



**Society for Conservation Biology**

A global community of conservation professionals

**Europe Section**



**ANNUAL REPORT 2010**

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**The Society for Conservation Biology (SCB)** is an international professional organization dedicated to promoting the scientific study of the phenomena that affect the maintenance, loss, and restoration of biological diversity. The **Europe Section** was founded in 2002 and its members are present in 27 countries.

*The mission of the Europe Section is to promote conservation biology and its application to conserve Europe's biological diversity.*



The BoD in Freiburg, February 2010

The Section has an international 12 member Board of Directors, President (Martrin Dieterich), President Elect (Andras Báldi) and task-oriented committees including Policy (Chair: Pierre Ibisch), Education (Chair: Rob Marrs), Communication (Chair: Barbara Livoreil), Membership (Chair: Raphael Arlettaz) and Student Affairs Committee (Chair: Nuno Curado).

Would you like to help the Section's work in your country as a **National Contact Person**? Join our National Contact Network! Currently we are looking for candidates from Belarus, Estonia, Finland and Iceland.

## Board Meetings

The Board met twice in 2010 in Freiburg and in Paris to discuss the advancements and the plans of the past and following 6 months. The Board has discussed a new mechanisms for formulating and issuing statements, which is expected to be finalised in early 2011.



The BoD met in Paris, October 2010, *from left to right, in the back: András Báldi (President elect) - Rob Marrs - Martin Dieterich (President) - Salvatore Arico - Bengt-Gunnar Jonnson ; in the front: Nuria Selva, Barbara Livoreil, Barbara Mihók (coordinator).*

## Elections

Four members of the Board ended their term in 2010, including long-serving colleagues Nuria Selva (Poland), Emre Can (Turkey), Petr Zasadil (Czech Republic) and also Linda Laikre (Sweden).

Four new members were elected in late 2010: Pierre Ibisch (Germany), Andrew Ramsey (UK), Mikko Mönkkönen (Finland), and Margherita Gioria (Germany) with Gábor Lövei being re-elected as the fifth member (see next page).

### Note from the President

As the SCB is moving towards a truly global society, 2011 may become a decisive year in the move towards increased section independence. The Europe section has lead the efforts to have section independence included in the new SCB strategic plan and will have to live up to the challenge.



Martin Dieterich, *President of the SCB-ES*

## New members in the BoD

Margherita Gioria is the member of the Department of Biology, University of Konstanz, Germany. Her main research interests are the measurement of patterns of biodiversity at multiple spatial scales, the relationship between biodiversity and ecosystem functioning, the effects of global changes on biodiversity, the ecology and biology of invasive species, and the impact of plant invasions on ecosystems.



Pierre Ibisch is professor for Nature Conservation with the Eberswalde University for Sustainable Development. He is currently holding a research professorship for "Biodiversity conservation and natural resource management under global change". He lived and worked in South America for about 9 years. He is promoting the integration of sustainability issues into the section's work.



Gábor Lövei is an ecologist and entomologist. He was born and educated in Hungary, but has been working in the field of ecology, ornithology, and entomology in several European countries, China, New Zealand, and Africa. Currently is a Senior Scientist at Aarhus University, Denmark, and Adjunct Professor at the Plant Protection Institute, Beijing, China. His scientific activity includes research in invasion ecology, biodiversity on cultivated land, environmental biosafety of transgenic plants, biological control of arthropod pests, bird migration, tropical ecology and scientific communication.



Mikko Mönkönen is professor in applied ecology at the University of Jyväskylä, Finland, and currently the head of the Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences. His current research interests focus on finding cost-efficient tools at the landscape level to reconcile economically sustainable use of forests and maintenance of forest biodiversity.



Andrew Ramsey is a principal lecturer in the Centre for Wildlife Conservation at the University of Cumbria, UK. Most of his research involves interdisciplinary work developing strategies to maximise biodiversity benefits within economically active woodland ecosystems in the UK, Greece, Austria, Finland and Malaysia. He is also involved in research on red squirrel habitat networks, chemical communication strategies in brown bear, and conservation of freshwater mussels.

### 3rd European Congress of Conservation Biology ([www.eccb2012.org](http://www.eccb2012.org))

The next ECCB will be held in 2012. Bids were called for in mid-2010. The BoD discussed the offers and decided that the 3rd ECCB will be held at the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre (SECC), Glasgow, UK, from 28 August to 1 September 2012.

The main theme of the meeting will be "**Conservation on the edge**". The Congress is hosted by the University of Cumbria's National School of Forestry and marks the 10th anniversary of the formation of the SCB-Europe.



### Greek Summer School 2010

The GSS2010 supported by the SCB Europe Section was a great success. The Summer School, as an Erasmus Intensive Programme, provided a diverse multidisciplinary two-week training programme from 13-26 June 2010. Fourteen undergraduate students from 4 countries participated in the course, titled "Conservation Biology in Europe: building a coherent strategy for the future".

Beside the up-to-date scientific knowledge on issues like biodiversity loss, global climate change and GMOs, the lecturers also gave an overview of the current relevant European conservation policies providing time for open discussions and debates.

The two day mountaineering excursion led to the core area of the Pindos National Park, the largest mountainous Park of Greece and gave the opportunity to observe the alpine ecosystem.

The Erasmus Intensive Programme will last 2 more years (2011-2012). SCB-ES offers grants for three SCB students to the GSS for 2011. For further details please visit [www.cbcd.eu/gss](http://www.cbcd.eu/gss).



## Statement letter to the Nagoya COP

The Europe Section Policy Committee under the leadership of Nuria Selva and Guy Peer has submitted a letter to the EU Commission to support a strong stance towards biodiversity issues at the COP in Nagoya. The global SCB subsequently has drafted their Nagoya position statement building on the letter prepared by the SCB-ES Policy Committee.

## Student Affairs Committee

Nuno Curado was appointed to chair the Student Affairs Ad hoc Committee for the coming three years. The SAC is maintaining its wikipage to coordinate the student activities in the Section and in the Society (scb-students.wikispaces.com). The Committee is organizing student activities in the coming ECCB.



## Section's leading role in the IPBES Ad-hoc Committee

The United Nations has established a new science – Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES). IPBES is intended to provide independent, timely and effective conservation science and assessments of biodiversity and ecosystem services to the policy sector. It is designed to lessen the impact of policies and practices upon biodiversity. The Europe Section took the lead on the SCB involvement in IPBES by forming an ad-hoc committee. Information on IPBES is available at ([www.ipbes.net](http://www.ipbes.net)) and if you have questions please feel free to contact the ad-hoc committee through Bengt-Gunnar Jonsson ([bengt-gunnar.jonsson@miun.se](mailto:bengt-gunnar.jonsson@miun.se)).



### Get in touch with the BoD!

The Section established a Facebook group and is maintaining its blog with the latest news. Feel free to contribute the blog and post on current hot topics in conservation biology!

Visit:

[http://euroconbio.blogspot.com/!](http://euroconbio.blogspot.com/)

A new booklet of the **Section** has been completed in 2010.



**New Section flyers and A3 posters** will be available soon.

Contact us if you are willing to help in the dissemination!