), 2)</sup>

Maps and tables available for free at web site, tables to be downloadable. Registration (i.e. name, contact, shortly a purpose) may be required for data download. The whole data set to be available at once, in simple table format, without further information (e.g. allocation of squares to countries), the data set to be identical with the data underlying maps in the book.

Applies to:

- Distribution map of species breeding occurrence at 50x50 km square scale

## 2. Restricted access, EBCC Board decides

Some data can be visualised at the web site or in the book or other publication, but not the underlying data and tables. These would be provided to external parties for free or charging a manipulation fee based on a decision by the EBCC Board. The decision can be also negative, i.e. the Board can reject data provision. Track of records of data requests would be kept by the EBCC Board. All individuals and institutions, who provided the data to EBBA2 as its national/regional data providers, would have free access to the data from their territories (incl. border squares) automatically, in case of any doubts (e.g. the coordinator is not at a position anymore), the EBCC Board decides. The whole data set to be available at once, in simple table format, without further information (e.g. allocation of squares to countries), it would be identical with the data underlying maps in the book and on-line maps.

Applies to:

- Breeding evidence (possible, probable and confirmed)
- Abundance map of species at 50x50 km square scale
- Comparison with EBBA1 at 50x50 km scale, i.e. distribution change
- Modelled probability of occurrence of selected species at 10x10 km scale

## 3. Restricted access, national data providers decide

Data can be made available only when approved by national data providers (national data providers decide on their data sets). This applies to requests from any parties, i.e. including other national atlas coordinators. EBBA2 coordination team or SMOG are allowed to perform exploratory analyses of the data, but any publication output, apart from already agreed products of EBBA2, is also subject of approval by national data providers. The EBBA2 coordination team and later EBCC board can facilitate communication and seek for approval for data requests, depending on capacity and EBBA2 priorities.

Applies to:

- raw data used to produce the modelled distribution maps at 10x10 km scale.

<sup>1)</sup>*Licence Creative Commons to be applied to all potentially open access outputs. Details of the licence need to be specified, generally it is suggested to put a condition that any output made of the EBBA2 open access data must also be open access.*

<sup>2)</sup>*Making the results open access can be delayed to the Atlas publication date in order to avoid making the book less attractive in first phases after the publication date. EBCC Board will decide on exact timing of making the outputs open access.*

## **Rules for co-authorship**

In the early stages of writing of scientific papers or reports by EBBA2 coordination team, SMOG, ASC or EBCC Board, all national data providers (for data used in the paper or report) will be informed of the use of their data. All are potential contributors to scientific papers that use the data they provided, and all should be asked if they wish to become involved.

The leading author of the scientific paper or report is responsible for informing data providers that their data may be used in a scientific paper, and in asking all potential contributors whether they wish to participate and for their inputs.

Ideally, potential contributors will be asked to contribute in the early stages of the writing of a scientific paper. In those situations where this is not the case, for example, when opportunities for publications arise very rapidly, or highly novel results are found unexpectedly, data providers should be informed of plans for publications as soon as possible.

Active involvement in the process of writing the scientific paper is needed to justify co-authorship; this involvement can concern either theoretical or methodological aspects, data analyses, interpretation of results, or contributing to the writing.

Co-authors will be informed of the submission and revision process by the leading author, so that they can also comment on revised versions of the manuscript and remain fully informed of progress.

EBCC Board and the leading authors have a duty to report the realized use of the data in publications to the data providers.

Practicality and workability of multi-author papers with over 20 contributors (with respect to correcting or commenting papers, sign agreements etc) must be considered too. Finally, the named authors on papers should also represent EBCC inputs and interests where this is appropriate. In all cases, national data providers will be fully acknowledged for their data provision in the Acknowledgments section of any paper or report, as long as this is allowed by the relevant journal/publication. The EBCC is aware that most national data providers work in scientific/research fields and that their funding will depend to some degree on scientific production so that co-authorship when appropriate will help in securing the running of their national atlases and monitoring and building organisational reputations.

These rules do not apply to open access data used by external parties, however EBCC and the EBBA2 coordination team will encourage all data users to invite national data providers as potential co-authors of scientific papers.

In case of restricted data where national data providers decide, the co-authorship has to be organised with the national data providers, case by case.