



Good morning  
& welcome

Photos - **Forêt de Soignes** by Frédéric Demeuse



**EUROPARC Sigger Seminar 2022**

# Nature Restoration in Europe: What is the role of Protected Areas?

Olivier de Sadeleer, Project Manager, EUROPARC  
March 29 2022



The image is a vertical composition of several narrow, overlapping strips of a forest scene. The strips show tall, slender tree trunks and a dense canopy of green leaves, with some areas showing hints of yellow, suggesting autumn. The lighting is soft and dappled, creating a sense of depth and texture. Overlaid on this background is the text 'HOW ARE YOU TODAY?' in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font.

**HOW ARE YOU TODAY?**

Photos - Forêt de Soignes by Frédéric Demeuse

# It's all about attitude :)

- This workshop is a laboratory.
  - It is safe to speak your mind,
  - there are no wrong answers
- Creativity comes from diversity
- Kindness is the foundation of cooperation
- You are as much a participant as a contributor

Note: Most of us are non-native English speakers.

*Keep that in mind, be patient and/or forgiving :)*

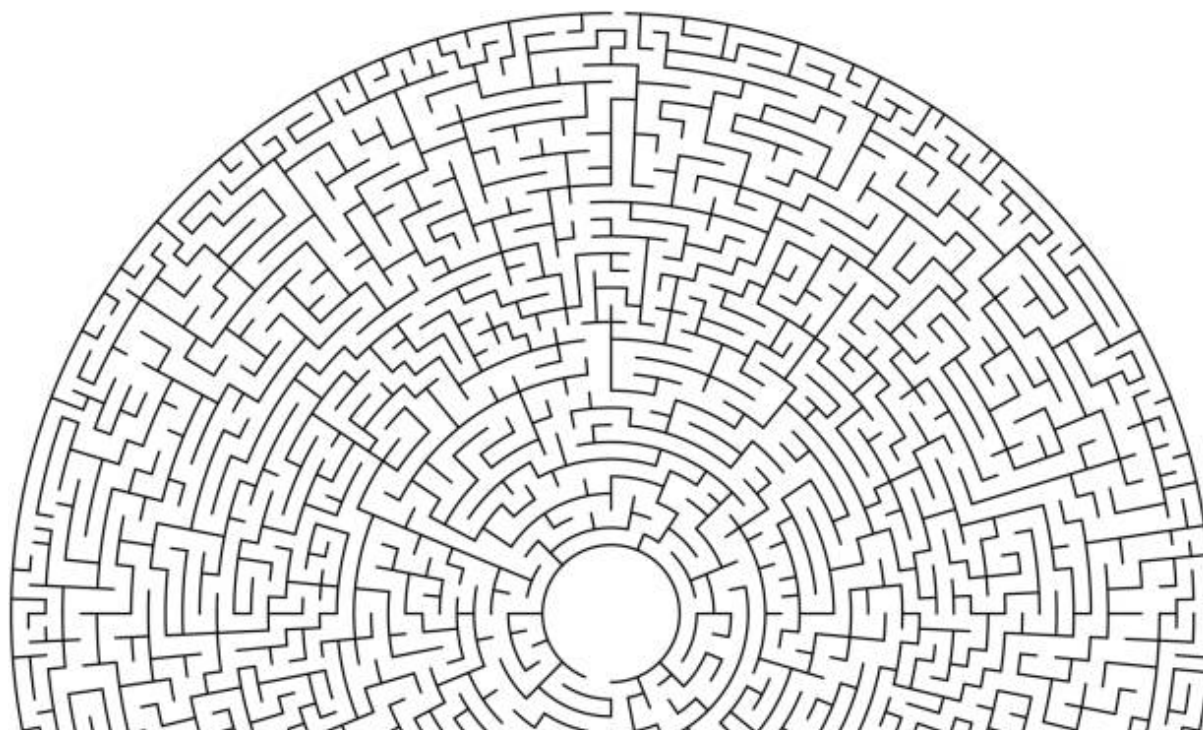


A photograph of a forest floor. In the center, a large, moss-covered tree trunk stands prominently. The ground is covered with a dense carpet of small blue and white flowers. A fallen, mossy log lies horizontally across the foreground. The background is filled with green leaves and tree trunks, creating a lush, natural setting.

# **A word from our president**

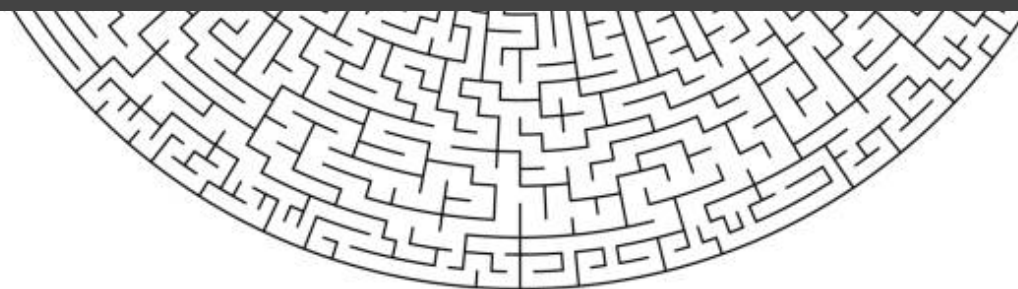
**Michael Hošek**, EUROPARC President and project manager at the Krkonoše Mountains National Park





# Introduction to the seminar

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# Our collective objective



1. Clarify the role of Protected Areas in restoring Nature in Europe
2. Discuss the ins and outs of nature restoration planning and implementation

# Questions we'll work on



1. What are the **benefits of nature restoration** for communities?
2. What nature should we restore? **Prioritisation and planning?**
3. What are the **key roles of Protected Areas** in Nature Restoration in and around the Protected Areas?
4. **How to** concretely set up a restoration project?
  - a. How to engage local communities (incl. authorities) into nature restoration?
  - b. How to finance restoration projects?



# The questions we'll work on

1. What are the **benefits of nature restoration** for communities?
2. What nature should we restore? **Prioritisation and planning?**
3. What are the **key roles of Protected Areas** in Nature Restoration in and around the Protected Areas?
4. **How to** concretely set up a restoration project?
  - a. How to engage local communities (incl. authorities) into nature restoration?
  - b. How to finance restoration projects?

# Our commitment to you



## Facilitate, facilitate, facilitate :)

The program has been designed for you to:

- **Learn** about nature restoration practice and implementation;
- **Meet** and exchange with peers;
- **Contribute** to advancing nature restoration.

It is a blend of presentations and case studies, collective working sessions, and social activities



A photograph of a forest with many thin, vertical tree trunks in the foreground and middle ground. The trees have light-colored bark, some with moss. In the lower-left background, a deer is visible. The ground is covered with fallen leaves and some moss. The text "Why discuss Nature Restoration?" is overlaid in the center in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

# **Why discuss Nature Restoration?**

Photos - Forêt de Soignes by Frédéric Demeuse

# Why discuss Nature Restoration?



It is high on the political agenda at supranational level:

- As the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration
- The European Commission will put forward a proposal for legally binding [EU nature restoration targets](#). It is a key element of the [EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030](#)
- A European Nature Restoration Law is being discussed

Nature restoration could play a key role in climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies.



# Climate change



Nature restoration could play a key role in climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies.

*“By restoring degraded ecosystems and effectively and equitably conserving 30 to 50 per cent of Earth’s land, freshwater and ocean habitats, society can benefit from nature’s capacity to absorb and store carbon, and we can accelerate progress towards sustainable development, but adequate finance and political support are essential.”*

IPCC Working Group II Co-Chair Hans-Otto Pörtner.

[source](#)



# Nature loss, Human well-being at risk

Biodiversity continues to decline in every region of the world, significantly reducing nature's capacity to contribute to people's well-being

*"We must act to halt and reverse the unsustainable use of nature – or risk not only the future we want, but even the lives we currently lead. Fortunately, the evidence also shows that we know how to protect and partially restore our vital natural assets."*

Sir Robert Watson, Chair of IPBES

[source](#)



# It is needed even in PAs

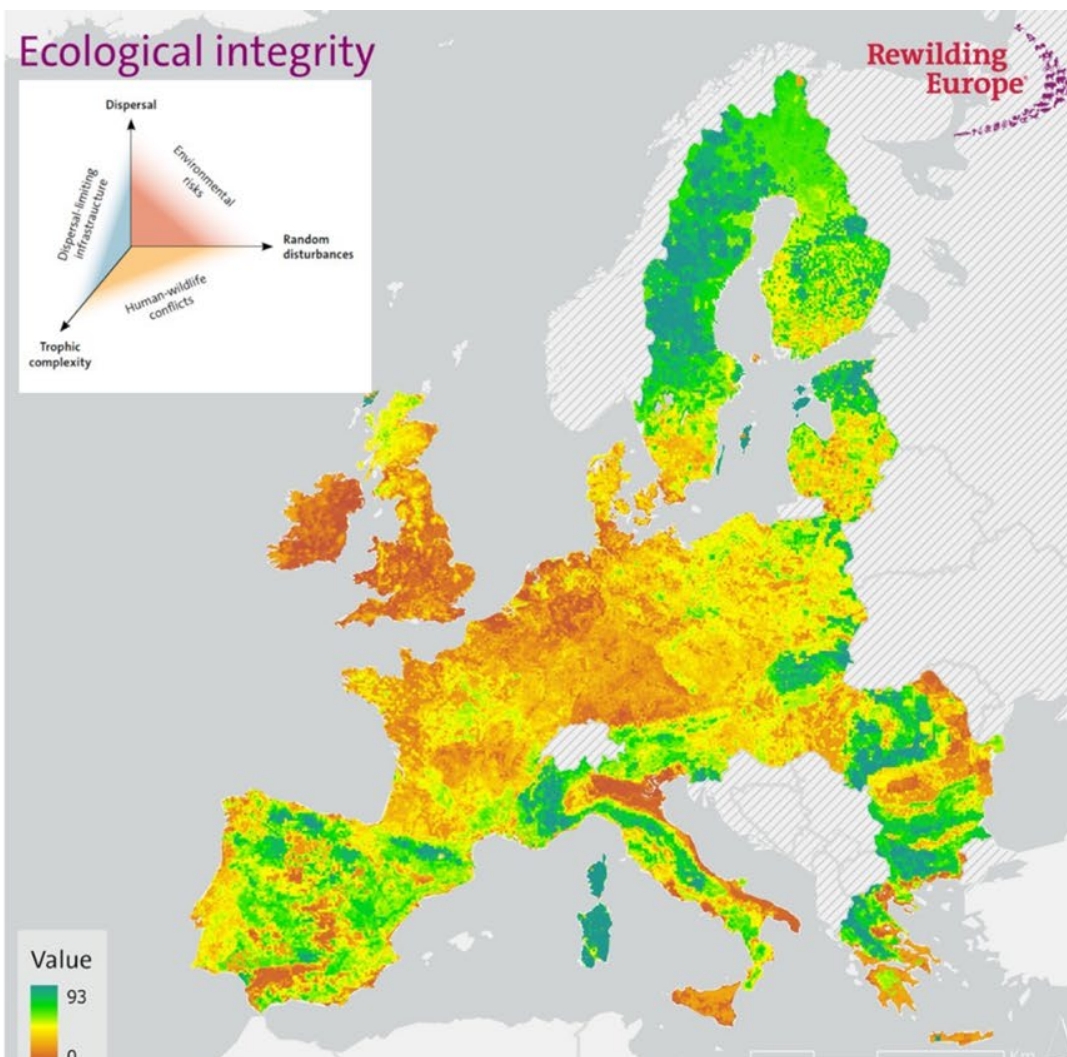
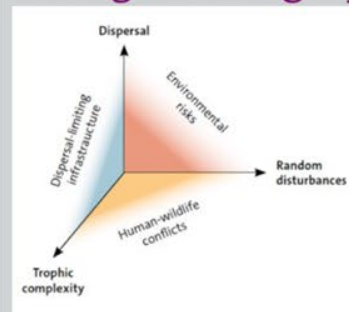
## THREE DIMENSIONS OF ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY

- Trophical complexity (relations in food web)
- Random disturbance (natural events)
- Dispersal (ability for species to spread across landscapes)

After Torres et al (2018)



### Ecological integrity



# It is needed even in PAs



## PROTECTED AREAS IN EUROPE

- Reported IUCN Categories 1-6 + unassigned PA's
- All areas >10 km<sup>2</sup>

Ia – Strict Nature Reserve

Ib – Wilderness Area

II – National Park

III – Natural Monument

IV – Habitat/Species Management Area

V – Protected Landscape

VI – Managed Resource Protected Area

Source: Protected Planet (WDPA)





# It is needed even in PAs



## ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY OF PROTECTED AREAS

- Based on a quick scan, showing preliminary results

Ia – Strict Nature Reserve

Ib – Wilderness Area

II – National Park

III – Natural Monument

IV – Habitat/Species Management Area

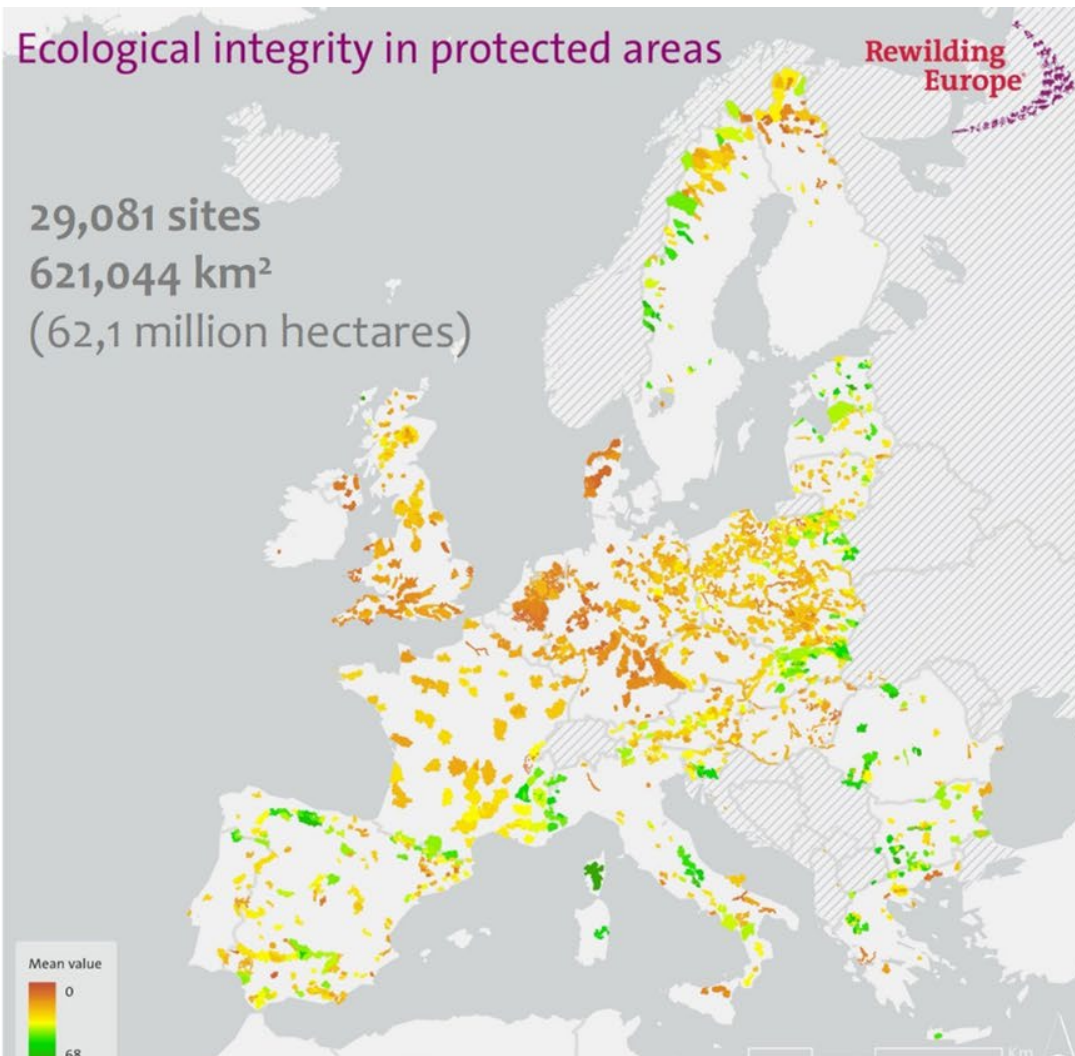
V – Protected Landscape

VI – Managed Resource Protected Area



### Ecological integrity in protected areas

29,081 sites  
621,044 km<sup>2</sup>  
(62,1 million hectares)





# It is needed even in PAs



## DO WE NEED WILDER PARKS IN EUROPE?

- There is big opportunity and a key role to play for protected areas to help restore nature
- The current status of 'ecological integrity' indicates the high need for this
- Protected areas provide many opportunities, ranging from allowing natural processes, to support wildlife comeback, to developing corridors
- Rewilding Europe is looking forward to explore this together with EUROPARC Federation





# Understanding EU's Nature Restoration targets

**Angelika Rubin**

European Commission DG.ENV.D3 – Nature Conservation





**Break 20'**

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**Key learnings from the exchange with EC**





# Production Time Briefing

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# Production times - briefing

## Coopetition to encourage creativity & multiply perspectives

- 2 diversified teams of 6 people
  - 1. Anita
  - 2. Ben
  - 3. Eliott
  - 4. Michael
  - 5. Roland
  - 6. Trym Holt
  - 1. Frederik
  - 2. Marju
  - 3. James
  - 4. Joao
  - 5. John
  - 6. Santtu
- Self-organized
- Each team work on the same assignments.
- Moments of “spying”
- Moments of sharing
- Outputs collected in a presentation

**Please feel FREE**



# Outputs repository



## **Team ABC Outputs link:**

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/16eiDONt36cRqDUt1ZaxywzxNxn-Ub9caD95BSuvxDAs/edit?usp=sharing>

## **Team XYZ Outputs link:**

[https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1rfIGSI6ALnXvIbpamYwuxMII90zXh\\_wn70YeX59II28/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1rfIGSI6ALnXvIbpamYwuxMII90zXh_wn70YeX59II28/edit?usp=sharing)

A composite photograph of an iceberg floating in the ocean. The visible tip of the iceberg is white and jagged, rising above the dark blue water. Below the waterline, a much larger, dark blue mass of ice is visible, representing the hidden part of the iceberg. The sky is a clear, bright blue.

**What are the benefits of nature restoration for communities?**

# What are the benefits of nature restoration for communities?

## KEY BENEFIT FOR TARGET

1 key message / Used in Mass media (ads, posters, tagline)

1



## KEY POSITIONING ELEMENTS

3 differentiators to support key message - Used in the elevator pitch

2



3



## DETAILED PROOF POINTS

As many arguments as necessary - Used in "expert" presentations and detailed documents



# What are the benefits of nature restoration for communities?

Start with **3** > **2** > **1**

Brainstorming > collection of post-its > Clustering

KEY BENEFIT FOR TARGET

1 key message / Used in Mass media (ads, posters, tagline)


1



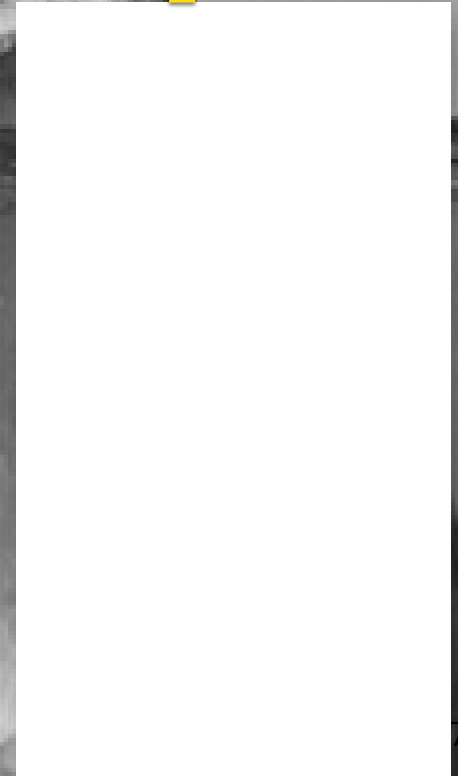
KEY POSITIONING ELEMENTS

3 differentiators to support key message - Used in the elevator pitch

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DETAILED PROOF POINTS

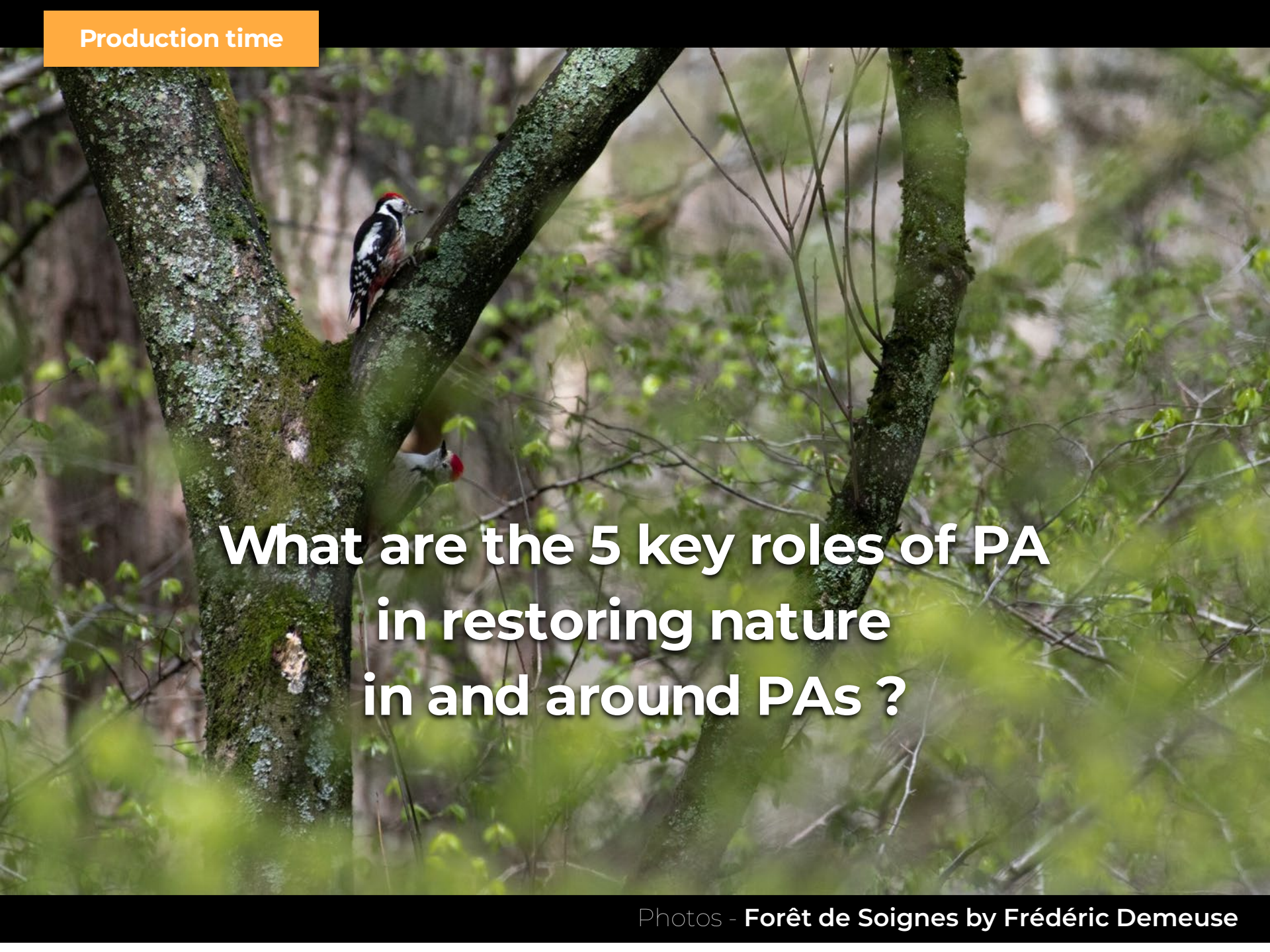
As many arguments as necessary - Used in "expert" presentations and detailed documents



# DAY 2

Photos - **Forêt de Soignes** by Frédéric Demeuse



A photograph of two woodpeckers on a mossy tree trunk in a forest. The woodpeckers have black and white plumage with a distinctive red cap. They are perched on a thick, moss-covered branch. The background is a soft-focus forest with green foliage and tree trunks.

**What are the 5 key roles of PA  
in restoring nature  
in and around PAs ?**

# 5 key roles of PA

**What are the 5 key roles of PA  
in restoring nature in and around PAs ?**

**Expected Output:** 5 slides presenting the 5 roles you have selected

**Proposed process:**

1. Take 5' to think about it personally
2. List all your ideas
3. Prioritize them
4. Share your priorities with the group
5. Negotiate a common top 5
6. Describe each role of your Top 5

**Please feel FREE** to work differently. It outputs is what counts

# Accessing land for restoration

## How do we get access to the land to be restored? (in and out of PA)

**Expected Output:** List flurry of ideas on how to get access to land for restoration

### 3 rules for effective brainstorming :

- **Rule #1 Don't judge another person idea.**  
It shuts them down and turn off their creativity.
- **Rule #2 Do not evaluate or discuss ideas.**  
Sometimes seemingly ridiculous ideas spur the greatest ideas. A flurry of ideas flying around increases the positive energy and creativity
- **Rule #3 Goal is quantity, not quality.**  
Determining quality comes after the brainstorming process is complete.

**Please feel FREE**



# 10 useful tips & tricks

**How to set up a restoration project? Identify the 10 most useful tips and tricks ?**

**Expected Output:** Presentation (free format) of the 10 most useful tips & tricks for PA managers to implement a nature restoration project

## **Proposed process:**

If you have experience, you might want to ask yourself:

- What worked well?
- What would I do differently?
- What advice would I have needed the most when I started?
- In an ideal world how would I do it
- ...

**Tip:** propose positive, concrete and actionable tips & tricks

**Please feel FREE to think out of the box**

Check

A wide-angle photograph of a sunset over a calm ocean. The sun is a bright, glowing orb on the right side of the horizon, partially obscured by dark, textured clouds. A long, shimmering path of golden light reflects off the water's surface towards the viewer. The sky transitions from a pale blue on the left to a warm orange and yellow near the horizon. In the distance, two small, dark silhouettes of people are visible on the water. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

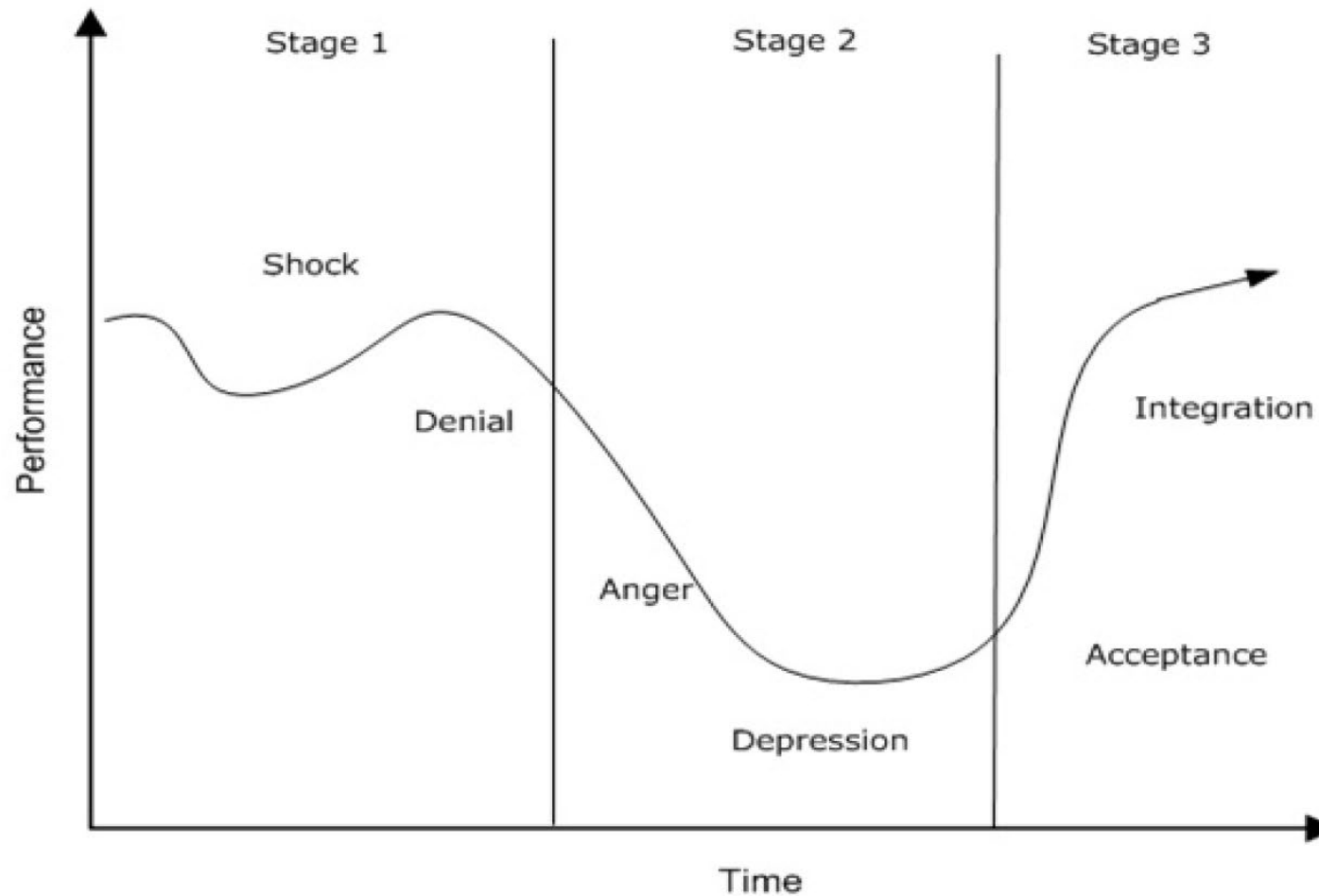
**WHERE DO WE GO  
FROM HERE?**



# E. Kubler-Ross



## The Change Curve





**THANK YOU**



A group of 14 people, 10 men and 4 women, are posing for a group photo in front of a building. The building features a large, ornate, light grey arched doorway in the center, flanked by large multi-paned windows with white frames. The people are arranged in three rows on a set of stone steps. The front row consists of five people standing on the ground. The middle row has four people standing on the first step. The back row has five people standing on the second step. They are dressed in casual to semi-formal attire, including jackets, sweaters, and button-down shirts. The overall atmosphere is professional yet relaxed.

**THANK YOU**



# Save the date



**2022**

**EUROPARC Conference**  
**Climate Change; Resilient Parks**

4-7 October, Argelès-sur-Mer, France 





**See you soon...**