

Workshop 2 Can we live with them?

14 participants from 8 countries

1. Main successes and Challenges raised by the participants during the workshop

CHALLENGES

- Control mortality of wolf caused by anthropogenic causes
- To know more about cultural value of wolf , symbolic value
- To have more studies on social and psychological aspects of emotional relationship with large carnivores
- Rural perceptions might be different from urban, fear might play an important role, can be associated to lack of knowledge and experience of coexistence and should be considered seriously
- agriculture policies and EU subsidies can change livestock practices and increase carnivore damage namely by intensification
- articulate agriculture policies and subsidies to livestock production

SUCESSES/ OPPORTUNITIES

- Electric fences can reduce significantly depredation damage
- Different techniques like genetics, provide monitoring of wildlife populations
- Damage might not be the main problem for farmers compared for instance with market problems with their products
- Tolerance to existence of wolf seems to exist in areas of long coexistence
- cultural heritage associated with wolf have a high ethnographic value and are a touristic opportunity
- Wolf predation on feral dogs which also cause damage can be an added ecosystem service
- Livestock confinement in winter and having guard dogs prevents predation specially calves
- Tourism around emblematic species can have a high profit (millions) and easily create awareness

2. What new voices, new visions are needed to be brought in and heard on this topic?

SOLUTIONS

- Specific contexts need specific solutions, there is no solution for all sites
- Natural prey restocking might apply to some places for wolf recovery not others
- applied research from natural sciences and also social sciences
- compensation might still have to be applied but need promoting prevention measures and support farmers on that
- Compensation might create dependence and maybe less responsibility
- Promote economic value of large carnivores

- Sharing experience among local farmers can be positive about prevention

ACTORS

- research institutions: biologists but also social scientists
- Authorities at regional national and local levels
- Private companies who are responsible for mitigation measures as financiers
- farmers attending to their specificities
- hunters

3. How can EUROPARC enable this “new voices” to be included?

- Establish a network among members to share experiences, good measures, exchanging knowledges
- Share methodologies to involve stakeholders, facilitation to integrate different stakeholders
- Funding opportunities multidisciplinary research, namely social science
- Create an award to good practices among natural parks to give more visibility to positive outcomes of coexistence

4. (extra) What will participants do after the workshop?

