



The EU Biodiversity and Nature Policy after 2010 – the role of Protected Areas

Stefan Leiner

Head of the Nature Unit
DG Environment
European Commission





PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- I. Wider context for the EU Biodiversity Policy
- II. The EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy: targets and actions
- III. Implications for Protected Area Managers





Wider Context

- **Europe 2020 smart, sustainable and inclusive growth**
- **Economic and Financial Crisis**
- **Biodiversity loss not halted**
- **Pressures growing**
 - **Low carbon economy, Energy 2020 targets, Biofuels, Biomass, Windmills, Tidal, Grids, ...**
 - **Transport, Tourism**
 - **Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries?**
- **Political opportunities**
 - **New EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy**
 - **Economic value of ecosystem services better known**
 - **Nature legislation in place**
 - **People care for nature**
 - **Reforms of key sector policies under way (CAP, CFMP, CRP)**





Rationale for action

1. Political

- IYB 2010: New 2050 vision and 2020 target endorsed by European Council, EP, EESC, etc...
- CBD COP 10 in Nagoya, Japan

2. Environmental

- EU still losing biodiversity
- Key role of biodiversity in ensuring ecosystem functions
- See EEA baseline

3. Economical

- Cost of inaction (e.g. IAS: € ~12 billion vs 40-190 million/y)
- Value of natural assets - e.g. insect pollination worth ~ 15 billion; Global business opportunities from investments in biodiversity US\$2-6 trillion by 2050 (TEEB)
- Correcting market failures: reflecting values in accounting and reporting systems





A 2050 VISION

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 2020 HEADLINE TARGET

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**.





- I. Wider context for the EU Biodiversity Policy
- II. The EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy: targets and actions
- III. Implications for Protected Area Managers





Adopted on 3 May 2011 (COM(2011)244 final)

Substance:

- ❖ Communication
- ❖ Summary of the Impact Assessment
- ❖ Impact Assessment

Outreach:

- ❖ Press release
- ❖ Memo (Q&A)
- ❖ Citizens' Summary

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/biodiversity/comm2006/2020.htm>





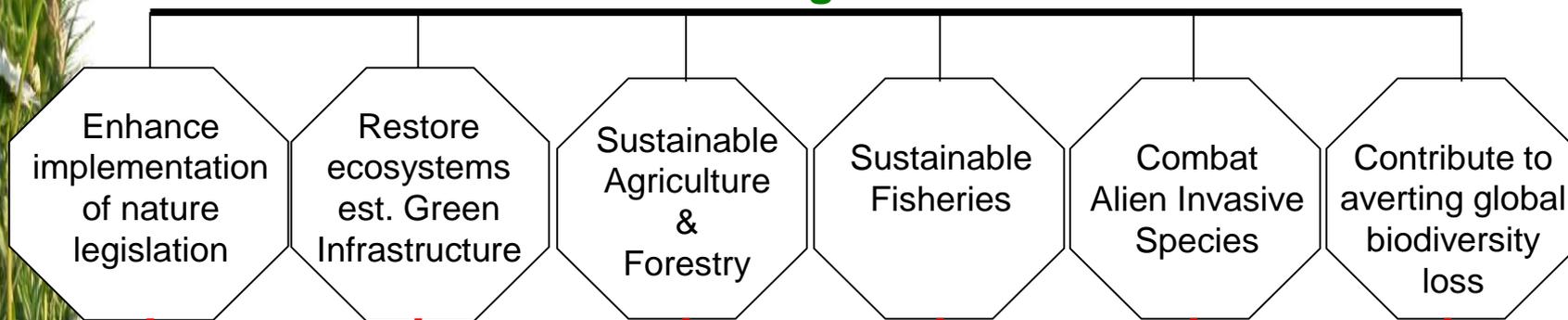
STRUCTURE OF THE STRATEGY

2050 Vision

2020 headline target

Halt biodiversity loss – restore ecosystem services – global contribution

6 Targets:



ANNEX OF ACTIONS





1. Nature conservation

To halt the deterioration in the status of all species and habitats covered by EU nature legislation and achieve a significant and measurable improvement in their status so that, by 2020, compared to current assessments:

- (i) 100% more habitat assessments and 50% more species assessments under the Habitats Directive show an improved conservation status;*
- (ii) 50% more species assessments under the Birds Directive show a secure or improved status.*

Example:

<u>HABITATS</u>	Favourable status	Inadequate status	Bad status	Unknown*
2007	17%	28%	37%	18%
2020	30%	26%	26%	(18%)



<http://biodiversity.europa.eu>



1. Nature conservation



Actions:

- **Complete Natura 2000 network and ensure good management**
 - Network largely completed by 2012 incl. marine,
 - Integration in wider landscape
 - management plans developed and implemented for all sites
 - New Biogeographic process
- **Ensure adequate financing of Natura 2000 sites**
(MFF, CAP, EFF, Cohesion, LIFE, PAFs)
- **Increase stakeholder awareness and involvement and improve enforcement**
 - New Communication Campaign on Natura 2000
 - Cooperation with key sectors, guidance documents
 - Facilitating enforcement
- **Improve and streamline monitoring and reporting**
 - New EU bird reporting system,
 - improved Article 17 reporting, (new Art 17 reporting framework adopted)
 - improved flow, accessibility and relevance of Natura 2000 data (new SDF adopted)
 - Creation of a dedicated ICT tool as part of BISE





2. Ecosystem maintenance and restoration

By 2020, ecosystems and their services are maintained and enhanced by establishing green infrastructure and restoring at least 15 % of degraded ecosystems.

Actions:

- Improve knowledge of ecosystems and their services in the EU (ES mapping and assessment, valuation)
- Set priorities to restore and promote the use of green infrastructure (→ GI Strategy 2012)
- Ensure no net loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services (bd screening, no net loss initiative by 2015)



<http://biodiversity.europa.eu>





3A. Sustainable Agriculture



3A) Agriculture: By 2020, maximise areas under agriculture across grasslands, arable land and permanent crops that are covered by biodiversity-related measures under the CAP so as to ensure the conservation of biodiversity and to bring about a measurable improvement^() in the conservation status of species and habitats that depend on or are affected by agriculture and in the provision of ecosystem services as compared to the EU2010 Baseline, thus contributing to enhance sustainable management.*

() Improvement is to be measured against the quantified enhancement targets for the conservation status of species and habitats of EU interest in Target 1 and the restoration of degraded ecosystems under target 2.*

Actions:

- Enhance direct CAP payments
- Better target Rural Development for biodiversity conservation
- Conserve agricultural genetic diversity



<http://biodiversity.europa.eu>





3B. Sustainable Forestry



*B) Forests: By 2020, Forest Management Plans or equivalent instruments, in line with Sustainable Forest Management (SFM), are in place for all forests that are publicly owned and for forest holdings above a certain size** (to be defined by the Member States or regions and communicated in their Rural Development Programmes) that receive funding under the EU Rural Development Policy so as to bring about a measurable improvement(*) in the conservation status of species and habitats that depend on or are affected by forestry and in the provision of related ecosystem services as compared to the EU 2010 Baseline.*

() Improvement is to be measured against the quantified enhancement targets for the conservation status of species and habitats of EU interest in Target 1 and the restoration of degraded ecosystems under target 2.*

*(**) For smaller forest holdings, Member States may provide additional incentives to encourage the adoption of Management Plans or equivalent instruments that are in line with SFM.*

Actions:

- Encourage forest holders to protect and enhance forest biodiversity (e.g. establish and fund Management Plans)
- Integrate biodiversity measures in forest management plans



4. Sustainable Fisheries



Achieve Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) by 2015. Achieve a population age and size distribution indicative of a healthy stock, through fisheries management with no significant adverse impacts on other stocks, species and ecosystems, in support of achieving Good Environmental Status by 2020, as required under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive.

Actions:

- Improve the management of fished stocks (→ MSY)
- Eliminate adverse impacts on fish stocks, species, habitats and ecosystems (e.g. eliminate discards, by-catch)





5. Combat Alien Invasive Species

By 2020, Invasive Alien Species (IAS) and their pathways are identified and prioritised, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and pathways are managed to prevent the introduction and establishment of new IAS

Actions:

- Strengthen the EU Plant and Animal Health Regimes (2012)
- Establish a dedicated EU level instrument on Alien Invasive Species (2012)



<http://biodiversity.europa.eu>





6. Global biodiversity

By 2020, the EU has stepped up its contribution to averting global biodiversity loss.

Actions:

- Reduce indirect drivers of biodiversity loss (consumption, resource efficiency, trade-related impacts)
- Resource mobilisation for global biodiversity (CBD COP-10 follow up)
- ‘Biodiversity proof’ EU development cooperation
- Regulate access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their use (ratify & implement ABS Protocol by 2015)





Additional cross-cutting issues

❖ Monitoring

EU 2010 Baseline
Monitoring frame

❖ Reporting

mid-term review: early 2014

↓
EU's 5th CBD Report ← HD Art 17 Report

BISE – call for tender





WORK AHEAD

❖ 2011:

- ✓ Council (done for targets) and EP endorsement of the Strategy
- ✓ Common implementation framework
- ✓ Integrated framework for monitoring, assessing and reporting
- ✓ Knowledge base alignment (SEBI, ES mapping, BISE, IpBes)
- ✓ Integration opportunities:
 - EU Multiannual Financial Framework beyond 2013
 - Cohesion Policy reform
 - CAP and CFP reforms
 - Climate change adaptation
 - ...

❖ 2012:

- ✓ N2K establishment phase completed
- ✓ Natura 2000 seminars established
- ✓ Green Infrastructure strategy adopted
- ✓ Alien Invasive Species strategy adopted





- I. Main elements of the EU Biodiversity Policy
- II. The EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy: targets and actions
- III. Other policy developments highly relevant for the Danube Strategy



The role of protected areas

- **Protected areas are central for delivering the 2020 biodiversity strategy**
 - Many of them are Natura 2000 sites or home to species and habitats of European Importance
 - They are the models for developing partnerships with key sectors
 - They are the link between policy and action on the ground – local anchors
 - They are central for public awareness building
 - They are the nodes for data collection and research
 - They are the corner stones for green infrastructure
 - They need to be protected against IAS
 - They are a key tool for global biodiversity protection and restoration (CBD PoW)





Thanks for your attention



home | login EC-CHM WISE Contact us Sitemap Search





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

COST, 13/10/2010: COST News No 17 - October 2010

COST, 13/10/2010: The COST Office Association is a reality

EU CHM, 08/10/2010: Addressing knowledge gaps and responds to policy on biodiversity in the EU

SCALES, 08/10/2010: Financing Natura 2000 - Conference Proceedings online available

EEA, 04/10/2010: Biodiversity in Europe: policy scope must be widened for effective conservation

EEA, 27/09/2010: Protecting Europe's cultural landscapes and biodiversity heritage

Alter-net, 16/06/2010: Conserving biodiversity hotspots

News - World

CBD, 13/10/2010: [Farms in the sky: an interview with Dickson Despommier](#)

CBD, 13/10/2010: [Floods wash away Pakistan's crop research efforts](#)

CBD, 13/10/2010: [Russia backs away from plans to break up the unique Pavlovsk seed bank](#)

IUCN, 29/09/2010: [New study shows over one fifth of the world's plants are under threat of extinction](#)

IUCN, 28/09/2010: [IUCN joins "I am the ocean" campaign](#)

IUCN, 23/09/2010: [Securing water for all - a 2050 plan](#)


 European Commission


 European Environment Agency


 International Year of Biodiversity

BISE

<http://biodiversity.europa.eu>