

EU Nature Restoration Targets

State of play and next steps

Stefan Leiner, European Commission DG ENV
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Overall context

- EGD, ongoing biodiversity loss
- EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030

Need measurable results

Urgency

“Ensure that Europe’s biodiversity will be on a path to recovery by 2030 for the benefits of people, the planet, climate and our economy”



“Subject to an impact assessment, the Commission will put forward a proposal for *legally binding* EU nature restoration targets to restore degraded ecosystems, in particular those with the most potential to capture and store carbon and to prevent and reduce the impact of natural disasters”

- Learn from the past (2020 Strategy 15% restoration target did not deliver)
- CBD new GBF, leading by example

Timeline

- Inception Impact Assessment (2020)
- Impact Assessment support study launched (2020)
- Open Public Consultation (closed 5 April 2021), over 111,000 participants incl. NGO campaign
- 1st half 2021: Further development of concepts, advance IA study, consultations, workshops, drafting documents
- Mid-2021: internal Commission decision-making processes (Regulatory Scrutiny Board, Inter-service consultation)
- End 2021: Publication of proposal from the Commission.
- 2022 co-legislators adopt proposal

Elements under consideration

- **Concepts and definitions** (ecosystem, ecosystem status, ecosystem condition, restoration...), using as much as possible existing definitions (CBD, SER, taxonomy, MAES)
- Set an **overarching (2050) goal** for ecosystem restoration
e.g. *By 2050 ecosystems in the EU are restored to and maintained in good status*
- Set **specific binding 2030/2050 targets** for which data and monitoring mechanisms are available
 - ✓ building upon existing legislation (e.g. HD Annex I habitats)
e.g. Restore at least 15% of degraded area to a good condition by 2030, 40% by 2040 and 90% by 2050 and recreate habitat-area that was lost and is required to reach favourable status of habitats
 - ✓ or other areas for which we have a baseline (e.g. farmland birds, soil organic carbon,...)
- Set requirements to **monitor** indicators for those specific targets for which data and monitoring mechanisms are not yet fully developed, allowing for **a later setting of baselines and thresholds/targets** (e.g. non-Annex I habitats, pollinators) – build on MAES.
- Set **implementation requirements and enabling measures**
including national restoration plans, financing, community participation,...

Other aspects

- To be seen in context of other elements of the BDS (e.g. PA targets, EU Restoration Plan, Soil and Forest Strategies, CAP, enabling framework, governance, financing, knowledge, participation,...)
- Restoration needs to happen both within and outside PAs
- Add value to - and support implementation of - existing legislation (esp. BHD, WFD, MSFD)
- Avoid unnecessary burden, better regulation
- Binding for MS
- Participation by land users and incentives key
- Climate Change, NBS

Thank you !

https://ec.europa.eu/environment/strategy/biodiversity-strategy-2030/eu-nature-restoration-targets_en