



Land management in the Post 2010 Biodiversity Strategy

Szilvia BŐSZE
Unit B2 - Biodiversity
DG Environment
European Commission



STRUCTURE



- ❖ Why is biodiversity important?
- ❖ State of biodiversity in the EU
- ❖ The policy context
- ❖ The contribution of farming



WHY DOES IT MATTER?



- ❖ **An ethical duty:** *to conserve the sheer variety of life on earth; future generations*
- ❖ **An environmental asset:** *healthy ecosystems play a vital role in regulating the environment – e.g. 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

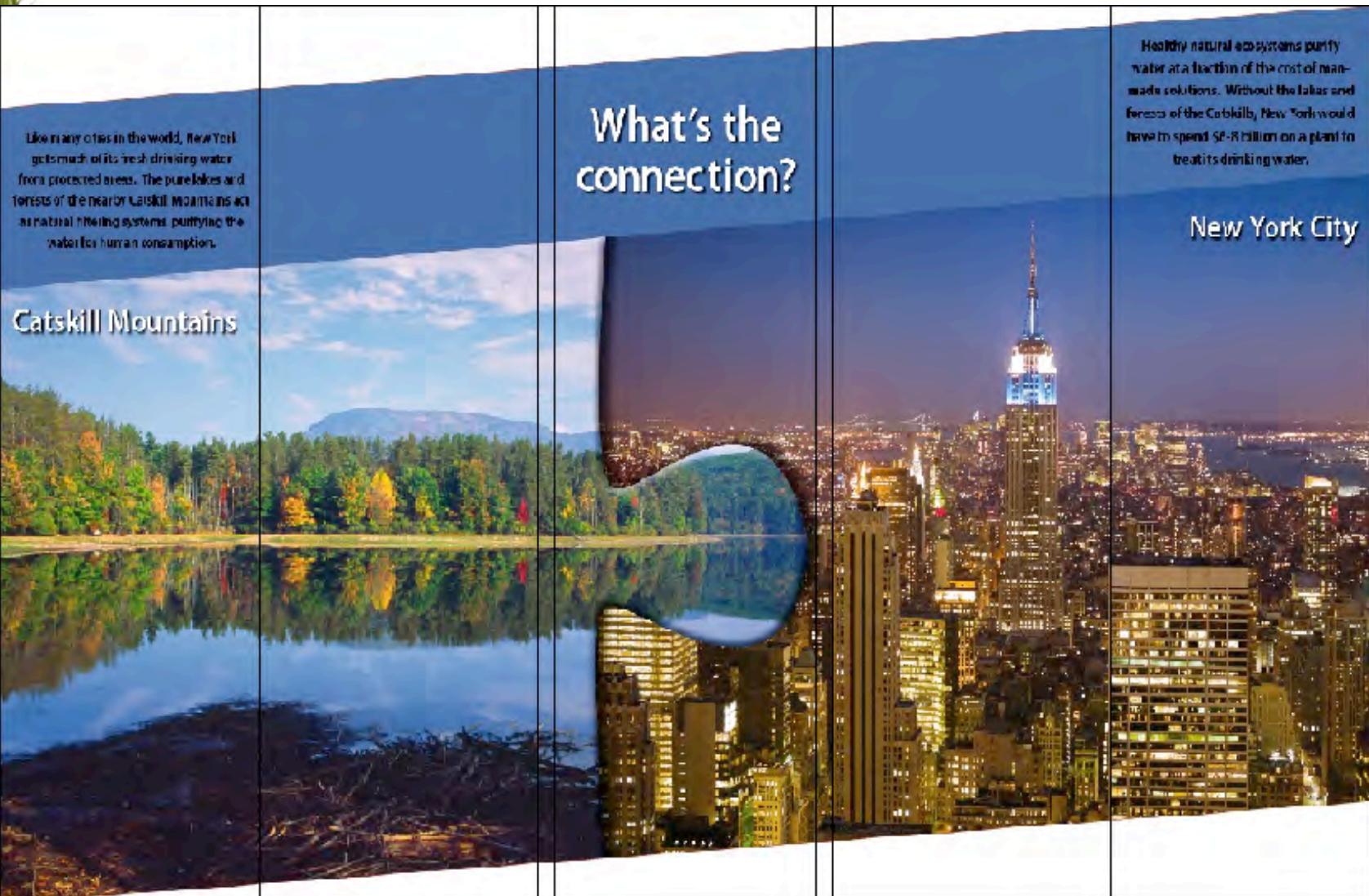
- ❖ **Provisioning** in the form of harvestable products such as food, drinking water and raw materials;
- ❖ **Regulating** functions such as carbon sequestration, waste treatment or slowing the passage of water;
- ❖ **Cultural** services that directly involve people; and
- ❖ **Habitat or supporting**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

TEEB Report 2008:
« The annual welfare loss generated by loss of ecosystems services will amount to 7% of the global annual consumption by 2050 »



		<h2>What's the connection?</h2>		<p>Without bees, people must pollinate their crops by hand. It takes around 20-25 people to pollinate a small apple orchard whereas a single bee colony can pollinate around 1 million flowers in one day.</p>
<p>Bees are responsible for pollinating three-quarters of the world's crops. Along with other factors, in some regions, bee colonies have collapsed as a result of excessive pesticides and habitat loss.</p> <p>Pollination by bees</p>				<p>Growing fruit and Vegetables</p>





Like many cities in the world, New York gets much of its fresh drinking water from protected areas. The pure lakes and forests of the nearby Catskill Mountains act as natural filtering systems, purifying the water for human consumption.

Catskill Mountains

What's the connection?

Healthy natural ecosystems purify water at a fraction of the cost of man-made solutions. Without the lakes and forests of the Catskill, New York would have to spend \$6-8 billion on a plant to treat its drinking water.

New York City



Natural forests play an important role in regulating climate. Along with peatlands, wetlands and oceans they store carbon and absorb roughly half of man-made carbon emissions. Yet, global deforestation continues at an unprecedented rate.

Natural forest

What's the connection?

Carbon dioxide is released when coal, oil and natural gas are burnt to produce electricity, heating or used as fuel for transport. Reducing fossil fuel consumption is only part of the solution to climate change - nature's ability to capture CO₂ must also be safeguarded.

Oil refinery





Evolution of Biodiversity Policy

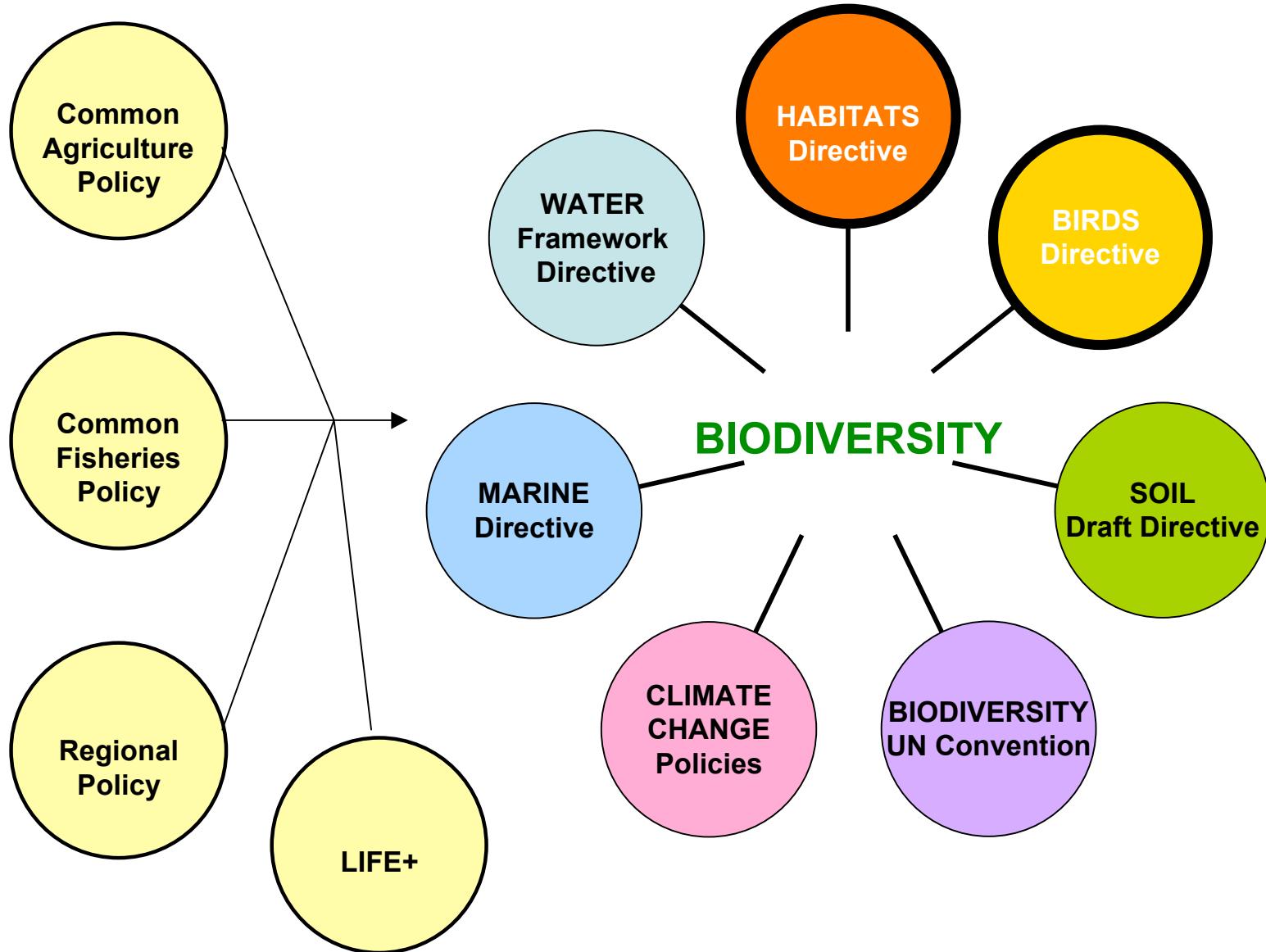
- 1979 Adoption of the EU Birds Directive
- 1992 Rio Summit, adoption of the CBD; adoption of the EU Habitats Directive
- 1998: Biodiversity Strategy
- 2001: Heads of Government adopt a target: **“Halting biodiversity loss by 2010”**
- 2002: EU, in the context of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (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

and the current process...



Target 2010: Halt biodiversity loss

Main legislations contributing and having an impact





HAVE WE REACHED THE TARGET?



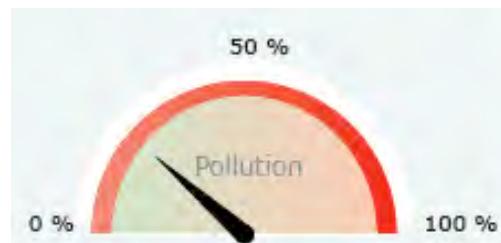
- NO, on the basis of the assessment of the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive and other reports (EEA, BAP) it is clear that the EU will not meet its targets
- The drivers of biodiversity loss are
 - **Degradation and fragmentation of habitats**



- **Over-exploitation of natural resources**

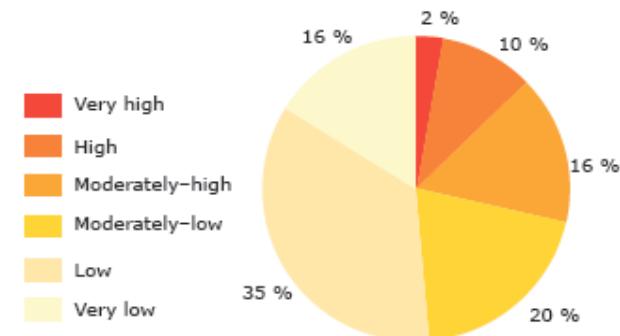


- **Contamination**



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

Fragmentation in EU-27 (% of total area)





THE STATE OF BIODIVERSITY IN EU in 2010



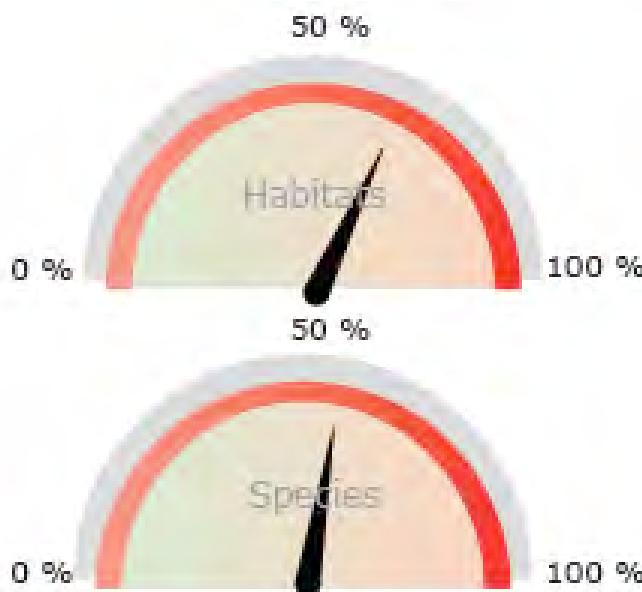
Species facing risk of extinction:

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 EU 2010
Biodiversity Baseline
<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/eu-2010-biodiversity-baseline/>



THE STATE OF ECOSYSTEM SERVICES IN EU in 2010



Ecosystems 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



Why did we fail?

A combination of different factors, including:

- Poor implementation of legislation
- Insufficient funding
- Knowledge gaps
- Insufficient integration into other policies
- Emerging threats: climate change, invasive species
- Lack of awareness
- Lack of political will
- Policy gaps: soil, invasive species, forests



And now what?



2010 International Year of Biodiversity

On the way to adopt a new post-2010 target and a strategy to reach it

- at EU level
- at Global level

For more on EU Biodiversity Policy development see
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/biodiversity/policy/index_en.htm



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.



How to avoid failure again?



- Learn from mistakes
- Increase efforts and make things differently
- Establish a baseline and step up efforts to fill knowledge gaps
- Improve the implementation of EU legislation, including those on nature
- Better integration into other policies
- Increase funding and avoid harmful subsidies



This implies



Monitoring, assessment

- Establish a baseline
- Further develop indicators
- Finalise Natura 2000 funding needs assessment
- BAP 2010 assessment

Fill knowledge gaps

- Launch BISE
- Develop strategic plan
- IPBES, TEEB

Address policy gaps

- Invasive species
- Soil

Ecosystem services

- Biophysical maps

Green Infrastructure

- Exchange best practice
- EU strategy

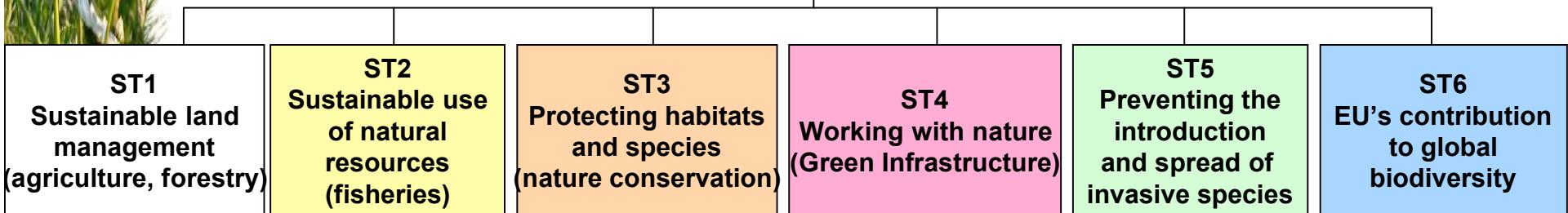


This implies

Commission develops a new Strategy; to be adopted asap after Nagoya (CBD COP10, October 2010)

2020 Headline target:

Halting the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020, and restoring them insofar as feasible, while stepping up the EU contribution to averting global biodiversity loss





STATE LAND MANAGEMENT

- State of agro- and grassland ecosystems



Nearly one third of the area of the Natura 2000 sites is made up of agro-ecosystems.

- Agro-ecosystems cover 28% of the surface of Natura 2000 (13% with regularly cultivated and 10% of agro-ecosystems which need extensive practice, 5% with complex agro ecosystems)
- Grassland ecosystems cover 11% of the total surface of Natura 2000



ST LAND MANAGEMENT

- State of agro- and grassland ecosystems



- Nearly 30 species of European interest from the Habitats Directive are linked to agro-ecosystems
- Nearly 40 species from the Birds directive are linked to agro-ecosystems
- 25% of Mammals of European interest linked to agro-ecosystems are threatened
- 42% of Birds of European interest linked to agro-ecosystems are threatened
- Common farmland birds declined by 20-25% between 1990 and 2007
- More than 80% of assessments for amphibians and invertebrates linked to agro-ecosystems are unfavourable
- 76% of the assessments of habitats linked to agro-ecosystems are unfavourable
- 89 of the 152 grassland bird species (59%) have an unfavourable conservation status in Europe
- Only 5% of the assessments of grassland habitats and 15% of the species of European interest are favourable
- Europe's grassland butterflies have declined by 60% since 1990 and this reduction shows no sign yet of levelling off



SUBTARGET ON LAND MANAGEMENT

WHAT TO ADDRESS AS A MATTER OF PRIORITY?

- Extensive agriculture, for instance HNV?
- Agricultural practices, for instance organic farming?
- A combination based on ecosystem services provided?
- For example: HNV
 - **x% of land under a contract to deliver HNV related farming and forestry**
 - **OR**
 - **y% of CAP direct support directed to HNV (area/farming to be determined) to contribute to good conservation status**

Other questions:

HOW TO ADDRESS GENETIC VARIETY?

HOW TO ADDRESS FORESTRY?



WHAT POSSIBLE MEASURES TO REACH THE SUBTARGET ON LAND MANAGEMENT?

HOW TO BETTER USE THE CAP POTENTIALS?

Principles based on the current structure of the CAP

- Changes in the architecture of the CAP?
- Make bigger use of Pillar I?
- Payments for public goods (ie for ecosystem services)?
- Changes in the funding provided to nature conservation and biodiversity?
- Increase funding in Pillar II?
- Avoid harmful subsidies

Through? – Some ideas:

- Ensure that direct payments (Pillar I of the current CAP) are dedicated to biodiversity set-aside and other farmland features, to permanent grassland, to green (vegetation) cover, to crop rotation, to Natura 2000 and to HNV as a form of Payment for ecosystem services ?
- Substantially increase the funding in Second pillar for agri-environment measures that would target HNV areas and Natura 2000 areas ?
- Identify HNV forestry by xxxx and ensure adequate financing ?
- AND/OR...???



THE WAY AHEAD

Consultations

- Member States
- Inter-EC
- Stakeholders
 - Stakeholder Consultation (3 June)
 - Public Internet Consultation (**ongoing until 22 October:** http://ec.europa.eu/environment/consultations/biodecline.htm#lang_en.htm)

Adoption

- Draft EU strategy + impact assessment
- CBD COP10
- Official procedure
- EU COM: Strategy + impact assessment
- Endorsement? (EU Council? – HU Presidency?)

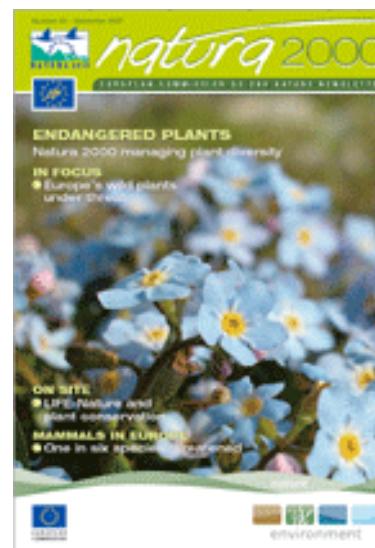
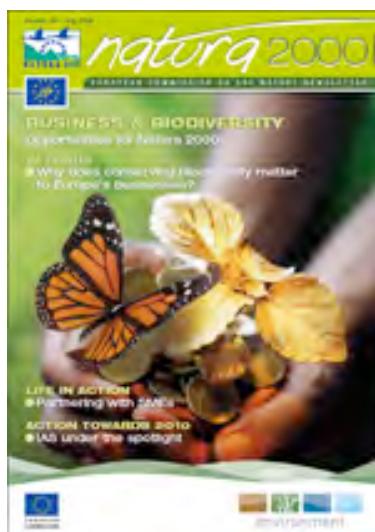
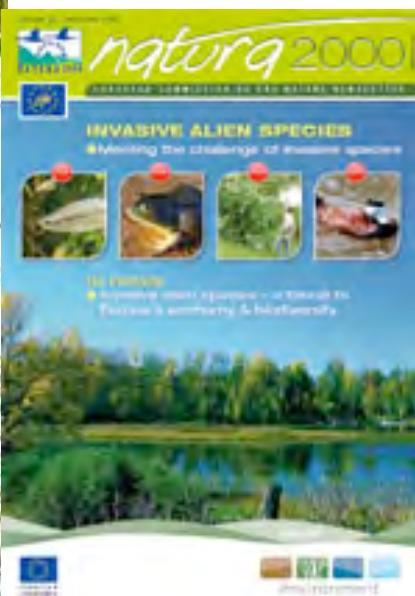
Implementation





More information can be found in:

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



BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION
SYSTEM FOR EUROPE

<http://biodiversity.europa.eu/>