



The ABLE project is a partnership between Butterfly Conservation Europe (BCE), the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (UK), the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ, Germany), Dutch Butterfly Conservation and Butterfly Conservation (UK). It is funded by a service contract from the European Union Directorate for the Environment, for an initial period of two years from 2019-20.

To learn more about the Butterfly Monitoring Schemes, the transect methodology and any details about butterfly monitoring, please visit the website of Butterfly Conservation Europe ([www.bc-europe.eu](http://www.bc-europe.eu)).

If you want to start a transect in your country you could visit the website of eBMS ([www.butterfly-monitoring.net](http://www.butterfly-monitoring.net)). You could register all your transect visits and see other transects ran in Europe.

ABLE - Assessing Butterflies in Europe  
eBMS - European Butterfly Monitoring Scheme

[www.butterfly-monitoring.net/able](http://www.butterfly-monitoring.net/able)

Project Officer ABLE project:  
[cristina.sevilleja@vlinderstichting.nl](mailto:cristina.sevilleja@vlinderstichting.nl)

eBMS contac:  
[ebms@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:ebms@ceh.ac.uk)



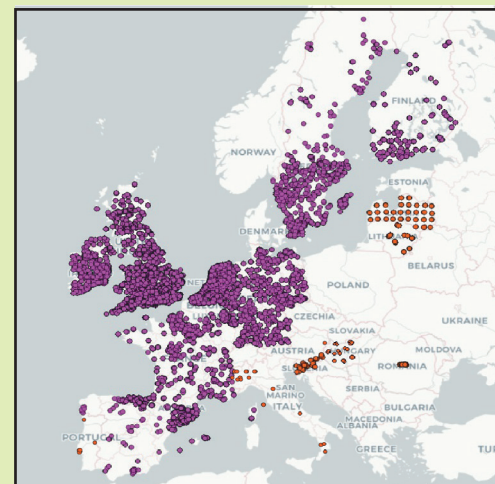
## Expanding Butterfly Monitoring

Become a citizen scientist counting butterflies!

There are already thousands of volunteers throughout Europe helping in butterfly conservation. They count butterflies under Butterfly Monitoring Scheme (BMS) in different countries to know their status. They report their observations to the national BMS coordinator for producing butterfly indicators.



The European Butterfly Monitoring Scheme network is growing everyday; in 2019 there were 17 schemes, covering 15 countries of Europe. More than 4000 butterfly transects are counted every year by volunteers who collect data in order to help, protect and sustain butterflies and their habitats.



All the data is collected in a central online system, eBMS - European Butterfly Monitoring Scheme. The map shows the current transects in purple and newly created ones in red.

[www.butterfly-monitoring.net](http://www.butterfly-monitoring.net)





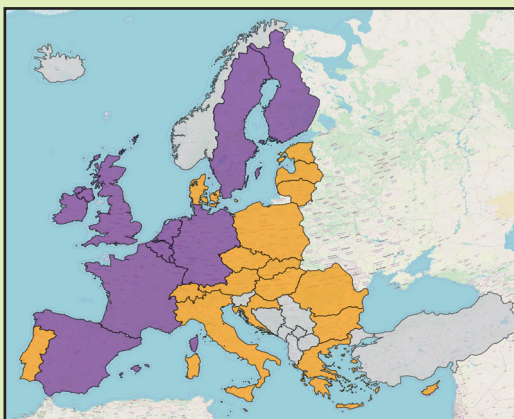


## Assessing Butterflies in Europe

ABLE is an European Pilot-Project which aim to create a representative monitoring network of Butterflies throughout Europe.

There are still many European countries without a Butterfly Monitoring Scheme. With the ABLE project we want to help these countries develop schemes and spread the importance of butterfly monitoring. The map shows countries with existing schemes in purple and target countries in orange.

ABLE provides support, material for identifying butterflies and workshops for the volunteers in target countries



Globally insects are decreasing rapidly for many reasons. Monitoring them is important to track their trends in abundance. It also helps to identify the reasons for their decline and generate effective conservation actions.

**Be part of our network  
and help us to conserve  
butterflies!**

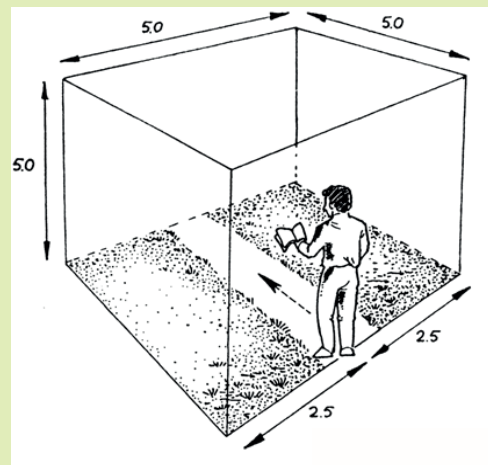


## Butterfly Transects



The transect is the method used in the European BMS for monitoring. It is simply a fixed route (walk) visited frequently in order to record the different butterflies and their numbers. You just need to:

- Walk your transect at a slow, constant pace.
- Count all butterflies by individual species in an imaginary box, 2.5m to each side and 5m in front and above you
- The visits should be done with good weather: sunny and warm, with no rain and not too windy
- Report your records to the national coordinators or to eBMS



ABLE produces field guides of butterflies species by regions to identify them easily!

### *How many times we should walk the transect?*

Ideally, every week in the flight period of the butterflies. A visit every two weeks or 10 days also provides good results. A minimum of 3 visits is needed as a minimum in a year.

### *Where to count butterflies?*

Wherever you want; in a forest, meadow or in a city. Preferably close to your home or place of work.

