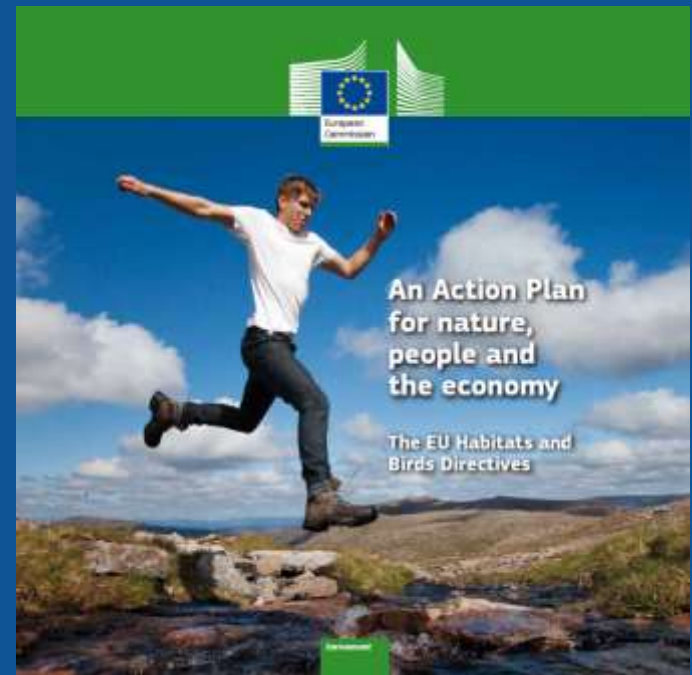


Developments in the implementation of the EU Action Plan for nature, people and the economy



**Partnerships for biodiversity :
European policies and the role
of protected areas
7 December 2018**

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Background

Fitness check conclusions : Within the framework of broader biodiversity policy the Nature Directives are fit for purpose but fully achieving their objectives and realising their full potential will depend on substantial improvement in their implementation in relation to both effectiveness and efficiency, working in partnership with different stakeholder communities in the Member States and across the EU, to deliver practical results on the ground.

SWD(2016) 472 final -

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/fitness_check/index_en.htm

Fitness check of the EU nature directives - findings

- Funding shortage and weak policy integration
- Cases of inflexible application & permitting delays by national & local authorities
- Insufficient knowledge, awareness, engagement & cooperation

Action Plan for nature, people and the economy

Adopted in April 2017

COM(2017) 198 final

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/fitness_check/action_plan/communication_en.pdf

SWD(2017) 139 final

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/fitness_check/action_plan/factsheets_en.pdf

Structure and objectives

- The Action Plan aims to **rapidly improve practical implementation of the Nature Directives** and **accelerate progress towards the EU 2020 goal** of halting and reversing the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services
- It covers **4 priority areas** and includes **15 concrete actions** (with 114 sub-actions) addressing key findings of the Fitness Check
- **Timeframe is 2017-2019**

Priorities of the Action Plan

- Priority A: Improve guidance & knowledge and ensure better coherence with broader socio-economic objectives
- Priority B: Building political ownership and strengthening compliance
- Priority C: Strengthening investment in Natura 2000 and improving synergies with EU funding instruments
- Priority D: Better communication and outreach, engaging citizens, stakeholders and communities

Progress in implementation

Priority A

Update of the interpretative guidance on Article 6: Commission Notice no C(2018) 7621 of 23/11/2018

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/management/docs/art6/Provisions_Art_nov_2018_endocx.pdf

New guidance on hydropower and Natura 2000: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:C:2018:213:TOC>

New guidance on electricity transmission facilities and Natura 2000: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:C:2018:213:TOC>

Online 'Frequently Asked Questions and Answers' on Natura 2000 http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/faq_en.htm

Develop new guidance documents on Natura 2000 and fisheries: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/marine/index_en.htm



Progress in implementation

Priority B

A new EU multispecies action plan covering forty-four bat species

<https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/4b9455a8-57f4-40cc-aa3f-ecfa8f4e2d80>

Develop EU multispecies action plan for 16 bird species (EUROSAP):

<http://www.birdlife.org/europe-and-central-asia/project/life-eurosap>



Nature dialogues

	MS	Date
1	BG	21-22 November 2017
2	IT	12-13 February 2018
3	SI	12-13 March 2018
4	CY	25-26 April 2018
5	FI	14-15 May 2018
6	SK	31 May – 1 June 2018
7	RO	10-11 July 2018
8	CZ	19-20 September 2018
9	NL	3-4 October 2018
10	LT	16-17 October 2018
11	FR	January 2019
12	EE	6-7 February 2019
13	SE	February 2019
14	HR	In the week of 4-8 March 2019
15	DE	April 2019?
16	BE	April 2019?
17	ES	June 2019
18		
19	LV	September 2019
20	DK	October 2019

Progress in implementation

Priority C

Review the success of the development/application of the PAFs under current MFF and draw lessons with a view to improving the applicability of this tool and enhance co-benefits for more efficient use of resources

Update PAF template <https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/047ad10f-7820-4d11-9b0d-07a1126f8189>

Increase the Nature and Biodiversity envelope by 10 % under the LIFE Regulation: Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2018/93 of 16 November 2017

Assessment of the current use of financial allocations for biodiversity protection and Natura 2000 under EMFF

Progress in implementation

Priority D

Proclamation of the 21st May as the European Natura 2000 day
(15/5/2017)



Awareness raising – events

Many actions to be delivered before 2019 are on-going, such as :

- *Update of the methodological guidance on Article 6(3) and 6(4)*
- *Update guidance on species protection*
- *Update of the wind energy guidance*
- *Guidance on ecosystem services*
- *Guidance on green infrastructure*
- *Update of the Key concepts document*
- *Development of Habitat Action Plans*
- *Work on remote sensing as a support for better implementation*
- *work in the context of the biogeographical process*
- *Continuous work on the Large Carnivores Platform*
- *Seminars on the PAF update*

THANK YOU