

Case Study for CEEweb Award  
Stakeholder cooperation in nature conservation

## Software to handle bird ringing database

BirdLife Hungary – T-Systems

**Country:** Hungary  
**Organisation:** BirdLife Hungary  
**Type:** NGO

1.	<p><b>Brief Description of the case</b></p> <p>T systems developed a new software for BirdLife Hungary (Hungarian Ornithological and Nature Conservation Society). The software (Tringa: T ring application) can handle the bird ringing database of BirdLife.</p> <p>Alcoa gave two years money support to BirdLife Hungary in the eagle poisoning project. From 1998 to 2008, 835, and from April, 2006 to 2008, 64 individuals were poisoned in Hungary.</p>
2.	<p><b>Detailed Description</b></p> <p><b>Type of case:</b> <u>philanthropic (donation)</u> / project based / <u>strategic</u></p> <p><b>Location:</b> Hungary</p> <p><b>Type of area:</b> Bird ringing/Bird protection</p> <p><b>Duration:</b> since 2013 and from 2008-2010</p> <p><b>Involved organizations (both business and green NGOs):</b> T systems, BirdLife Hungary (Hungarian Ornithological and Nature Conservation Society), Alcoa Foundation</p> <p><b>Activities carried out in the framework of the cooperation including concrete tools used:</b> With the developed Tringa software, bird ringers and observers can handle their ringing database online. The former database was migrated to the software in February, 2014. The software was introduced on a session of BirdLife Hungary in 2014. Since May, 2014, ringers and bird watchers can use this software.</p> <p>Against eagle poisoning, BirdLife Hungary does monitoring on the field. Also booklets (Anti-poisoning Action Plan) and presentations about the impacts of poisoning on conservation are part of this project. MME is operating a temporary hotline for recording poisoning cases. The use of the most dangerous chemicals containing the carbofuran agent were officially banned since 2008. Intensive monitoring of wintering eagle population in Hungary is also part of the project.</p> <p><b>Results:</b></p> <p>The users can browse between approximately 5 million dates from birds in the Tringa database. It is a modern way to handle this big database. The ringing and recovery data can be displayed map. Since the users (ringers and observers) online process their data (upload, filter, export), facilitate the work of the Hungarian Bird Ringing Centre's staff. The Centre can focus on the data control processing.</p>

	<p>There is more opportunity to study the poisoning of eagles. Sadly the numbers of cases are still very high. During the intensive surveys of main wintering areas of eagles altogether 13 poisoned eagles (10 white-tailed and 3 imperials) were found in 2009 and further 11 eagles (8 white-tailed and 3 imperials) in 2010. These figures are still high comparing to the data between 1998 and 2004, but fortunately they are significantly lower than in any of the three years prior to the project. Nine press releases have been sent to the media, which resulted in ca. 250 published reports on different TV and radio channels, newspapers and websites.</p> <p><b>Plans for continuation/extension/improvement:</b> There will be further development of Tringa by BirdLife Hungary, based on the reviews of the users during the test period. The study of eagle poisoning is an ongoing project of BirdLife Hungary.</p>
3.	<p><b>Benefits and motivation of partners (businesses, green NGOs):</b> Ringing of birds has been an important part of bird conservation for more than a hundred years. It is also useful in studying birds and their migration. Behavior of birds can be studied also this way. The software (Ringing Office) used for this was developed in 1995. The software used to handle the ringing database needs development in certain periods of time.</p> <p>The eagle poisoning project is important for BirdLife Hungary, because also the critically endangered imperial eagles are victims.</p>
4.	<p><b>Social, environmental and economic impacts of the activities including stakeholders of the company/NGO</b></p> <p>The bird ringing beyond the scientific and conservation results, connects the people (ringers, finders, observers, researchers), organizations (bird ringing centers across Europe and beyond, national parks, specialized agencies, other conservation organizations, etc.). The online application makes this network connection into faster and dynamic.</p> <p>Alcoa gave two years money support to BirdLife Hungary in the eagle poisoning project.</p>
4.	<p><b>General information on legal background and other incentives/obstacles in the country</b></p> <p><i>What kind legal requirement exist? ISO/EMAS?, CSR activities based on Global Reporting Initiative.</i> Bird ringing in Hungary is controlled by BirdLife Hungary, accordance with the legislation and with all official authorization. Rules are also made in Hungary, but of course international collaboration is needed (EURING: European Union for Bird Ringing).</p> <p><i>How widely does this type of partnership spread?</i> The Tringa can be used only in Hungary by the external users (Hungarian ringers, finders and observers). The users can upload ringing and recovery data which was collected in Hungary. The foreign related data (Hungarian ringed bird's recovery in abroad or foreign ringed bird's recovery in Hungary) is received by the Hungarian Bird Ringing Centre (via e-mails or ordinary</p>

	<p>letters) and the staff (Tringa's admin users) process them. The recovery reports are sent by Tringa automatically to the users and informators (ringing centres, finders etc.). The Centre/Tringa send thousands recovery reports in a year.</p> <p>The eagle poisoning project takes place also in Hungary. As eagles fly a long distance, this problem can be international.</p> <p><i>What is the attitude of the public towards this type of partnership?</i></p> <p>The ringing totals in Hungary can be seen on the home page. Only the registered users can browser among their ringing and recovery data. The generated recovery maps can be shared easily. The link of these maps can be send (for example in a news of an interesting long distanced recovery) and this link can be opened by unregistered users too. There are studies on the website of the imperial eagle project, were the public can follow the project. The so-called National Winter Eagle Survey and eagle-watching camps are also popular.</p>
5.	<p><b>Annexes (pictures, maps, websites, etc.).</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.mme.hu/sites/.../madargyuruzesi_kozpont_beszamolo_2013.pdf">www.mme.hu/sites/.../madargyuruzesi_kozpont_beszamolo_2013.pdf</a>  <a href="http://www.mme.hu/uj_tel_uj_sasmergezesi_hullam">http://www.mme.hu/uj_tel_uj_sasmergezesi_hullam</a>  <a href="http://parlagisas.hu/content/veszelyek">http://parlagisas.hu/content/veszelyek</a></p>