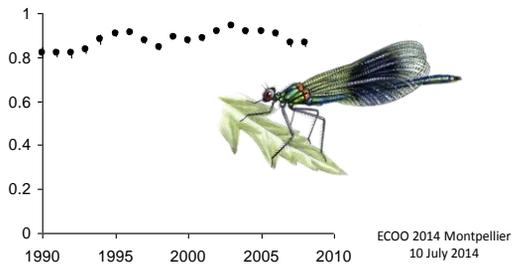


## Workshop monitoring



## Monitoring dragonflies in Europe: why?

- To detect changes in species occurrence, due to environmental issues, climate change, etc.
- To enable conservation efforts in time
- To provide a tool for European policy makers: the EC is asking for good biodiversity indicators
- To focus on the importance of dragonflies as indicators for freshwater quality

2 most important links: Natura2000 and SEBI-indicators

## Monitoring Natura 2000 species

- Every Member State has to report every 6 years to EC → monitoring data are needed
- Only selected group of species
  - Often very localised or rare species
  - Often difficult to monitor (detectability, low numbers, very few localities ...)
- Harmonisation between countries is needed

## Monitoring Natura 2000 species

- Who takes the lead/initiatives?
  - No recommendations from EC
  - Each country for its own? > problems comparing data between countries
  - So: recommendations should come from this group of dragonfly specialists

## SEBI

- SEBI: Streamlining European Biodiversity Indicators
- Started in 2005
- Aim: to develop a European set of biodiversity indicators for the 2020 biodiversity targets.
- Build on current initiatives and available data to avoid duplication of efforts.

## Criteria for SEBI-indicators

- Scientific sound method
- Sensitive
- Affordable monitoring, available and routinely collected data
- Spatial and temporal coverage of data
- Measure progress towards target
- Policy relevance
- Broad acceptance

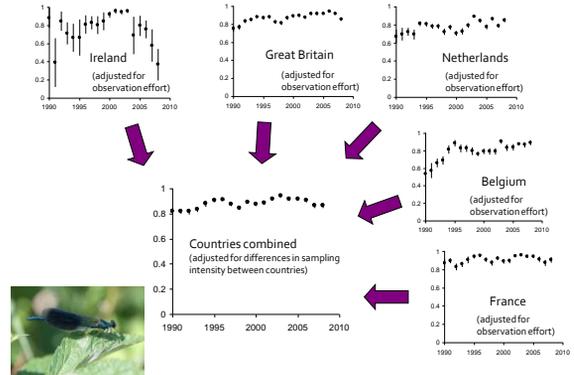




all 1 km x 1 km squares with dragonfly observations in 1990-2008



all 1 km x 1 km squares with *Calopteryx splendens* observations in 1990-2008



## Lessons learnt

- It can be done!
- Data is needed from at least some hundreds of 1\*1 km squares, with a fair number of replicated visits within years and between years
- It is a lot of work to combine data from different datasets, especially when more countries are joining (and no funding available!)
- Pragmatic approach necessary:
  - one contact person per country/region
  - each country/region should take care of some basic conversions before contributing data

## 2013: Inventory of new (potential) participants

- Questionnaire sent to contacts in 25 countries/regions: which data do you have and are you interested in joining?
- Example of requested **data format**: can you make the basic conversions?
  - 7 countries/regions (2 new) have reacted positively and are able to join
  - 5 are positive, but no 'green light' yet
  - 4 are positive, but obstacles remain
  - 2 are not able to cooperate
  - 7 have not reacted (yet)

## Main obstacles...

### Obstacles for participation

- Data are often (co-)owned by governments or national dragonfly associations: decision making takes a lot of time
  - only a problem at the start?
- The amount of data is limited in a lot of countries
- We ask to contribute a lot of detailed data, without any form of payment/reward!
  - exact point locations of all species necessary for calculation of detection chances

### Quote:

### Obstacles for participation

*"...we are always ready to cooperate and help, but are a bit reluctant to give away basically the whole database. Even more so as there is practically no incentive for us, just a thank you line in the article. [...] at the end of the day we are trying to survive as a company and our database is an important part of our portfolio."*

### Can we solve these obstacles?

## Questions

- Which conditions should we agree on before making a start?
  - how to gain trust from data owners?
  - who can use the data and for what purposes?
  - who is making decisions?
  - authorship of potential papers?
  - how to deal with potential funding possibilities in the future?
  - how to update data regularly?
  - ...

## Questions

- Which easy-to-reach goals should we focus on in the beginning?
  - just a small start with only 7 countries/regions, enabling more countries to join later?
  - start with a small selection of common & wide-spread species?
  - low-profile publishing of first results on a website?

**We should learn from EBCC (birds) and BCE (butterflies)!**