



Lawrence J-W



ECNC

european centre for nature conservation

Green Infrastructure

- Origins and definition
- Added value
- Implementation/practice



Green infrastructure



Why now?

- Never waste a good crisis
- The restoration economy
- Recovery agenda
- From protection to investment

What is it?

Definition: need... broad understanding to encompass different content; concept with utility across the European territory; good definition of what we wish to achieve; not just for the frogs....

Definition...

- **European Commission working group on green infrastructure: *Green infrastructure is a strategically planned and delivered network of high-quality green spaces and other environmental features. It should be designed and managed as a multifunctional resource capable of delivering a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefit local communities. Green infrastructure includes forests, rivers, coastal zones, parks, eco-corridors and other natural or semi-natural features which constitute key elements for the provision of ecosystem services.***

Working definition

GoPAEN June 2011: *The result of planned long-term protection or structural change of ecosystem components in (urban or rural) landscapes that result in significant benefits to biodiversity and enhanced delivery of ecosystem services.*

Components of GI?

- Linked to functioning of ecosystems and provision of ecosystem services
- Cultural services
- Ecological Networks...?

The ~~ecological network~~ concept Green Infrastructure



- Counteract fragmentation
- Conservation of core areas
- Buffering
- Maintaining/establishing connectivity
- Climate change
- Tool for ecological design and planning
- Tool for interaction with other land uses
- **Political instrument**

What more?

- **A tool to achieve a range of services for human society**
- **Maintaining, strengthening and restoring ecosystems and the services they provide.**
- **Strategically planned and managed natural lands, working landscapes and other open spaces**
 - **Grey to green**
- **Multiple approaches multiple benefits**

How can GI contribute to sectoral policies?

- (Strategic) spatial planning
- Climate change mitigation
- Process: multi-stakeholder
 - Multi-objective
 - Different scales
- Ecosystem based solutions
 - Economically led
- Policy reform/ review (2020)
 - NEW – EC generated?

Implementation

- As for EN?
- What more?
- Changed focus...



- **Should be based on existing initiatives and European directives - Natura 2000 (SPA/SAC) and the Emerald Network.**

Sectoral integration



Stakeholder participation



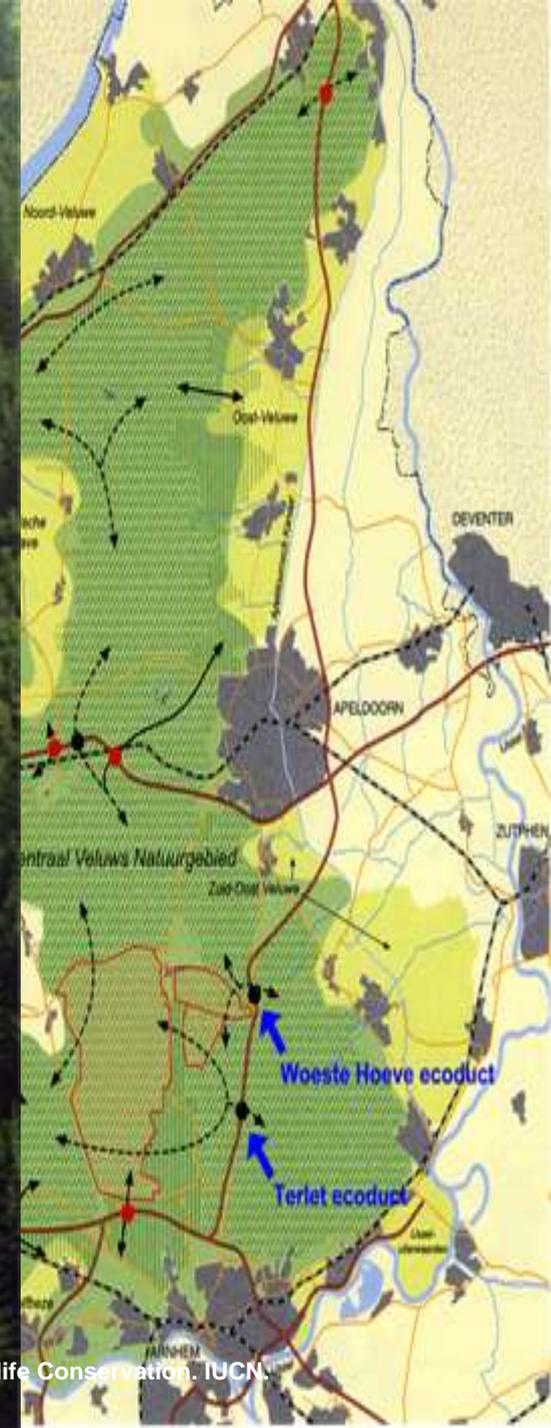
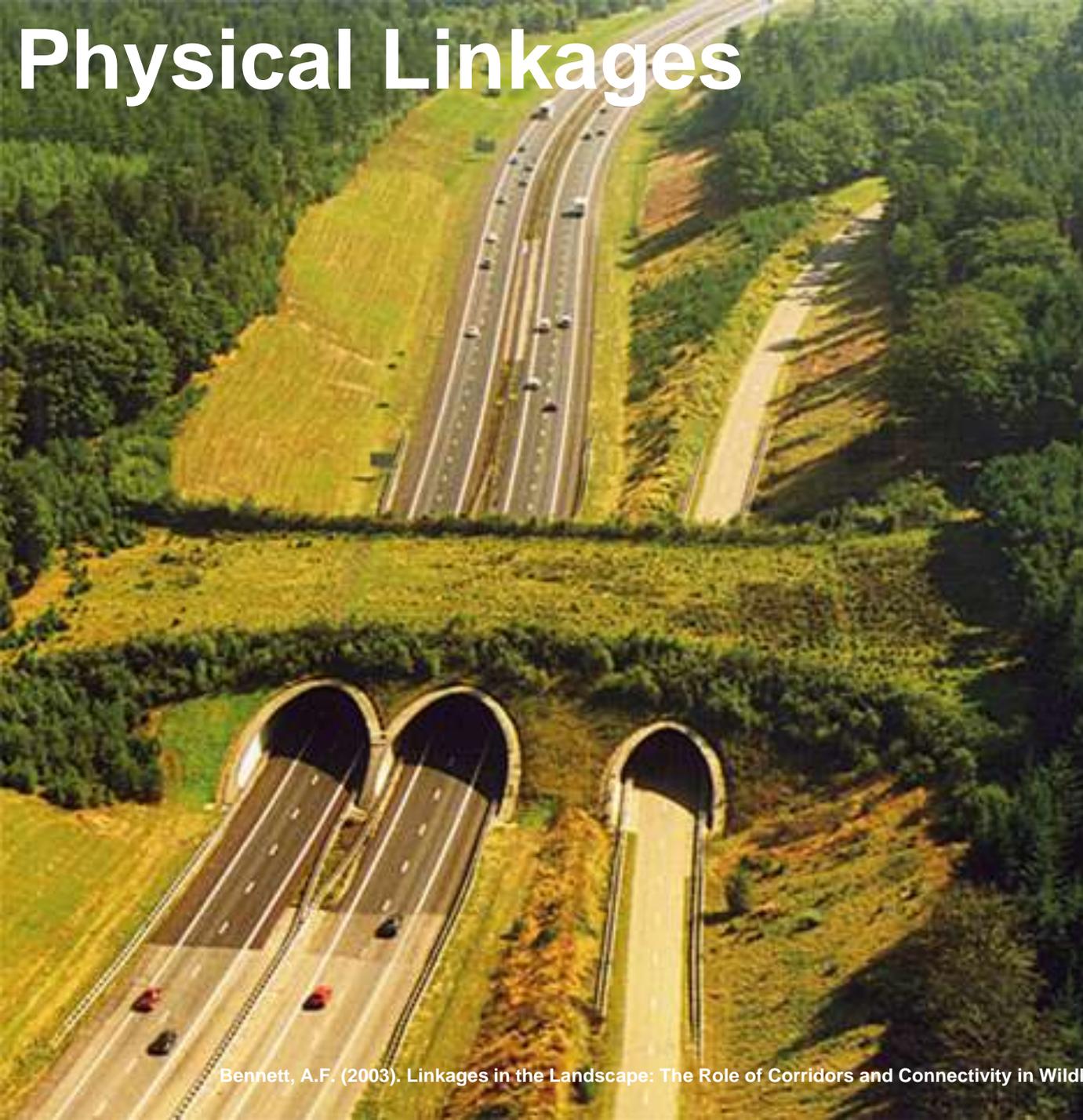
MEKANTENLIJAH
 EKSPLOATASI
 BUKARA





Agriculture

Physical Linkages



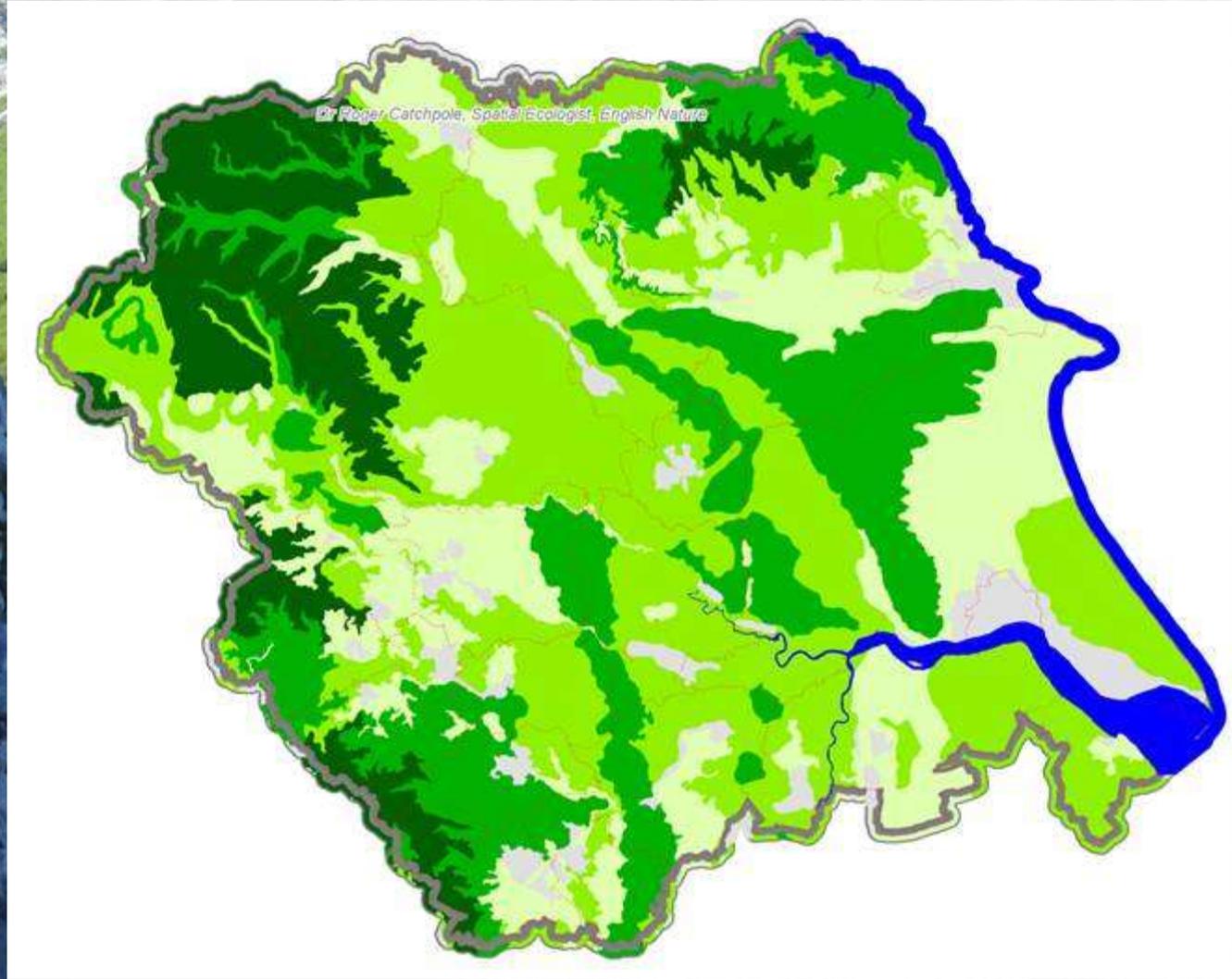
Planning – opportunity mapping

Setting Objectives – Spatial Strategy

environmental
gains

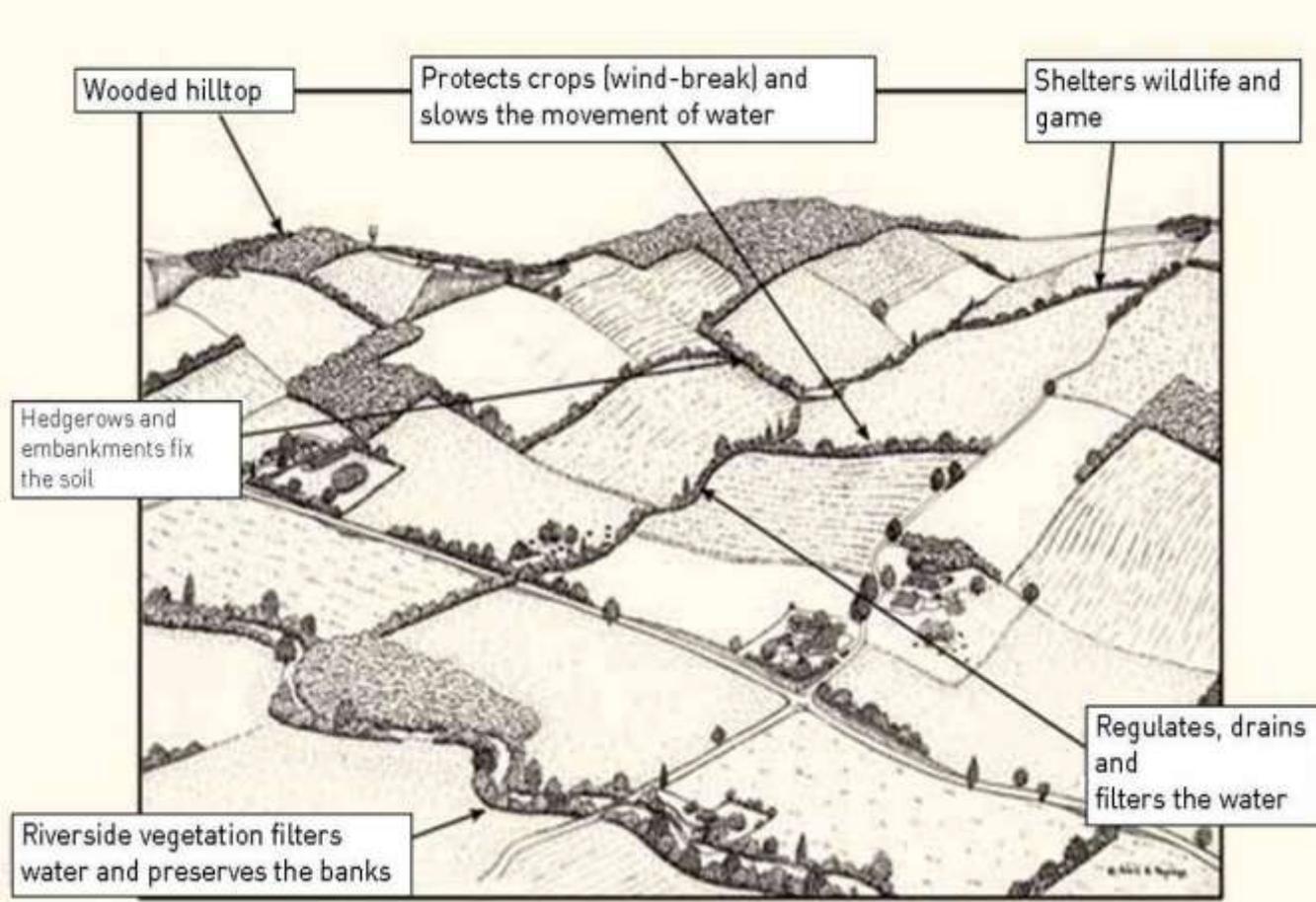
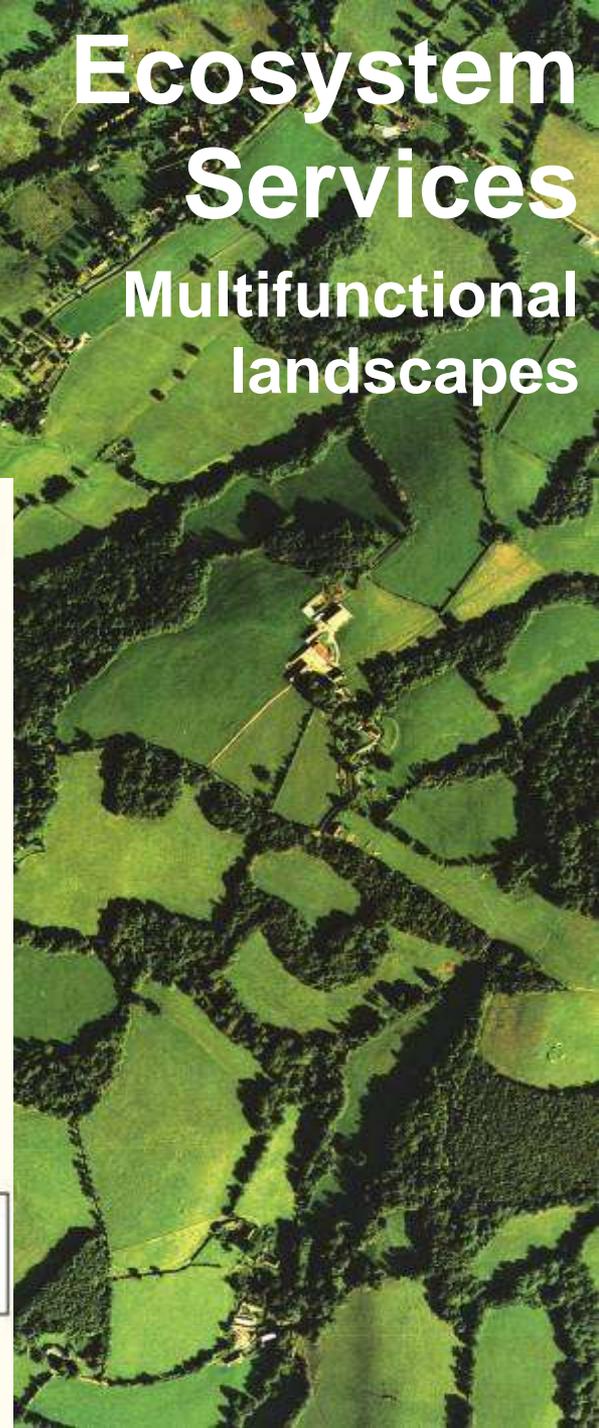


biodiversity
gains

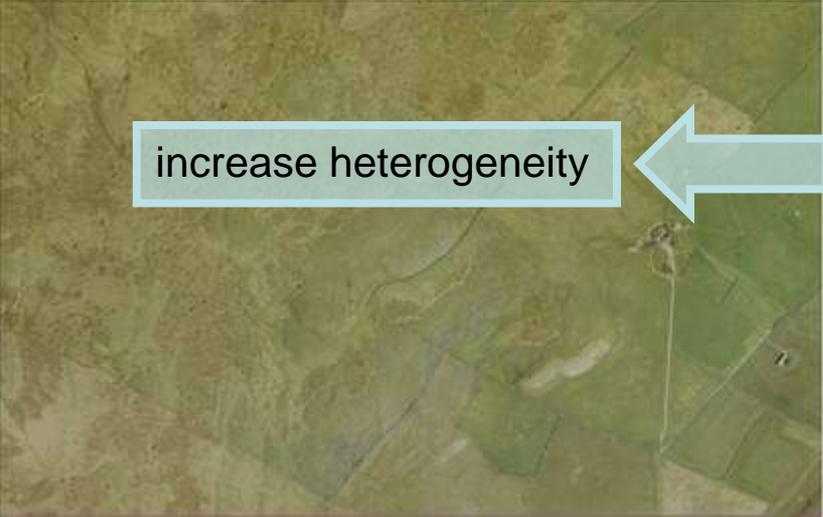


Ecosystem Services

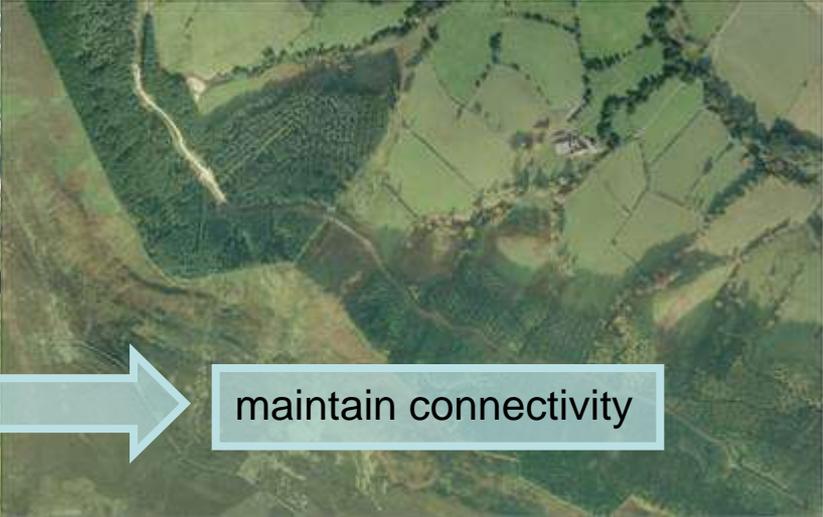
Multifunctional landscapes



Multi-objective – Ecosystem services



increase heterogeneity



maintain connectivity

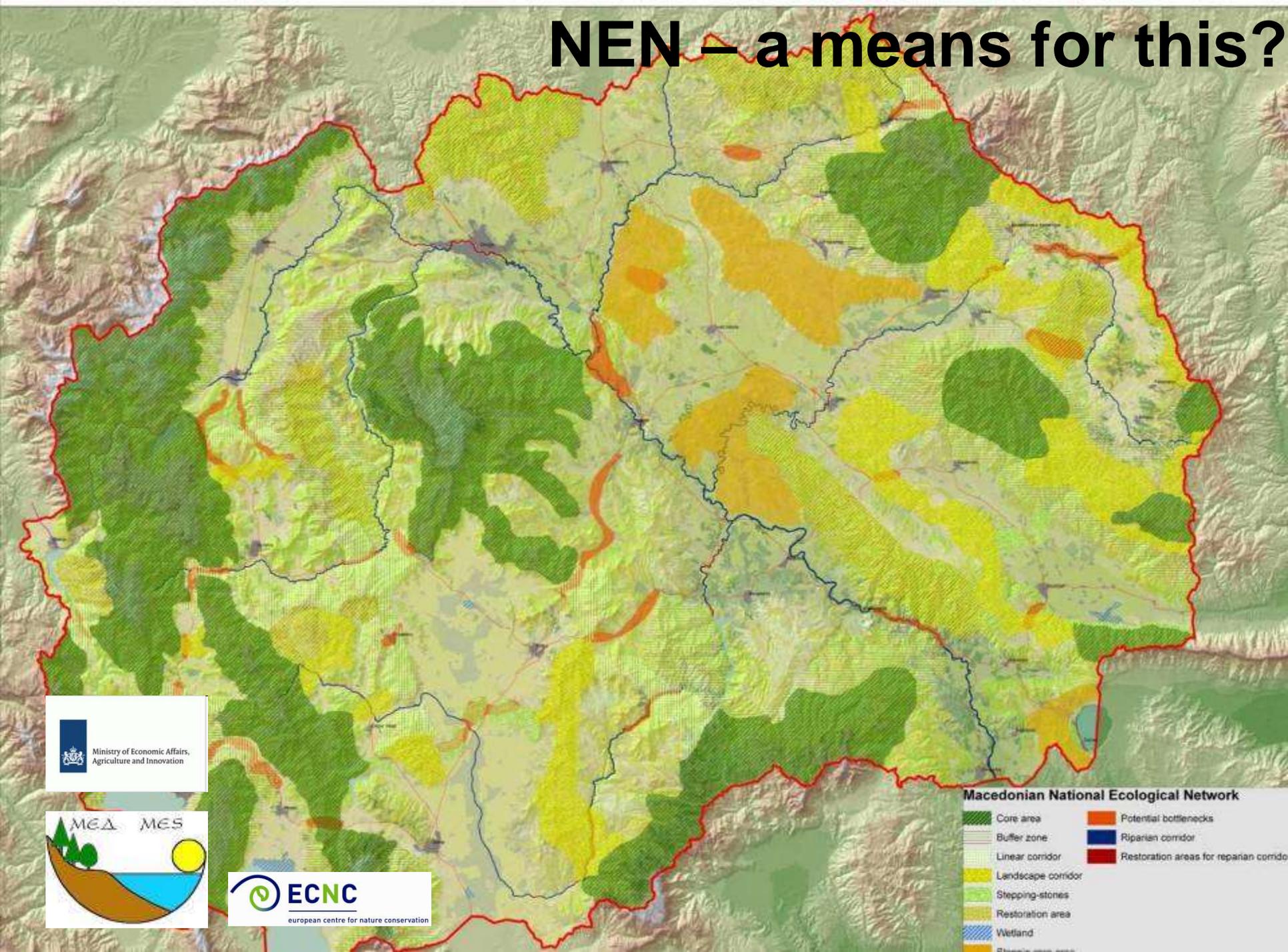


increase core area



deliver goods & services

NEN – a means for this?



Ministry of Economic Affairs,
Agriculture and Innovation



ECNC

european centre for nature conservation

Opportunities

- Stakeholder-sectoral involvement
 - New paradigm
 - The restoration economy
 - Recovery agenda



Legislation & policy

- Maximising potential of existing instruments
 - New instruments
 - Benefits, incentives
- Legal and political barriers
 - Political will
 - Political stability

CC: adaptation and mitigation



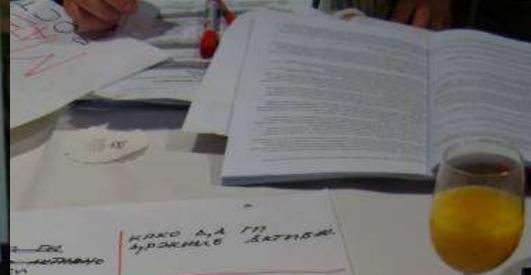
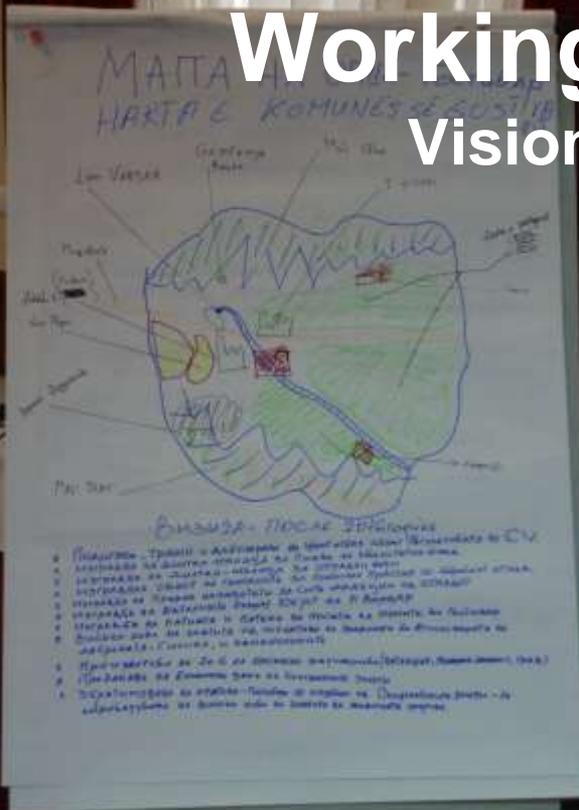
Using ecosystem services



Re-connecting people
and their environment

Working methods – action planning

Visioning, issues, objectives, solutions, actions



Thank you for listening

