



“The life cycle of Water and Biodiversity”

9th February 2011

13:00 – 15:00

ASP A3E2

European Parliament, Brussels

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Unit B2 - Biodiversity
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European Commission



WHY DOES IT MATTER?



- ❖ **An ethical duty:** *to conserve the sheer variety of life on earth*
- ❖ **An environmental asset:** *healthy ecosystems play a vital role in regulating the environment – eg a major tool for climate change adaptation*
- ❖ **An economic imperative:** *ecosystem goods and services provide a whole range of direct and indirect economic benefits*





ECOSYSTEMS GOODS AND SERVICES

- ❖ **Provisioning** in the form of harvestable products such as food, drinking water and raw materials;
- ❖ **Regulating** functions such as carbon sequestration, waste treatment or slowing the passage of water;
- ❖ **Cultural** services that directly involve people; and
- ❖ **Habitat or supporting** services that are needed to maintain other services, and which include genetic diversity and maintenance of all life cycles.





Evolution of Biodiversity Policy



- **1998:** Biodiversity Strategy
- 2001: Heads of Government adopt a target: **“Halting biodiversity loss by 2010”**
- **2002:** EU, in the context of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) agrees a global objective “Significantly reduce the rate of biodiversity loss”
- **2006:** Commission adopts a Biodiversity Action Plan with 154 actions to achieve that objective

HAVE WE REACHED THE TARGET?

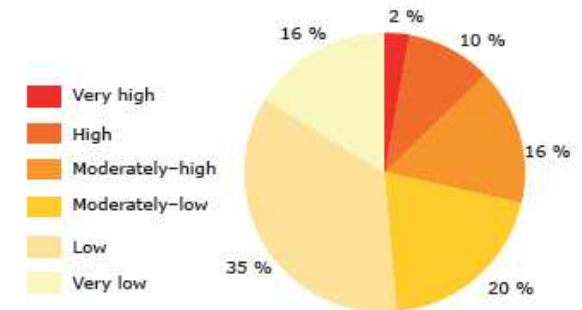


- NO, on the basis of the assessment of the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive and other reports from the EEA, it is clear that the EU will not meet its targets
- The drivers of biodiversity loss are

- **Degradation and fragmentation of habitats**



Fragmentation in EU-27 (% of total area)



- **Over-exploitation of natural resources**



- **Contamination**



- **Invasive species**
- **Climate Change**



THE STATE OF BIODIVERSITY IN EU in 2010



Species facing risk of **extinction**:

up to 25% of European animals are included in the IUCN Red List



POOR Conservation Status:

62% of habitats and 52% of species covered by Habitats and Birds Directives



Source: EEA Baseline



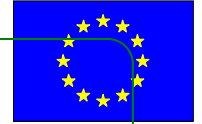
THE STATE OF ECOSYSTEM SERVICES IN EU in 2010



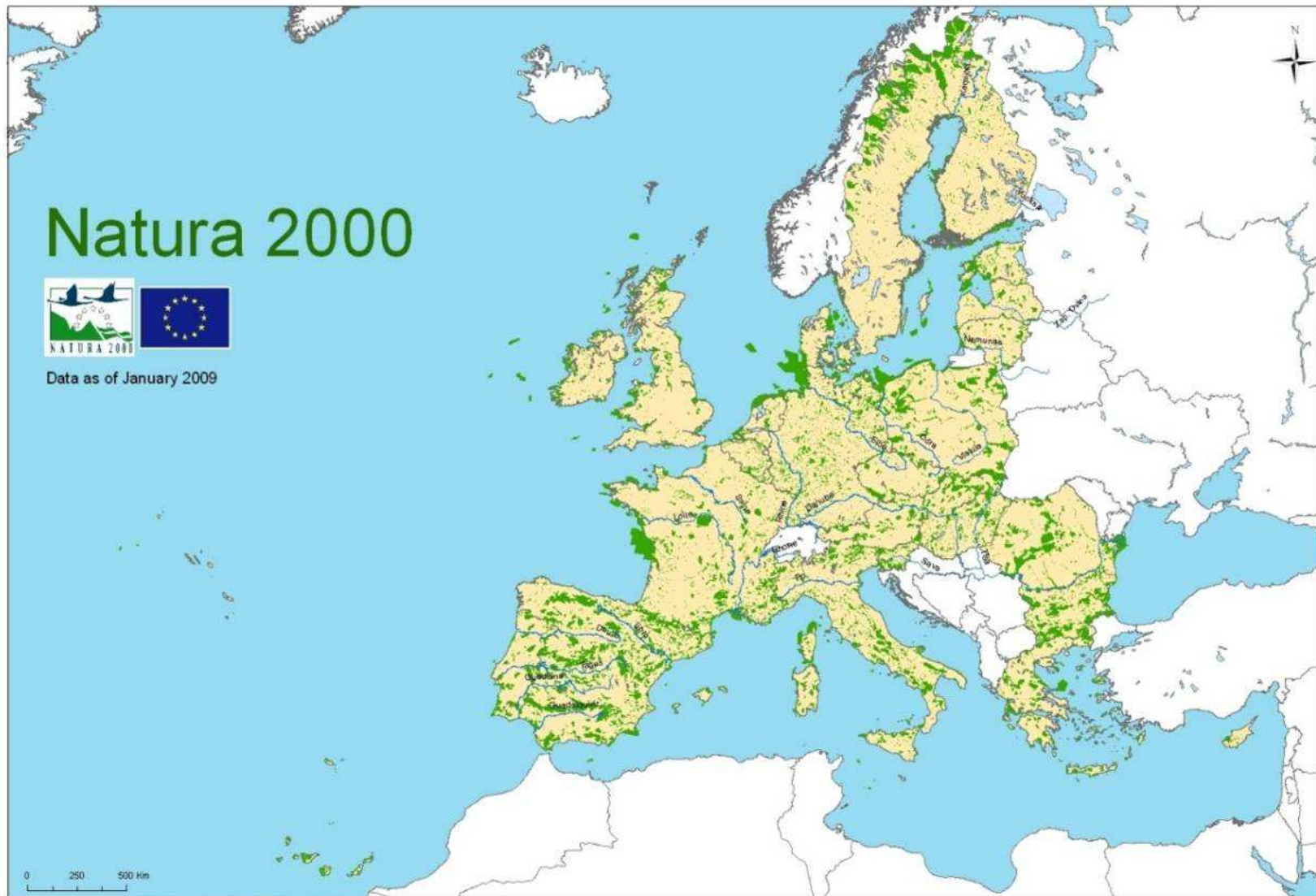
| Services \ Ecosystems | Agro ecosystems | Forests | Grasslands | Heath and scrubs | Wetlands | Lakes and rivers |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---------|------------|------------------|----------|------------------|
| Provisioning | | | | | | |
| Crops/timber | ↓ | ↑ | | | ↓ | |
| Livestock | ↓ | = | = | = | ↓ | |
| Wild Foods | = | ↓ | ↓ | | = | |
| Wood fuel | | = | | = | | |
| Capture fisheries | | | | | = | = |
| Aquaculture | | | | | ↓ | ↓ |
| Genetic | = | ↓ | ↓ | = | = | |
| Fresh water | | ↓ | | | ↑ | ↑ |
| Regulating | | | | | | |
| Pollination | ↑ | ↓ | = | | | |
| Climate regulation | | ↑ | | = | = | = |
| Pest regulation | ↑ | | = | | | |
| Erosion regulation | | = | = | = | | |
| Water regulation | | = | | ↑ | ↑ | = |
| Water purification | | | | | = | = |
| Hazard regulation | | | | | = | = |
| Cultural | | | | | | |
| Recreation | ↑ | = | ↓ | ↑ | ↑ | = |
| Aesthetic | ↑ | = | = | = | ↑ | = |

Status for period 1990–present ■ Degraded ■ Mixed ■ Enhanced ■ Unknown Not applicable

Success stories: Natura 2000



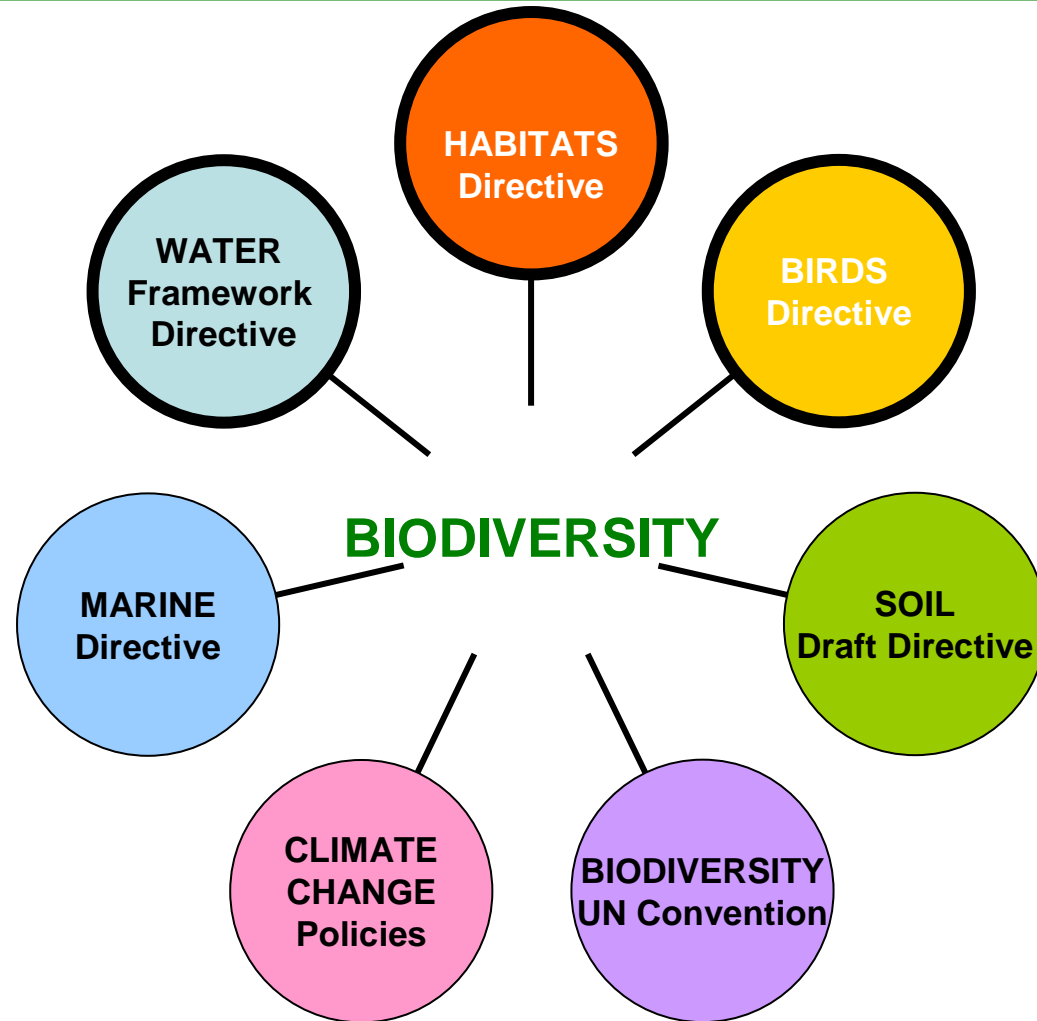
Biggest network of protected areas in the World – 17% of UE Surface





Target 2010: Halt biodiversity loss

Main legislation contributing





And now what?

2010 International Year of Biodiversity

We have adopted new targets for 2020
and visions for 2050

- At EU level
- At Global level

EU to develop new biodiversity policy



AT EU LEVEL



March 2010: European Spring Council

A NEW VISION FOR 2050

European Union biodiversity and the ecosystem services it provides – **its natural capital** – are protected, valued and appropriately restored for biodiversity's **intrinsic value** and for their essential contribution to **human wellbeing and economic prosperity**, and so that **catastrophic changes caused by the loss of biodiversity are avoided**.

A NEW TARGET FOR 2020

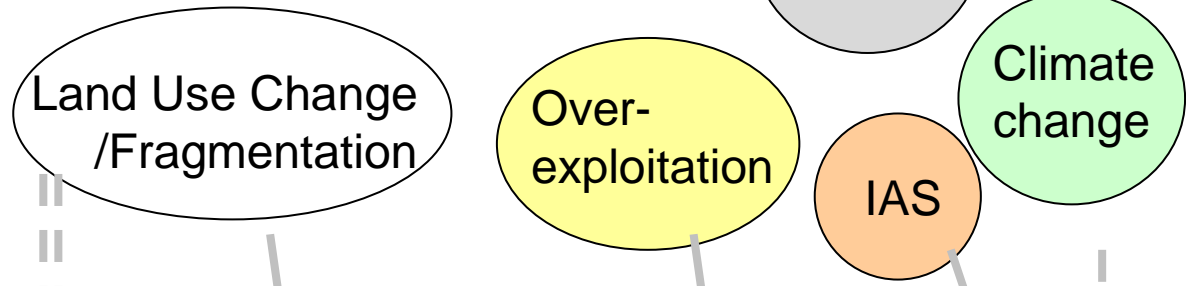
Halt the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services in the EU and restore them insofar as feasible, and step up the EU's contribution to averting global biodiversity loss.



Commission to develop a new EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy to be adopted in 2011



PRESSURES



Halting Biodiversity loss

. Agriculture/Forests . Fisheries . IAS

Restoring ES

. Nature conservation

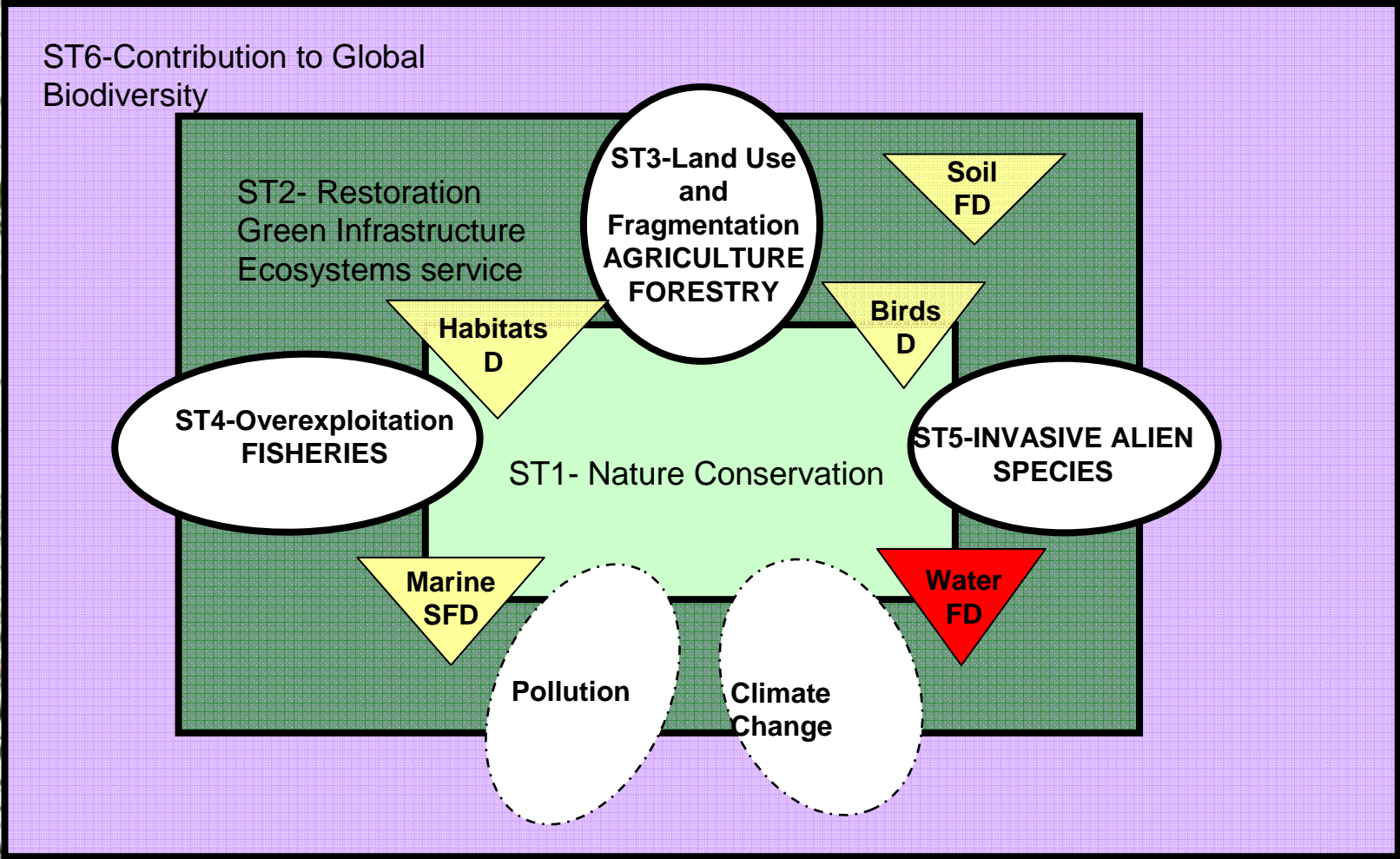
Global BD

Contribution to global biodiversity

No deterioration and restoration (incl GI)

SUBTARGETS

Will contribute to





Workshop: Biodiversity and Water - 18 June 2010
Links between EU nature and water legislation

http://circa.europa.eu/Public/irc/env/wfd/library?!=/framework_directive/implementation_conventio/biodiversity_legislation&vm=detailed&sb=Title

CONCLUSIONS

- more synergies than differences between WFD & BHD.
- exploit the synergies but recognise the differences.
- There are no conflicts between the directives.
- WFD and BHD allow for balanced judgements including the use of integrated planning as a tool.
- Need to strengthen co-operation between nature and water authorities to maximise benefits of WFD & BHD implementation.
- There are common interests under WFD and BHD.
- There is a need for joined up thinking to enhance integration with agriculture, fisheries policies, energy, transport, resource exploration and to provide proper incentives for funding.





Restoration of Ecosystems and ecosystem services and Green Infrastructure



To achieve the new biodiversity target, the EU will need to engage in a new and intense **RESTORATION AGENDA** over the next 10 years

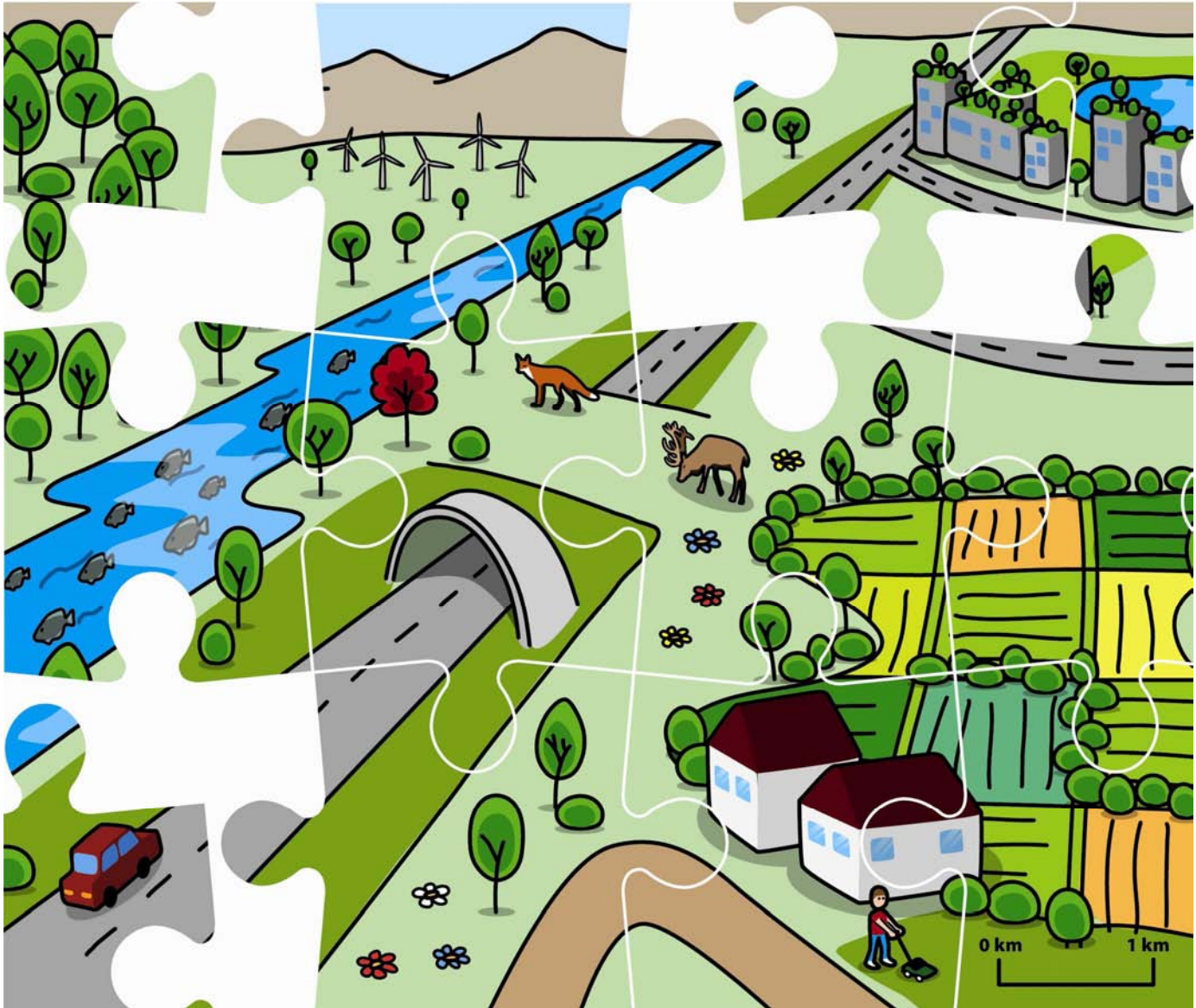
- Synergies with WFD and the GES in 2015
- Synergies with MSFD and the GES in 2020

Water and terrestrial ecosystems are crucial to build **Green Infrastructure** to provide ecosystem services for

- disaster prevention
- adaptation, mitigation,
- connectivity and enhanced biodiversity.

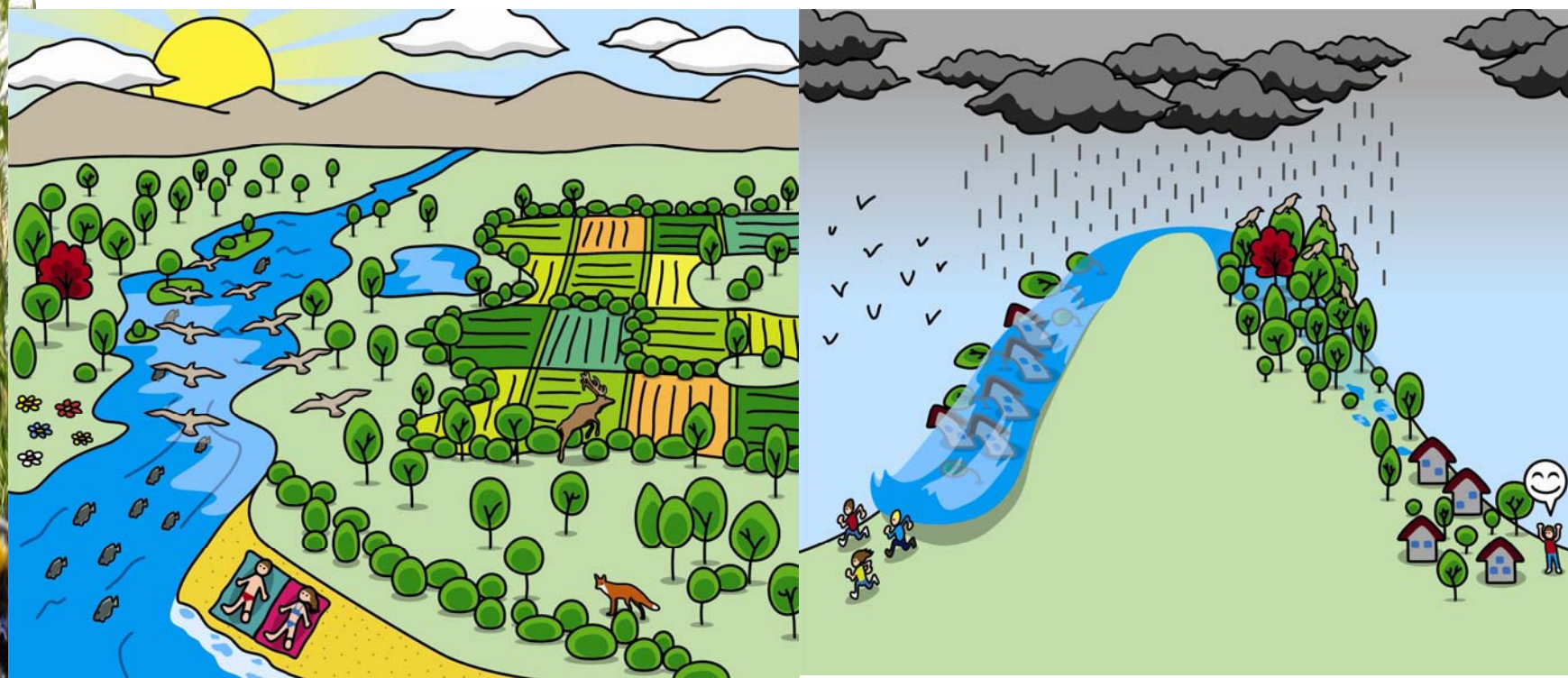


Spatial Planning. An effective way to build a Green Infrastructure is to adopt a more integrated approach to land management. Integration of ecosystem connectivity aspects into other policies and sectors, such as agriculture, forestry, water management, transport and energy infrastructures as well as spatial planning is of great importance.





Green Infrastructure helps to address habitat loss and fragmentation in Europe by reconnecting existing nature areas and improving the overall ecological quality of the broader countryside providing benefits for both people and nature.





SOME EXAMPLES of GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

STRENGTHENING ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

- Austria: Vienna - Rax-Schneeberg-Schneealpen massif – drinking water purification
- US-New York - Payments for water supply
- Ireland: Anne Valley – local solutions for waste water purification
- Denmark: Copenhagen - Green roofs for climate regulation and provision of habitats

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION/ADAPTATION

- Belgium: Dijle river – prevent flooding by grassland protection
- Hungary: Tisza- HU- flood management
- Netherlands: Rhine Delta Project - flood and coastal management





Business and Biodiversity Platform



The EU Business @ Biodiversity Platform

About the project

The global loss of biodiversity has become one of the major environmental challenges of the 21st century. Given that the concern for biodiversity is integral to sustainable development, [read more](#)

About the platform

[Benefits for the companies](#) - [Who can participate](#) - [How to join the platform](#)

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Forestry



Extractive industry



Financial sector



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News and Events



Green Week

This year, the largest annual conference on European environment policy turns the spotlight on biodiversity. With over 30 sessions, the conference will address the... [read more](#)



IEEB for Business Report to be released at the UK's first Global Business of Biodiversity Symposium, 13-14 July, 2010

This two day conference is set to be the world's largest private-sector focused biodiversity conference and... [read more](#)



European Ecotourism Conference "Balancing Sustainability and Profitability" 26-28 September, 2010



KNOWLEDGE BASE



EEA BASELINE



EEA Technical report | No. 10/2010

EU 2010 Biodiversity Baseline

ISBN 978-92-92-8337

European Environment Agency 

The central part of the slide is a large rectangular area with a light gray background, framed by dark green horizontal bars at the top and bottom. It contains the title 'EU 2010 Biodiversity Baseline' and the EEA logo at the bottom.



BISE



Biodiversity Information System for Europe - - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by European Commission

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Biodiversity Information System for Europe

BISE is a partnership between the European Commission (DG Environment, Joint Research Centre, Eurostat) and the European Environment Agency (EEA). It incorporates the network of the European Clearing House Mechanism.

[about BISE](#) [show sitemap](#)

Policy Topics Data Research Countries & Networks

News - Europe

- EU CHM, 27/08/2010: The public consultation on the post-2010 EU biodiversity strategy is now on
- EEA, 25/08/2010: Europe's coasts: reconciling development and conservation
- COST, 20/08/2010: Contented German COST participants!
- COST, 05/08/2010: Did you know that underwater robots phone home too?
- EEA, 28/07/2010: Europe's mountains: rich in biodiversity but increasingly vulnerable
- SCALES, 23/06/2010: Eurosite Annual Conference 2010 – 'The Challenge of Managing Sites in a Changing Environment'
- Alter-net, 16/06/2010: Conserving biodiversity hotspots

News - World

- IUCN, 07/09/2010: [A better way](#)
- IUCN, 06/09/2010: [The future of water in the face of climate change](#)
- IUCN, 03/09/2010: [Mise à l'honneur du parc solaire](#)
- CBD, 03/09/2010: [New website to track climate aid, key to U.N. talks](#)
- CBD, 03/09/2010: [Green roofs offer antidote to urban heat island effect, say researchers](#)
- CBD, 03/09/2010: [Revolution in African Agriculture Gathering Momentum](#)

European Commission

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2010 International Year of Biodiversity

Internet 100%

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IPBES



- UN Resolution for the Establishment to be discussed and adopted by the end of the year
- In 2011 operationalising - through 1st Plenary meeting of IPBES
- For 2011, COM may envisage contract « Towards an EU mechanism for independent, authoritative research-based advice to inform implementation and further EU biodiversity policy development »

Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided

http://ipbes.net/

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Related Links

2010 International Year of Biodiversity

DIVERSITAS an international programme

UNEP briefs Permanent Representatives in New York on the outcome of the third IPBES meeting in Busan and on the way forward for IPBES

In preparation for the 65th session of the General Assembly in September, UNEP presented the outcome of the third IPBES meeting held in Busan to the Permanent Representatives in New York. Click here to download the powerpoint presentation.

Report of the Busan meeting now available in 6 languages

Following a successful meeting in Busan, Republic of Korea, the report of the third ad hoc intergovernmental and multi stakeholder meeting on an intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services is now available in the 6 UN languages [here](#).

The G8 supports the establishment of an IPBES

The Leaders of the Group of Eight met in Muskoka, Canada, on June 25-26, 2010. The [G8 Muskoka Declaration Recovery and New Beginnings](#) adopted at the meeting contains a paragraph, welcoming the agreement reached at the Busan meeting to establish a new platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services.

MORE NEWS

Regional Consultation Meetings

North America | 27 April 2010
Latin America | 29-30 April 2010
Africa Meeting | 7-8 May 2010
Central Asia | 19-20 May 2010
Eastern Europe | 25-26 May 2010

News Alerts

- UN Body to show cost of damage
16 July 2010
- IPBES to put value on planet
18 July 2010
- EU Policy Review stresses investment in ecosystem services
10 August 2010
- Rat für Artenvielfalt [Die Zeit]
17 June 2010
- UN body will assess ecosystems and biodiversity [Nature]
16 June 2010
- 'Green light' for global biodiversity science panel [BBC]
14 June 2010
- Nations back UN biodiversity panel [Al Jazeera]
14 June 2010

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TEEB

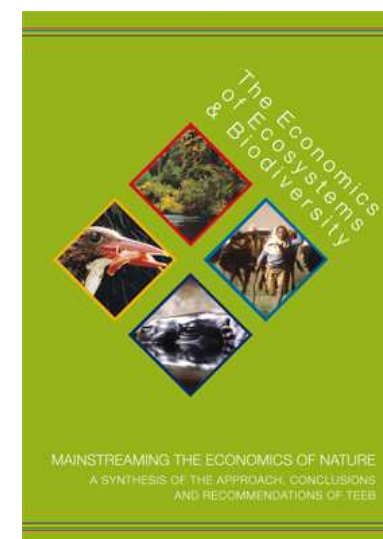
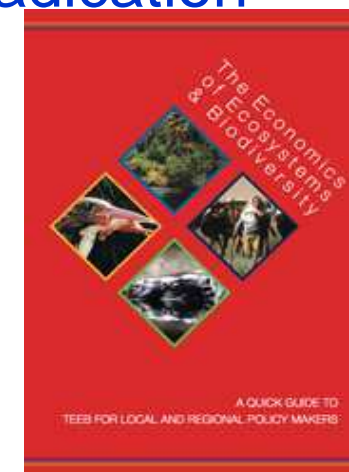
- Improve our understanding of the economics of ecosystems and biodiversity (TEEB) and its links to poverty eradication
- Various deliverables already published (www.teebweb.org)

TEEB D1- Policy Makers

TEEB D2- Local authorities

TEEB D3- Business and biodiversity

TEEB- Synthesis of the approach, conclusions & recommendations of TEEB (released in Nagoya)





More information can be found in:

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature>

