

The vulnerability of Mediterranean Terrestrial Ecosystems to Climate Change

Aula Marconi, Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche
Roma, Italy
26-28 April 2006

| | |
|--------------------|--------|
| Oral Communication | Poster |
| | X |

Title

Potentialities of a country-wide bird monitoring programme to assess effects of climate change on ecosystems and communities

Author(s)

Fornasari Lorenzo, Buvoli Lia, de Carli Elisabetta, Santolini Riccardo & Tellini Florenzano Guido

Affiliation(s)

Coordinamento MITO2000 c/o FaunaViva, Viale Sarca 78, I-20125 Milano (Italy)

Abstract (max 200 words)

MITO2000 is a nation-wide bird monitoring programme based on a random sampling procedure designed to obtain representative data both at geographical and environmental levels. In the first five years of the programme (2000-2004) at least 400 ornithologists performed about 26,000 georeferenced point counts with bird abundance estimation. At each sampling point, habitat data (according to CORINE Land Cover codes) and elevation were also collected. In order to monitor bird abundance and distribution changes, from 2005 onward a number of about 3000 point counts a year is foreseen. Thanks to the precision of the site identification, elevation and habitat measurements, through the prosecution of the monitoring programme this kind of sample will allow to estimate changes in altitudinal, environmental and geographical distribution of species sensitive to climate change effects. In such a picture we think that several useful groups might be identified as follows: species related to the altitudinal forest vegetation limit (i.e. *Anthus trivialis*), species related to woodland habitat (i.e. *Turdus philomelos*) and species related to heterogeneous agricultural areas (i.e. *Lanius collurio*).