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**COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL, THE
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS**

**A MID-TERM ASSESSMENT OF IMPLEMENTING
THE EC BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN**

COUNTRY PROFILES

{COM(2008) 864 final}
{SEC(2008) 3042}
{SEC(2008) 3044}
{SEC(2008) 3045}

ITALY

Competent authority(ies) for nature & biodiversity:

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Most recent national/subnational biodiversity strategy/action plan:

1998: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/world/it/it-nbsap-01-en.pdf>

Latest review of the implementation of biodiversity strategy/action plan:

2nd national report 2001: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/world/it/it-nr-02-en.pdf>

Alignment with EU biodiversity plan:**Alignment with EU 2010 Biodiversity Indicators (SEBI 2010):****Key sources of official nature & biodiversity information used for evaluation:**

- www.scn.minambiente.it
- www.minambiente.it
- <http://www.minambiente.it>
- <http://biodiv.iao.florence.it/CHM/inglversion/ingdini2001.php>
- <https://www.cbd.int/doc/world/it/it-nr-02-en.pdf>

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS IN DELIVERY OF OBJECTIVES OF EU BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN

A. POLICY AREA 1: BIODIVERSITY IN THE EU

1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species.

Natura 2000 sites (terrestrial and marine) (A.1.1, A.1.2 & A.1.4)

	<i>Number of sites</i>	<i>Area (km²)</i>
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Total SCIs/SACs (Habitats Directive)	2286	45 211
SCIs/SACs with marine component (Habitats Directive)	160	2 243
Total SPAs (Birds Directive)	594	43 827
SPAs with marine component (Birds Directive)	42	2 719

Number of SCIs and SACs - Natura 2000 Barometer – June 2008 (Source: European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity based on data supplied by Member State)

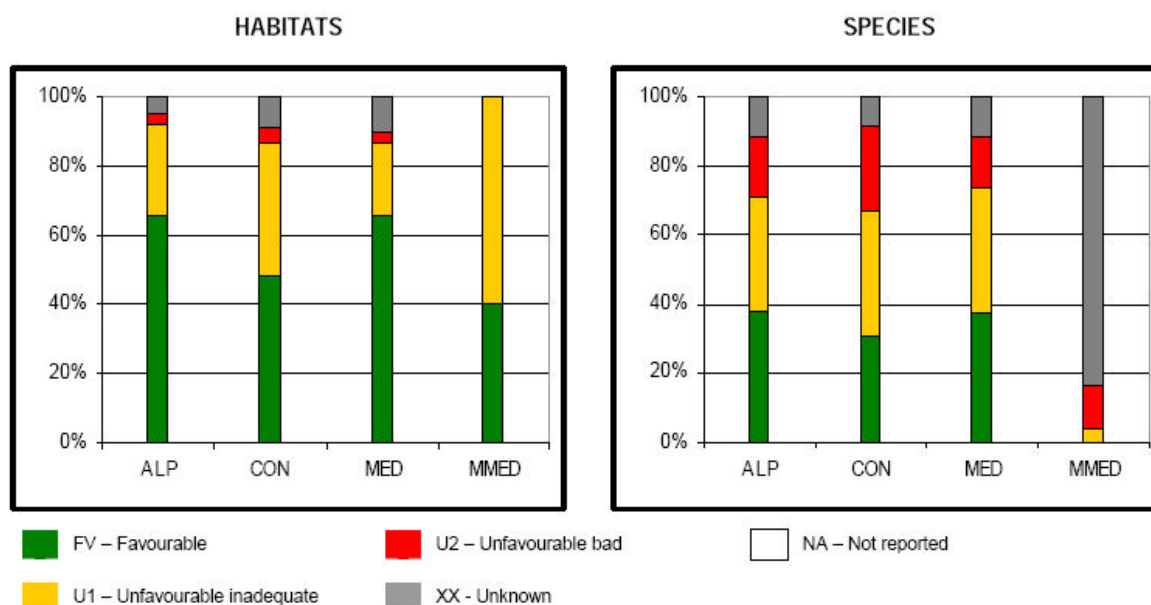
Italy was considered, by June 2008, to have achieved a level of sufficiency of 99.8 % for site selection for species and habitat types under Habitats Directive, in its territory. A total of 132 Natura 2000 sites have completed/agreed management plans, with 597 in development. There are measures on the coherence of the network developed at the regional level.

According to the EC LIFE Programme/Database, under the LIFE Nature programme, there was a total of 62 projects in Italy with an EC contributions of EUR 37 474 679, during the period 2000-2006. In the year 2007, according to the indicative national allocations, Italian projects received EUR 16 457 000 from LIFE+ funds.

Spatial data is available online.

Conservation status assessment (A1.2)

Under the Habitats Directive Italy occurs in the three biogeographical regions (alpine, continental, and mediterranean). The results of the first conservation status assessment for species and habitats of community interest are as follows:



Region / Conclusion	HABITATS					SPECIES				
	FV	U1	U2	XX	NA	FV	U1	U2	XX	NA
Alpine	65	27	3	5		38	33	17	12	
Continental	48	39	4	9		31	36	25	8	
Mediterranean	66	21	3	10		37	36	15	11	
Marine Mediterranean	40	60					4	13	83	
Member State	60	29	3	8		34	34	18	14	

*The conservation status categories: FV = favourable, U1 = unfavourable-inadequate, U2 = unfavourable-bad, XX = unknown, NA = no evaluation given by MS

Overall assessment of conservation status by biogeographical region (Analysis by the European Topic centre on Biological Diversity based on data supplied by Member State)

Red Data Books/Lists, National/Subnational Atlases, Action Plans (A1.3)

Information could not be found on Red Data Lists, national/subnational atlases or species action plans.

Ex situ conservation measures are in place for some marine species (as *Hippocampus hippocampus*, *Hippocampus guttulatus*, *Patella ferruginea*) and for species of agricultural interest. *Ex situ* and *in situ* conservation activities for plant species are funded at national and local level.

Common bird monitoring (A1.4)

Common bird monitoring is carried out by MITO2000. The results and trend indicators are available online.

2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside.

Rural Development Programmes (A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8):

According to information supplied by the Italian authorities, Italy has a series of regional RDPs which, in combination, amount to EUR 8 292 000 000 (national EAFRD budget). About 45 % of this budget is programmed for Axis 2 measures (land

management/environment) The regional RDPs vary in the measures used for biodiversity conservation: some of them offer a combination of agri-environment and Natura measures, while others (most of them) focus on agri-environment measures, but with priority given to Natura 2000 sites (whilst one region only applies agri-environment schemes to Natura 2000 sites). Overall some 22 % of the EAFRD budget is allocated to agri-environment schemes.

Some regions have allocated substantial RDP funding for first afforestation schemes and/or lower levels of funding for establishment of agro-forestry schemes, Natura 2000 forest measures and forest-environment measures.

Agricultural genetic diversity (A2.1.11):

According to the country's Second National Report to the CBD, Italy is helping to implement the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources. Furthermore, the country has developed a national plan regarding agricultural biodiversity. It includes several initiatives for the conservation of genetic resources, such as a programme for the collection, cataloguing and conservation of animal breeds.

Agricultural cross-compliance measures (A2.1.4 & 2.1.10):

Italy has included requirements to protect permanent pastures in its GAEC Minimum Level of Maintenance measures. However, there are no requirements to maintain minimum grazing levels or landscape features, or any other GAEC measures that are likely to provide significant biodiversity benefits.

Afforestation / deforestation policies and biodiversity (A2.1.5):

No response was received from the Member State to the European Commission's questionnaire. In the absence of other readily available data, progress with this target and related actions cannot therefore be evaluated.

Soil protection and biodiversity (A2.2.1):

No response was received from the Member State to the European Commission's questionnaire. In the absence of other readily available data, progress with this target and related actions cannot therefore be evaluated.

Measures to improve the ecological status of freshwaters (A2.3.1):

According to the European Commission's WFD Scoreboard, Italy has met most of its WFD transposition and reporting obligations which have deadlines during 2004, 2005 and 2007 (including the production of a River Basin District Report and Monitoring Network Report). However, it has only partly met the notification requirements under Article 24 and the requirements for the River Basin Analysis report.

Measures to reduce air pollution impacts on biodiversity (A2.4.2 & 2.4.3):

According to Italy's 2006 National Programme Report under the NEC Directive, the country is having difficulties in meeting its designated emission ceilings for nitrogen oxides and ammonia. NO_x emissions in 2005 far exceeded the NEC Directive targets and the country does not expect to meet them by 2010 (according to new calculations). However, the latest projects show that 2010 emission ceilings for sulphur oxides, ammonia and non-methane volatile organic compounds will be complied with.

The country has carried out several studies that show that significant reductions can be obtained by taking measures across various sectors, including industry (e.g. with Best

Available Technologies), transport (e.g. promotion of public transport, additional measures regarding light and heavy duty vehicles, and sea transport) and residential (e.g. more efficient house heating plants, energy efficiency of buildings). A working group has been established, consisting of representatives from different regions, associations of municipalities and national agencies, which aim to harmonise different emission inventories and measures taken.

3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment.

Good marine ecological status (A3.1a):

There is unclear whether Italy has a national marine strategy; however, it seems that marine biodiversity issues are incorporated in the National Biodiversity Plan (1997).

The 2nd National Report to the CBD (2001) stated that: “Although the National Plan on Biodiversity has not yet been produced, many measures are in place (for marine and coastal biodiversity conservation).”

In 2002, a Legislative Decree (No. 304) amended certain provisions with regards the institutional organization at ministerial level giving particular consideration to issues including the protection of the coastal and marine environment. The Agency for the Protection of the Environment and for Technical Services (APAT) and the Central Institute for Marine Research (ICRAM) were from this point supervised by the Ministry of the Environment.

Italy is a contracting party to the Barcelona Convention and therefore has responsibilities under the Mediterranean Action Plan and the Strategic Action Plan for Protection of Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean Region (SAP BIO). According to the Barcelona Convention, the Contracting Parties shall, individually or jointly, take all appropriate measures to protect and preserve biological diversity, rare or fragile ecosystems, as well as species of wild fauna and flora which are rare, depleted, threatened or endangered and their habitats, in the area to which this Convention applies. Italy has also drafted its National Report for SAP-BIO, in the frame of preparation of the overall Mediterranean Strategic Action Plan.

According to the Article 17 National Summary for Italy, 40 % of marine habitats covered under the EU Habitats Directive have a ‘favourable’ status. The remaining 60 % have an ‘unfavourable-inadequate’ status.

Integrated coastal zone management (ICZM) (A.3.1.b):

In Italy, ICZM as a management instrument has not been nationally practiced, as there is no national strategy. The administrative functions on the maritime state property have been integrally transferred from the State to the Regions. Therefore, Italy has a regional approach for coastal zone management and there is no single institution invested with the governance of the coastal zone. Furthermore, the regional and local approaches often appear sectoral. Italy did not report officially to the EU ICZM Recommendation. The final report evaluating ICZM in the European Union in 2006 concluded that with Italy “Being geographically central in the Mediterranean area with a very important and long coastal zone and of paramount political importance in the European context,” the lack of ICZM implementation was a point of concern.

Pollution: Bathing water quality (A3.2)

According to the Bathing Water Report for the 2007 season, 92.9 % of coastal bathing waters

met minimum standards and 91.7 % met guideline standards. These changed slightly from 2006, when 93.4 % met minimum standards and 91.1 % met guideline standards. Eighteen coastal bathing sites were found 'not complying' and a total of 300 (6.1 %) were banned throughout the 2007 season.

Ecosystem approaches in Fisheries management measures (A3.3):

The 2nd National Report to the CBD (2001) stated that: "The VI Triennial Fishing Management Plans refer specifically to the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biological diversity. Currently there two inter Ministerial commissions instituted to evaluate fisheries activity impact on biological resources and to produce appropriate sustainability indicators."

In 1984, a conservationist policy based on a generalized licensing scheme and National Triennial Plans was introduced through the 'National Plan for Fishing and Aquaculture' (Law 41/1982). This is the main management instrument for the sector. The Ministry of the Merchant Marine approves three-year fisheries plan concerning the management of biological resources, the promotion of production and placing on the market of fishery products. The national fisheries plans consist of three parts. The first part concerns fishing activities and the development of aquaculture; it promotes the exploitation without exterminating the natural resources and by taking into account the fishing methods used in the different fishing zones. The second part concerns the establishments on land related to fishing activities (e.g. cooperation among fishermen, modernization of auction and wholesale markets, distribution networks, conservation, handling and processing of fishery products). The third part concerns the financial forecast and the allocation of funds available. By 2008, 7 National Triennial plans will have been enforced. The National Plan for Fisheries and Aquaculture (2004) defines the strategies to be followed for the coordination and development of this particular sector, with a view to ensuring the sustainable exploitation of fishery resources. It is not clear whether this plan incorporates the ecosystem approach.

Coastal Italian regions also have some legislative competencies, especially those with a more autonomous status (*Regioni a statuto speciale*, namely Sicily; Sardinia; and Friuli-Venezia Giulia).

Community and National Financing under European Fisheries Funds (EFF) (A3.4):

A National Fisheries Operational Programme was adopted in 2007 amounting to a total of EUR 848 685 708 (including EUR 424 342 854 from the EFF, 75 % of which was allocated to the convergence regions of Italy). For the EFF contribution, EUR 165 493 714 (39 % of total) was allocated to priority axis 1, EUR 106 085 713 to priority axis 2 (25 % of total), and EUR 108 207 428 to priority axis 3 (25.5 % of total).

There are some environmentally-friendly measures incorporated into the Operational Programme. Axis 1 of the operational programme foresees reductions in fishing capacity in line with the fishing opportunities, and improvement of the efficiency and selectivity of gears. Axis 2 includes improvement of environmental aspects of aquaculture production and the promotion of environmental certification.

Restoration programmes for diadromous species (A3.5.a):

There is no information on whether Italy has any management plans for diadromous species.

Fishing Capacity-Decommissioning (3.5.b):

The number of vessels in the Italian fishing fleet has decreased by 23 % from 18 235 to 14

098 vessels between 1999 and 2006. During the same period, tonnage has declined by 16 % from 247 211 to 207 272 tonnes and power decreased by 18 % from 1 462 644 to 1 197 972 kW. The annual report from the Commission COM(2007) 828, stated that despite there being no mandatory fishing effort management schemes for the Italian fleet, a gradual reduction in fishing effort had been reported, in terms of both capacity and activity, which has led to an increase in "catch per unit" effort. "The capacity of the Italian fleet was further decreased by means of scrapping backed by public aid. During 2006, 137 vessels with a combined tonnage of 7 267 GT and total engine power of 27 016 kW were decommissioned. According to the Italian report, the average number of fishing days stabilised at 134, the same as in 2005, after a sharp reduction in previous years."

Action plans and conservation status for marine species and habitats (A3.6):

Italy participates in the Regional Activity Centre of the Mediterranean Action Plan for the conservation of marine turtles, monk seal, seabirds, cartilaginous fishes and cetaceans. A first triennial action plan for the conservation of Cetaceans has been recently approved by the Central Institute for Scientific and Technological Research applied to Marine Ecosystem (ICRAM). Three further plans for the conservation of monk seal, marine turtles and Selacians were said to be well under way by 2001, while two plans concerning Cephalopods and marine birds were under consideration. The authority on the defence of marine biodiversity protected marine species and surrounding marine environment as a whole is committed to the Ministry of Environment, Department of Sea Defence. The current actions co-ordinated by this Department concern all the cetaceans occurring in the Italian waters, the turtles, the Posidonia beds and allochthonous invasive species. The Department was also (in 2001) carrying out actions of monitoring of the marine and coastal environment, in agreement with 14 coastal Regions, touching approximately 6,000 km of coasts.

Aquaculture planning and biodiversity (A3.7):

The operational programme for fisheries includes plans for aquaculture development that take account of the environment. In particular, one of the objectives of Axis 2 highlights the need to improve the environmental quality of aquaculture operations and the application of environmental certification and the eco-management and audit scheme (EMAS).

4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU.

Biodiversity spending under Cohesion and structural funds:

Under the Cohesion and structural funds, for the period 2007-2013, expenditures foreseen by Italy for Biodiversity & nature protection, amount to EUR 57 000 000. Other relevant areas where Cohesion and structural funds will be allocated are Promotion of Natural Assets (EUR 91 000 000) Natural Heritage (EUR 103 000 000).

5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes.

Strategies to reduce impacts from invasive alien species (A5.1.2):

No questionnaire response was received from the Member State. However, according to an IEEP study carried out in 2006, Italy has implemented IAS national/subnational legislation addressing issues such as trade including export and import as well as intentional introduction. Specific phytosanitary conditions are in place for the import of certain plant

species from Japan. There are also rules applicable to keeping, breeding, marketing and trade in exotic animals, but these are mainly on a regional level, and are generally targeted at only 'dangerous' IAS. Decree DPR 357/1997 refers to the intentional introduction of invasive alien species. However, it remains unclear whether a national strategy dealing with IAS has been developed, and whether a national/subnational database has been created.

Biosafety measures to reduce impacts from alien genotypes (A5.1.2 & 5.1.3):

Besides having ratified the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, Italy has adopted/ implemented relevant EU Regulations and Directives including Regulation 1946/2003 on transboundary movements, which implements the provisions of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety into EU law

The Decree 224/2003 transposed the Directive 18/2001/EC on the deliberate release of genetically modified organisms into national legislation.

In Italy competence for rules on co-existence of genetically modified crops with conventional and organic farming lies at regional levels. Italy is one of the few Member States that has completed the development of national coexistence strategies and has adopted relevant legislation.

B. POLICY AREA 2: THE EU AND GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY

6. To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Italy prepared its Strategy and Preliminary programme for the implementation of the Convention of Biodiversity in Italy in 1994. Italy has not yet prepared the Third National Report for the CBD. However, the Second National Report was submitted to the CBD in 2001. Italy submitted its thematic report on Protected Areas in 2003. No information was available on the level of direct financial contributions to national biodiversity conservation activities and the level of direct financial contributions to developing countries for biodiversity conservation purposes. Italy paid their annual contributions to CBD, Ramsar, CMS, AWEA, World Heritage Convention and the UNEP Environment Fund.

7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance.

Funds allocated for biodiversity projects and programmes in developing countries (B7.1.3) and Members State's Overseas Countries and Territories (B7.1.6):

The Directorate-General for Development Co-operation (DGCS), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has overall responsibility for the administration of the country's Official Development Assistance (ODA). It is important to note Italy's continuing focus on Africa, however, the list of recipients of Italian ODA includes up to 118 countries, with some priority recipients identified. At the level of individual recipient partners, interest in allocating Italian ODA around substantive, locally-led country strategy planning appears to have diminished. At the level of sector priorities, the Italian programme tends to disperse funding, putting its attention to a wide range of sectors.

Annual spending on biodiversity-related bilateral aid in 2004 was 190 000, which amounted to 0.03 % of the total bilateral aid budget.

Integration of biodiversity considerations into development programmes and projects impacts

on biodiversity (Action B7.2.2 & 7.2.5):

A review of environmental assessment regimes of bilateral and multilateral development agencies by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), on behalf of the OECD, found that a policy has been developed, based on the Handbook for the Assessment of Environmental Compatibility of Development Cooperation Projects. It includes provisions such as criteria for 'environmental adjustment' in all phases of a project, identification of elements of the projects with potential impacts on environmental components, investigation of the available means to reduce impacts or the use of knowledge by all the participants in the process.

8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services.

The figures for CITES permits for 2005 and 2006 indicate a high level of trade in CITES species. The number of import documents issued in 2005 was 7882 and 7895 in 2006. Eight (8) permit applications that were denied were reported in 2005 and 5 in 2006. There is a sizeable decrease in the number of seizures from 22, 842 2003/04 to 590 in 2005/06. National capacity was built through hiring of more staff, increased budget for activities, development of implementation tools, and improvement of national networks, purchase of technical equipment for monitoring /enforcement and computerisation. Advice/guidance was provided to the Management Authority, the staff of enforcement authorities and the Scientific Authority. Technical assistance has been also been provided to the Scientific Authority. The annual contribution to the CITES Trust Funds were paid.

C. POLICY AREA 3: BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

9. To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change.

Progress on Kyoto targets (C9.1.1):

Greenhouse gas emissions in Italy in 2005 amounted to some 582 million tonnes, which was 12.1 % more than 1990 base-levels. Italy is therefore currently a long way short of its Kyoto target of reducing emissions by 6.5 % in 2008-2012 compared to 1990. Furthermore, recent projections suggest that, on the basis of existing policies and measures, 2010 levels will be 13.1 % above base-levels. However, with additional policies and the inclusion of Kyoto mechanisms and carbon sinks, then equivalent emissions could be reduced to 6.0 % below base-levels.

Adaptation measures to increase biodiversity resilience to climate change (C9.4.1 & 9.4.3):

The Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea organised a National Conference on Climate Change (in 2007) that assessed climate change vulnerability and the available adaptation options. From this it has published a climate manifesto for sustainable adaptation which includes an objective to prepare a National Adaptation Plan (as well as regional and local adaptation strategies), together with 13 actions for sustainable adaptation to be implemented on a priority basis.

The plan will address biodiversity and ecosystem needs and be integrated with existing measures relating to EU Directives, CBD and the UNCDD. However, it is unclear how this initiative has progressed.

According to the CBD website, Italy has not submitted its third national report. In the absence

of this and other readily available information, it is uncertain to what extent Italy has assessed climate change risks with respect to habitats and species.

D. POLICY AREA 4: THE KNOWLEDGE BASE

10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally.

National research programmes (D10.1):

Currently, research activities regarding the objectives of the CBD are performed mainly by University and Research Institutes (such as the National Research Council, ENEA, ICRAM (Italian Central Institute for Applied Marine Research), etc.). NGOs, including WWF and Legambiente, are also involved in such activities. The National Research Council (CNR) is a public organization; its duty is to carry out, promote, spread, transfer and improve research activities in the main sectors of knowledge growth and of its applications for the scientific, technological, economic and social development of the Country.

E. THE FOUR KEY SUPPORTING MEASURES

1. Ensuring adequate financing

Overall use of Community funds for biodiversity:

RDP 2000-2006 funding for Biodiversity-related activities (in EUR millions)

Region -Activity	Total public expenditure	EC contribution
Lazio - Agri-environment and protection of rural areas	326.97	153.57
Piemonte - Environment	383.10	187.82
Abruzzi - Agri-environmental measures	87.05	43.54
Umbria - Protection and development of the environment and landscape	251.726	119.879
Marche - Landscape and environment	207.42	101.95
Emilia Romagna - Agricultural activities compatible with the environment	427.65	213.82
Tuscany - Improvement of the rural environment	410.560	201.280
Friuli-Venezia Giulia - Environment	154.736	77.173

Veneto - Multipurpose agriculture, environment and landscape	258.46	129.23
Trento - Environmental and scenic heritage; environmentally friendly practices	93.175	45.55
Liguria - Multifunctional agriculture	91.448	41.966
Lombardy - Agri-environment, mountainous areas, forestry, livestock farming	487 122	240.136
Valle d'Aosta - Environment and landscape	110.368	40.247
Bolzano - Environment and landscape protection	176.678	85.722

OP under the European Fisheries Fund:

A National Fisheries Operational Programme was adopted in 2007 amounting to a total of EUR 848 685 708 (including EUR 424 342 854 from the EFF, 75 % of which was allocated to the convergence regions of Italy). However, no specific allocations to biodiversity-related activities could be found

2. Strengthening EU decision-making

Plans and follow-up to UN Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (E2.1):

There was no information on whether Italy is planning a follow-up to the MA.

Alignment of national biodiversity strategies with EU (E2.2):

A National Plan on Biodiversity (1997) exists. The National Agency for Environmental Protection (ANPA) as well as the regional agencies for the protection of the environment (ARPAs) is in charge of the implementation of the Plan which is composed of nine points, each of them indicating specific objectives and the actions for achieving such objectives. Points 1 and 2 regard the assessment, monitoring and conservation of biological diversity. Particular attention is paid to the setting up of an information network as well as the elaboration of the Nature Chart, which constitute the inventory of the natural heritage. Point 3 deals with education and promotion of awareness. Point 4 concerns in-situ conservation, giving particular importance to protected areas. Point 5 is concerned with the promotion of sustainable activities; Point 9 encourages international cooperation in this field, particularly with developing countries.

The 2nd National report to the CBD (2001), states that a National biodiversity strategy is in the advanced stages of development and an Action Plan is in the early stages of development. However, it is not clear whether the document will incorporate the EU Biodiversity Strategy targets.

In 2002, a resolution was adopted by the Inter-ministerial Committee for Economic

Programming which approved a document containing the "Environmental Action Strategy for Sustainable Development in Italy 2002-2010". The document is entirely contained in the Annex attached to the Resolution and it is divided into the following seven Chapters: (1) The Italian Environmental Action Programme; (2) Environmental action instruments (enforcement of legislation in force, environmental impact assessment, tax system, technical and scientific research); (3) Climate and atmosphere (climate change, ozone layer); (4) Nature and biodiversity (biotechnology, soil conservation, desertification, marine and coastal environments); (5) Environmental quality and life quality in urban environments (food safety, genetically modified organisms, air quality); (6) Sustainable use of natural resources and waste management (water resources, waste); (7) Monitoring on the environmental action for sustainable development. Article 4 of the Resolution, states that the Ministry of the Environment transmit must report annually to the Inter-ministerial Committee on the implementation status of the Strategy. It is not clear whether this document integrates biodiversity and ecosystem services into wider decision making.

The Italian Ministry of the Environment, Land and Sea has committed to draft a national sustainable adaptation and land protection strategy by 2008.

Effective integration of Natura 2000, Rural development, river basin management and other territorial plans and programmes in support for biodiversity (E2.5):

One of the main objectives of the *Strategia D'Azioni Ambientale per lo Sviluppo Sostenibile in Italia* (Environmental Action Strategy for Sustainable Development in Italy) is the integration of the environment in other policies. The Strategy also mentions the Natura 2000 network in the chapter on Nature and Biodiversity.

3. Building partnerships

National partnerships for biodiversity including private sector involvement (E3.1):

No information is available on whether Italy has any national or sub-national programmes to promote partnership with biodiversity or Natura 2000.

4. Building public education, awareness and participation

National/Sub-national public awareness campaigns/initiatives (E4.1):

Overall in Italy, 35 % of people taking part in a European wide Biodiversity-awareness poll (Flash Eurobarometer, 2008), had heard of biodiversity and 24 % knew what this meant. 20 % are well informed about biodiversity loss. However less than 1 % had heard of the Natura 2000 network and knew what this means compared to 93 % who had never heard of Natura 2000. In total, 62 % of people polled felt they made personal efforts to protect biodiversity.

The Italian Environment Protection and Technical Services Agency (APAT) carries out technical and scientific activities of national interest, linked to the mission of protection of the environment, by means the elaboration, assessment and promotion of programs of divulgation and training on environmental protection. The Agency also provides technical coordination of environmental training activities to the Regional and Provincial Agencies for the protection of the environment.

F. MONITORING

Information on biodiversity indicators is not available. The following biodiversity monitoring schemes have been identified: Forest Monitoring Scheme (CON.ECO.FOR.) led by the National Forest Service of Italy; Monitoring birds in the surrounding of the city of Italy Butterflies of the genus *Maculinea* in Italy and Monitoring of *Austropotamobius pallipes* complex in Piedmont.

DATA SOURCES

A1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species:

Member State Questionnaire response

Article 17 report <http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/>

Natura 2000 http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/barometer/index_en.htm

<http://dataservice.eea.europa.eu/atlas/viewdata/viewpub.asp?id=2639>

Completeness of N2000

http://themes.eea.europa.eu/IMS/ISpecs/ISpecification20041007131611/guide_summary_plus_public

Spatial data http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/db_gis/index_en.htm#sites

Common Bird Monitoring http://www.mito2000.it/index.aspx?mid=1&page=home_index&lang=it

LIFE expenditure <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm>

Ex-situ measures (CBD 2nd National Report) <http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/it/it-nr-02-en.pdf>

A2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside

A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8

Published National Rural Development Programmes (IEEP database 2008)

European Commission unpublished data (2008)

MS questionnaire

A2.1.11

Second National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/it/it-nr-02-en.pdf>

<http://www.politicheagricole.gov.it/>

A2.1.4 & 2.1.10

Alliance Environment (2007). Evaluation of the application of cross compliance as foreseen under Regulation 1782/2003. Part I: Descriptive Report - 26/07/2007. Report to the European Commission.

A2.1.5 & A2.2.1

MS Questionnaire

A2.3.1

WFD Scoreboard

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/transp_rep/scoreboard_en.htm

A2.4.2 & 2.4.3

Italy NEC Directive submission (17 July 2006)

<http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/it/eu/nec>

NEC Directive National Programmes

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/nationalprogr_dir200181.htm

MS reporting to NEC Directive

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/implem_nec_directive.htm

A3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment

A3.1a

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/it/it-nr-02-en.pdf>

<http://www.unepmap.org/>

Article 17 National Summary-Italy

A.3.1.b

http://www.rupprecht-consult.de/iczm/iczm_national_reporting_italy.htm

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/iczm/pdf/evaluation_iczm_report.pdf

A3.2

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-bathing/summary_report_2008.html

A3.3

<http://faolex.fao.org/docs/texts/ita36762.doc>

<http://www.politicheagricole.gov.it>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/it/it-nr-02-en.pdf>

<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/10/29/34429640.pdf>

<http://faolex.fao.org/docs/texts/ita44288.doc>

A3.4

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/press_corner/press_releases/2008/com08_01_en.htm

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/op/italy_it_01.pdf

A3.5.a

A3.5.b

<http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/fleetstatistics/index.cfm?lng=en>

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2007:0828:FIN:EN:DOC>

A3.6

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/it/it-nr-02-en.pdf>

http://www.rac-spa.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=106&Itemid=149

A3.7

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/op/italy_it_01.pdf

A4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU

Infoview Data (DG Regio)

LIFE+ 2007 Call for Proposals – DG Environment

LIFE expenditure 2000-2006 – DG Environment

A5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes

A5.1.2

Miller, C., Kettunen, M. & Shine, C. 2006. Scope options for EU action on invasive alien species (IAS) Final report for the European Commission. Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP), Brussels, Belgium.

A5.1.2 & 5.1.3

National Report on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

<http://www.cbd.int/biosafety/parties/reports.shtml?report=NR-CPB-01>

European Commission Report on the Implementation of National Measures on the Coexistence of Genetically Modified Crops with Conventional and Organic Farming

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/coexistence/index_en.htm

National legislation

<http://bch.minambiente.it/>

B6: To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services

<http://www.cbd.int/reports/search.shtml>

<https://www.cbd.int/doc/world/it/it-nbsap-01-en.pdf>

<https://www.cbd.int/doc/world/it/it-nr-02-en.pdf>

<https://www.cbd.int/doc/world/it/it-nr-pa-en.pdf>

<http://www.cbd.int/convention/parties/contributions.shtml?tab=2&yr=2007>

http://www.ramsar.org/res/key_res_ix_12_e.htm

http://www.cms.int/bodies/StC/32_stc_meeting/French/Doc_09_Fonds_Affectation_avec_Annexes.pdf

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/31COM/documents/>

http://www.unep.org/rmu/en/Financing_of_UNEP/Environment_Fund/Table_2007/index.asp

B7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance

B7.1.3 & 7.1.6:

www.oecd.org/dac/stats/crs.

OECD Development Cooperation Directorate

http://www.oecd.org/department/0,3355,en_2649_33721_1_1_1_1_1,00.html

B7.2.2 & 7.2.5:

<http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/CIDAWEB/acdicida.nsf/En/REN-218131217-PEH>

B8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services

B8

<http://www.cites.org/eng/resources/reports/biennial.shtml>

<http://www.cites.org/common/resources/reports/pab/05-06Italy.pdf>

<http://www.cites.org/common/resources/reports/pab/03-04Italy.pdf>

<http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/14/doc/E14-07-1.pdf>

C9: To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change

C9.1.1

EC (2007) Communication from the Commission. Progress towards achieving the Kyoto objectives.
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/climat/gge_progress.htm

C9.4.1 & 9.4.3

Fourth National Report to UNFCCC

<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/natc/itanc4.pdf>

http://www.minambiente.it/index.php?id_doc=528&id_oggetto=3

D10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally

D10.1

<http://www.cnr.it/sitocnr/Englishversion/Englishversion.html>

E1. Ensuring adequate financing

E1.

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rur/countries/it/index_en.htm

E2. Strengthening EU decision-making

E2.1

E2.2

http://www2.minambiente.it/sito/settori_azione/scn/attivita_internazionali/docs/it_nr_02_en.pdf

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/it/it-nr-02-en.pdf>

<http://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/ita34010.pdf>

<http://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/ita37170E.pdf>

http://www.conferenzacambiamenticlimatici2007.it/site/IT/Archivio/Primo_piano/Documenti/manifesto_eng.html

E2.5

http://www2.minambiente.it/SvS/svs/docs/strategia_azione_ambientale.pdf

E3. Building partnerships

E4. Building public education, awareness and participation

E4.1

http://www.apat.gov.it/site/en-GB/APAT/The_Agency/

http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/index_en.htm

F1-4. Monitoring, evaluation and review

<http://eumon.ckff.si/>

LATVIA

Competent authority(ies) for nature & biodiversity:

Ministry of the Environment: <http://www.vidm.gov.lv/eng/>

Nature Protection Board, : <http://www.dap.gov.lv/>

Most recent national/subnational biodiversity strategy/action plan:

National Programme on Biological Diversity:

http://www.vidm.gov.lv/eng/dokumenti/politikas_planosanas_dokumenti/?doc=3304

Latest review of the implementation of biodiversity strategy/action plan:

In progress, 2008

Alignment with EU biodiversity plan:**Alignment with EU 2010 Biodiversity Indicators (SEBI 2010):****Key sources of official nature & biodiversity information used for evaluation:**

- Nature Protection Board: <http://www.dap.gov.lv/>
- Ministry of the Environment: <http://www.vidm.gov.lv/eng/>
- Latvian Fish Resources Agency:
<http://www.latzra.lv/?setl=2&PHPSESSID=1d9622c5b5afbbdfd38a235fbc3aa584>
- Marine and Inland Waters Administration, State Environmental Service:
<http://www.jiup.gov.lv/Eng/links.htm>
- Ministry of Agriculture: <http://www.zm.gov.lv/?setl=2>
- Helsinki Commission (Helcom): <http://www.helcom.fi/>

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS IN DELIVERY OF OBJECTIVES OF EU BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN

A. POLICY AREA 1: BIODIVERSITY IN THE EU

1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species.

Natura 2000 sites (terrestrial and marine) (A.1.1, A.1.2 & A.1.4)

	<i>Number of sites</i>	<i>Area (km²)</i>
Total SCIs/SACs (Habitats)	331	7 663

Directive)		
SCIs/SACs with marine component (Habitats Directive)	6	562
Total SPAs (Birds Directive)	98	6 766
SPAs with marine component (Birds Directive)	4	520

Number of SCIs and SACs - Natura 2000 Barometer – June 2008 (Source: European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity based on data supplied by Member State)

Latvia was considered, by June 2008, to have achieved a level of sufficiency of 89.4 % for site selection for species and habitat types under Habitats Directive, in its territory. A total of 103 Natura 2000 sites have completed/agreed management plans, with 12 in development.

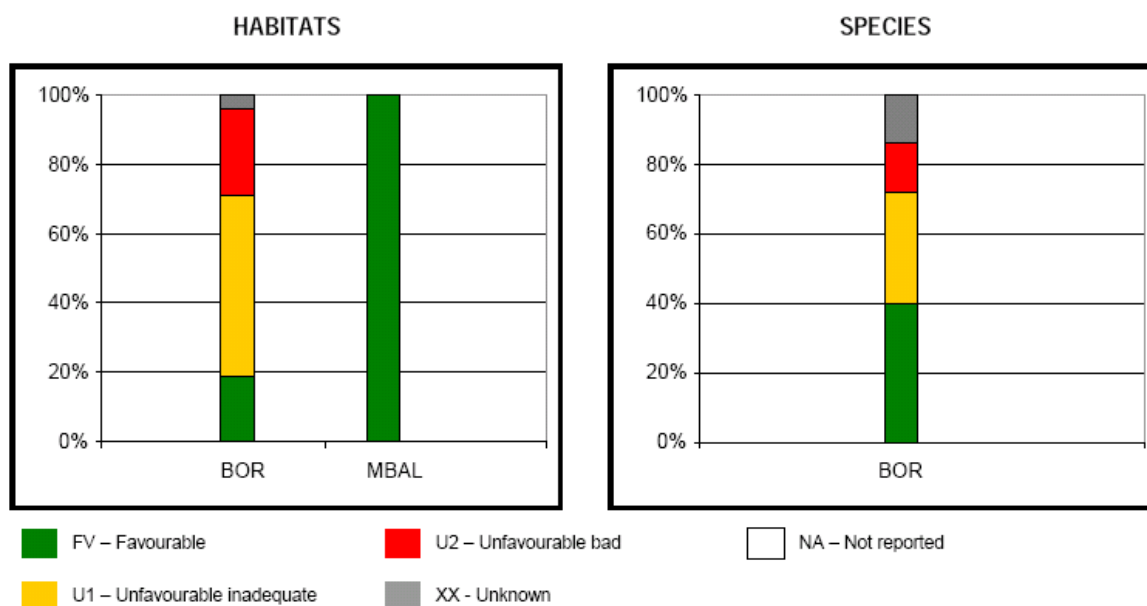
According to the EC LIFE Programme/Database, under the LIFE Nature programme, there was a total of 14 projects in Latvia with an EC contributions of EUR 11 738 606, during the period 2000-2006. In the year 2007, according to the indicative national allocations, Latvian projects received EUR 2 574 000 from LIFE+ funds.

Spatial data is available online.

There are no direct measures aimed to ensure coherence of the Natura 2000 network. Nevertheless there are legal regulations prescribing requirements for protection of certain structures. For example, protection of sea shores and rivers with their banks, requirements for forestry, preservation of dead wood and trees from previous forest stand generation, restrictions for cutting of forest patches allocated in certain distance from forest massifs, limited cutting on river banks, and protection of alleys, etc.

Conservation status assessment (A1.2)

Under the Habitats Directive Latvia has one biogeographical region (boreal). The results of the first conservation status assessment for species and habitats of community interest are as follows (status on marine species was not reported):



Region / Conclusion	HABITATS					SPECIES				
	FV	U1	U2	XX	NA	FV	U1	U2	XX	NA
Boreal	19	52	25	4		40	32	14	14	
Marine Baltic	100									
Member State	20	52	24	4		40	32	14	14	

*The conservation status categories: FV = favourable, U1 = unfavourable-inadequate, U2 = unfavourable-bad, XX = unknown, NA = no evaluation given by MS

Overall assessment of conservation status by biogeographical region (Analysis by the European Topic centre on Biological Diversity based on data supplied by Member State)

Red Data Books/Lists, National/Subnational Atlases, Action Plans (A1.3)

Red Data Lists are currently available for Mammals, Birds (both 2000), Amphibians, Reptiles, Fish, Vascular Plants (all 2003), Dragonflies, Butterflies, Beetles (all 1998), Mosses and Fungi (both 1996). None were given as in preparation. An Atlas for Birds (2004) is currently available online. None were given as in preparation.

In-situ conservation measures are a priority in Latvia. No native species or group of species has reached critical size of populations or critical loss of habitats to give priority to *ex-situ* measures.

8 species protection plans adopted by the Ministry of Environment are available on line: *Canis lupus*, *Ursus arctos*, *Lynx lynx*, *Ciconia nigra*, *Tetrao urogallus*, *Tetrao tetrix*, *Margarina margaritifera*, *Osmoderma eremita*.

Common bird monitoring (A1.4)

Common bird monitoring is carried out by Latvian Ornithological Society, the results and trend indicators are available online. Information on species action plans is also available online.

2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside.

Rural Development Programmes (A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8):

According to information supplied by the Latvian authorities, the Axis 2 budget of the Latvian RDP accounts for about 26.8 % of public RDP expenditure (i.e. EAFRD allocations plus co-financing), which is relatively low compared to most Member States. The majority of Axis 2 funds are focused on agri-environment measures, which account for 11.8 % of EAFRD expenditure (43.8 % of Axis 2 spending). Agri-environment measures include management of natural and semi-natural meadows; management of wetlands; management of protective shore belts of water bodies in meadows and management of the landscape elements.

Although there are some allocations for Natura measures these only amount to EUR 12 900 000 (0.9 % of the RDP budget) and EUR 22 100 000 (1.6 % of the RDP budget) respectively. Target coverage under these measures includes 54 000ha (at least) on agricultural land and 91 500ha in of forest habitat.

In addition 16.2 % of the EAFRD budget is allocated for first afforestation of non-agricultural land.

Agricultural genetic diversity (A2.1.11):

The country's National Programme on Biological Diversity has the strategic objective to maintain the genetic diversity of wild species, as well as of crop varieties and animal breeds. In the chapter that refers to the protection of crop and livestock breeds, several objectives are listed to maintain genetic diversity and reduce its rate of loss. Furthermore, in the sectoral part of the programme objectives on the maintenance of genetic diversity regarding commercially important tree species, local plant varieties and animal breeds, fish populations are mentioned. Besides targets being included in the national biodiversity strategy and action plan, they have also been incorporated in sectoral strategies, plans and programmes such as Latvian forest policy, in a programme on the maintenance of genetic resources of animal breeds and in the programme on subsidies supporting local animal breeds.

Several other projects and programmes relating to the conservation of agricultural genetic resources have been developed.

Agricultural cross-compliance measures (A2.1.4 & 2.1.10):

Latvia has a number of requirements to manage vegetation in its GAEC Minimum Level of Maintenance measures, including a requirement to graze grasslands or cut them at least one a year. Grazing may help maintain biodiversity in grasslands that might otherwise be abandoned, but the other GAEC requirements appear to be for the maintenance of good agricultural condition.

Afforestation / deforestation policies and biodiversity (A2.1.5):

According to Latvia's questionnaire response, no national/subnational strategy has been developed to ensure assessments of biodiversity regarding afforestation and deforestation operations. However, afforestation and deforestation proposals are regulated through EIA procedures and national legislation. Screening is required for afforestation proposals (and other changes in land use) that cover more than 50 ha. For smaller areas, a permit with supplementary conditions for the implementation of the activity is required.

Soil protection and biodiversity (A2.2.1):

There are several monitoring systems coordinated by the Latvian Environmental, Geological and Meteorological Agency, which include soil quality monitoring (Monitoring of Terrestrial Environment and its Components). These programmes are determined by the National Environmental Monitoring Programme and National Action Plan for Environmental Monitoring. In 2005, the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) supported the project “Building Sustainable Capacity and Ownership to Implement UNCCD objectives in Latvia”. One of the main goals of the project was to develop a National Action Plan for soil protection as well as to improve relevant knowledge and technical capacities.

Measures to improve the ecological status of freshwaters (A2.3.1):

Latvia has completed all the legal transposition and the implementation elements of the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC (WFD) which have deadlines during 2004, 2005 and 2007. These include the production of a River Basin District Report and River Basin Analysis report and Monitoring Network Report.

Measures to reduce air pollution impacts on biodiversity (A2.4.2 & 2.4.3):

In 2006, Latvia’s emissions of nitrogen oxides, ammonia, non-methane volatile organic compounds and sulphur oxides already were far below the ceilings set by the NEC Directive. Although the country expects slight increases in its emissions of nitrogen oxides, sulphur oxides and ammonia, it is expected to easily meet its 2010 targets.

3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment.

Good marine ecological status (A3.1a):

According to the SEBI 12 Article 17 Report, 100 % of Latvia’s Baltic Marine environments have a ‘favourable’ status.

Latvia does not have a national strategy or action plan for the marine environment. However, Latvia is a contracting party to the Helsinki Convention and adopted the regional Baltic Sea Action Plan in 2007. This Action Plan is based on ecological principles and the main priorities include halting habitat destruction and the ongoing decline in biodiversity. In addition, the Latvian “National Programme on Biological Diversity” contains clearly-defined commitments to marine and coastal issues.

Integrated coastal zone management (ICZM) (A.3.1.b):

According to the National Programme on Biological Diversity (late 90-s) Latvia views the task of understanding the need for integrated coastal zone management as a long-term objective. By 2006, Latvia's approach was that a stand-alone ICZM strategy was not needed as ICZM is a natural component of the overall spatial and development planning currently being developed. In general, the initial phase for developing an ICZM process will be finished in Latvia, when Nation Spatial Plan and local development and territorial plans of all coastal areas are planned to be approved by mid 2007.

Pollution: Bathing water quality (A3.2)

According to the Bathing Water Report for the 2007 season, in the coastal areas monitored 100 % were compliant with mandatory values—an increase from 95.6 % in compliance with

mandatory values in 2006. 84.8 % of coastal waters met guideline standards—and increase from 77.8 % in 2006. There were no non-compliant coastal waters and none were banned during the season.

Ecosystem approaches in fisheries management measures (A3.3):

Latvia's Operational Programme 2007-2013 for fisheries does not specifically incorporate the ecosystem-approach. There is no information on other fisheries management plans or strategies for Latvia. The Fisheries Law (1995) includes measures to “ensure the conservation and protection of fish resources”, including fishing regulation for a specific period of time, restrictions, or total prohibition of fishing in particular waters or parts thereof.

Community and National Financing under European Fisheries Funds (EFF) (A3.4):

The Latvian Operational Programme 2007-2013 for Fisheries incorporates several objectives that are environmentally-friendly. There was one objective per Axis and this objective usually incorporated improving the activities' impact on the environment. Measures under each objective that promoted environmentally-friendly fisheries and aquaculture included: permanent or temporary cessation of fishing activities, improving gear selectivity, introduction of aquaculture methods which significantly reduce the impact on the environment, and development and protection of aquatic flora and fauna. Under the Operational Programme, Axis 1 (Adaptation of the Community Fishing Fleet) received 17 % of the total EFF contribution, Axis 2 (Aquaculture Development) received 48 % of the total EFF contribution and Axis 3 (Measures of Common Interest) received 19 % of the total EFF contribution.

Restoration programmes for diadromous species (A3.5.a):

It is unclear whether there are specific national fisheries management plans for diadromous species in Latvia. The Latvian National Biodiversity Plan includes measures relating to migratory and river-spawning fish, including: development and implementation of a long-term international action plan on protection of natural populations of Baltic Sea salmon; ensuring survey and study of natural populations of migratory fish; identification of specific protection and monitoring regimes for the most important spawn rivers of migratory fish; decreasing the overgrowth of rivers, and renewal of spawning locations by use of artificial spawning substrates; restriction of fishing and hydro-technical construction in river estuaries and harbours during migration of fish adults and young; and decreasing the impact of fishing on spawning populations of migratory fish.

In addition, Latvia is a member of the Helsinki Commission. The Commission unanimously adopts Recommendations for the protection of the marine environment, which the governments of the Contracting Parties must act on in their respective national programmes and legislation. This includes: HELCOM Recommendation (19/2) adopted in 1998 Protection and Improvement of the Wild Salmon (*Salmo salar L.*) Populations in the Baltic Sea Area.

Fishing Capacity-Decommissioning (3.5.b):

The FIGG programming for the period 2000-2006 included objectives for reducing the capacity of the Latvian fishing Fleet. Over the FIGG programming period the Latvian fishing fleet decreased by 52 vessels with the total capacity of 6 454.5 kW and the total displacement of 2 668. 98 GT. If compared to 2003 the catch per fleet unit in the Baltic Sea and the Gulf of Riga beyond offshore waters has increased by 81 % and in 2005 on average was 558 tons.

The current Operational Programme for Fisheries 2007-2013 also includes an objective for the

permanent cessation of fishing activities under Axis 1—the purpose of which is to adjust the capacity of the Latvian fishing fleet to the available fishing resources by scrapping the fishing vessels or reassigning them for activities outside fishing.

Action plans and conservation status for marine species and habitats (A3.6):

There do not yet appear to be species-specific national action or protection plans for marine species in Latvia. However, The National Biodiversity Programme includes actions to protect some species, for example Action 1.4: Decreasing the mortality of seabirds and seals.

Also, Latvia is a member of the Helsinki Commission. The Commission unanimously adopts Recommendations for the protection of the marine environment, which the governments of the Contracting Parties must act on in their respective national programmes and legislation. This includes the Recommendation 27-28/2: Conservation of Seals in the Baltic Sea Area (which requires national management plans to be developed) as well as Recommendation 17/2: Protection of Harbour Porpoises in the Baltic Sea Area. A requirement of both of these Helcom Recommendations is monitoring of populations and reporting on results of implementation.

The Latvian Environment Agency (LEA) is responsible for establishing and coordinating the State Monitoring System. Part of it is the State Program for Marine Monitoring. It assesses the ecological impact of different anthropogenic and natural factors on the Latvian marine environment on a long term basis. The Institute of Aquatic Ecology of the University of Latvia conducts the HELCOM Combine programme and monitors the marine environment in both the Baltic Sea and the Gulf of Riga.

Baltic marine environment monitoring and research programmes are also carried out by subordinated institutions of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of Latvia, i.e. the Marine Environment Board, the Environmental State Inspectorate, Regional Environmental Boards and scientific institutions like the Institute of Biology and the Latvian University of Agriculture.

The Latvian Fish Resources Agency, a governmental institution under the Ministry of Agriculture, monitors coastal and migratory fish populations. Seacoast habitats are also monitored, and reports are placed on the Latvian Biodiversity Clearinghouse Mechanism. Improving monitoring and research is one of the main objectives of the Latvian National Programme on Biodiversity.

Aquaculture planning and biodiversity (A3.7):

The main objective of Priority Axis 2 is to: “Promote production of environmentally friendly aquaculture ensuring development of aquaculture business and opportunities for sustainable use of fish stock of inland waters as well as development of technologically modern, competitive, ensured with qualified labour force fish processing companies to produce safe products of high added value in accordance with the requirements of the EU domestic and external markets.” Under this objective is ‘aqua-environmental measures’. Their purpose is to promote and introduce new aquaculture methods while preserving and strengthening the biological and genetic diversity, environmental and natural resources, and maintaining the traditional characteristics of landscape and aquaculture zones. Under this measure, equal competition opportunities for aquaculture companies are ensured by compensating the additional costs or the loss of revenue of the aquaculture companies that are incurred due to preservation of environmental, natural resources and genetic diversity.

4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU.

Biodiversity spending under Cohesion and structural funds:

Under the Cohesion and structural funds for the period 2007-2013, expenditures foreseen by Latvia for Biodiversity & nature protection amount to EUR 26 million.

5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes.

Strategies to reduce impacts from invasive alien species (A5.1.2):

Latvia has implemented invasive alien species (IAS) legislation covering export and import, intentional introductions and control/eradication. The Plant Protection Law includes regulations for the importation/exportation of plants. The Law on the Protection of Species and Habitat addresses the introduction of wild species that are not native to Latvia. Specific controls and an eradication strategy are in place for one specific species, *Heracleum sosnowskyi*.

The Ministry of Environment plans to elaborate an updated version of the Concept of Environmental Protection, which will contain a section on biodiversity, including strategic issues with regard to IAS.

Biosafety measures to reduce impacts from alien genotypes (A5.1.2 & 5.1.3):

Besides having ratified the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, Latvia has adopted/ implemented relevant EU Regulations and Directives in the framework of its accession to the European Union, including Regulation 1946/2003 on transboundary movements, which transposes the provisions of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety into EU law.

Provisions referring to the contained use, deliberate release into the environment and placement on the market of GMOs, as well as on their monitoring were included in the Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers No 333 (adopted in April 2004).

In addition, Latvia is in the process of developing draft legislation on co-existence of genetically modified crops with conventional and organic farming.

B. POLICY AREA 2: THE EU AND GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY

6. To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Latvia prepared its National Programme on Biological Diversity in 2000. The Third National Report to the CBD was submitted in 2005. So far, no thematic report has been submitted to the CBD. Information on the level of direct financial contributions to national biodiversity conservation activities and the level of direct financial contributions to developing countries in support of biodiversity conservation is not available. Latvia paid their annual contributions to CBD, Ramsar, CMS, AEW, World Heritage Convention and the UNEP Environment Fund.

7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance.

Funds allocated for biodiversity projects and programmes in developing countries (A7.1.3 &

7.1.6):

In Latvia, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has the responsibility for official development assistance. The country is mainly interested in the economic growth, stability and strengthening of democracies in neighbouring regions. Therefore, Latvia has prioritised the former Soviet republics to the east of the EU (Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine) for development assistance. In implementing its development cooperation, Latvia does not provide direct financial assistance. Rather, it provides assistance by sharing its experience in implementing public administration reforms, promoting a democratic society and social development, environment protection and improving the educational system. In 2007, several projects were supported by Latvia in the field of environmental protection, amounting to roughly EUR 48 000.

The level of spending on biodiversity related development projects is unknown.

Integration of biodiversity considerations into development programmes and projects impacts on biodiversity (Action B7.2.2 & 7.2.5):

Due to time and language constraints on this study, no readily available information could be found on this subject. The extent to which biodiversity considerations are taken into account in external projects and programmes is therefore unknown.

8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services.

The figures for CITES permits for 2005 and 2006 indicate a high level of trade in CITES species. The number of import documents issued increased from 88 in 2005 to 159 in 2006. No information on permit applications that were denied was reported. 42 seizures were reported for that period. National capacity was built through increased budget, improvement of national networks, development of implementation tools and computerisation. Training was provided to the staff of Management Authority; advice/guidance was provided to traders, NGOs and the public. Advice/guidance, training and financial assistance was provided to the Scientific Authority. Advice/guidance and training was provided to the enforcement authorities. The annual contribution to the CITES Trust Funds were paid.

C. POLICY AREA 3: BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

9. To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change.

Progress on Kyoto targets (C9.1.1):

According to the most recent data, greenhouse gas emissions decreased by 58 % between 2005 and base-year levels in 1990. Latvia has therefore already met its Kyoto target of an 8.0 % decrease in emissions. Although emissions are expected to increase, projections suggest that 2010 emissions will still be substantially lower than baseline levels, being some 46.2 % lower than 1990.

Adaptation measures to increase biodiversity resilience to climate change (C9.4.1 & 9.4.3):

Latvia has a Climate Change Mitigation Programme (CCMP) for 2005-2010, which is coordinated by the Ministry of Environment. This includes targets in accordance with those of CBD to increase the resilience of biodiversity to climate change.

Several CCMP related adaptation projects are underway, including measures to diversify

agricultural systems, increase forest area, and ensure sustainable use of forest resources and other nature conservation measures. It is, however, not clear from the information provided if there is a clear programme of biodiversity adaptation actions.

From the information provided in its CBD and UNFCCC reports there is no indication that Latvia has undertaken scientific studies of the vulnerability of its habitats and species to climate change.

D. POLICY AREA 4: THE KNOWLEDGE BASE

10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally.

National research programmes (D10.1):

There is currently no dedicated programme supporting biodiversity research in Latvia. However, Third National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity indicates that, although financial resources are limited, there are government funding mechanisms for research contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity – through the Latvian Environmental Protection Fund, scientific council grants, and the Forest Protection Fund.

Latvia has a national forum for biodiversity in the form of a Biodiversity Clearinghouse Mechanism, established through the Convention on Biological Diversity.

E. THE FOUR KEY SUPPORTING MEASURES

1. Ensuring adequate financing

Overall use of Community funds for biodiversity:

RDP 2004-2006

Under this RDP Agri-environmental measures, which are co-financed from the EAGGF Guarantee Section, include biodiversity-related activities, namely: the protection and improvement of the environment, the landscape and its features. It includes organic farming, preservation of biodiversity in grasslands, establishment of buffer belts and preserving genetic resources of farming animals.

Another issue covered by the 2004-2006 RDP is Less Favoured Areas (LFAs) and areas with environmental restrictions. Targeted measures aim to ensure adequate income for farms operating in more difficult conditions. 73 % of total agricultural land has been attributed to LFA under Article 19 of Reg. 1257/99.

The total public expenditure to implement the measures proposed is EUR 410 100 000 for the whole period and the maximum contribution from the EAGGF Guarantee Section is EUR 328 100 000. Biodiversity related measures were protection of biologically diverse grasslands (under agri-environment) and LFA payments. Spending for protection of biologically diverse grasslands in 2006 was EUR 3 700 000 including an EAGGF contribution of EUR 2 900 000. Spending for LFA in 2006 was EUR 2 200 000, including an EU (EAGGF) contribution EUR 1 800 000.

RDP 2007-2013

Biodiversity-related objectives under this RDP include the promotion of the improvement of the environment and rural landscapes by supporting activities aimed at preservation of the natural value of the rural territories, attractive landscapes and biodiversity.

The main biodiversity-related activities under this RDP are covered in axis 2, which covers:

- Agri-environmental payments
- Payments to farmers in areas with handicaps, other than mountain areas, and
- NATURA 2000 payments

The total public expenditure under this axis amounts to EUR 365 040 438, of which EUR 292 032 350 are funded by the EAFRD.

OP under the European Fisheries Fund:

The MS reply to the questionnaire (section A3.4) identifies funding allocations under the different axes, but does not specify specific allocations to biodiversity-related activities

2. Strengthening EU decision-making

Plans and follow-up to UN Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (E2.1):

Latvia does not have a strategy or plan for a follow-up for the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment.

Alignment of national biodiversity strategies with EU (E2.2):

The National Programme on Biodiversity is a strategy document with objectives that attempt to integrate biodiversity and ecosystem service benefits into wider decision making. These objectives relate to the different environmental protection institutions within the Ministry of Environmental Protection and the Regional Development structure as well as municipal government institutions, which are responsible for nature protection within their administrative borders.

The National Programme states that, “in view of the increasing need and EU demand for development of the legal system, the institutional system for nature protection must be developed. It is necessary to separate the functions and responsibility of the State Forest Service and the institution "Latvian State Forests" in protected territories, and to regulate the legal supervision of State land.” Objectives relating to the development of the National Programme include: the creation of a Department of Nature Protection and a Nature Protection Board to co-ordinate implementation of nature protection actions; increasing responsibility of municipal governmental institutions in implementation of nature protection actions; harmonisation of the nature protection legal system; and developing criteria and methods for integration of protection of biological diversity into all levels of physical and spatial planning.

This strategy has not yet been updated in light of the Communication ‘Halting the loss of biodiversity by 2010 and beyond.’

Effective integration of Natura 2000, Rural development, river basin management and other territorial plans and programmes in support for biodiversity (E2.5):

The National Programme on Biological Diversity incorporates an objective to develop a concept of an ecological network, integrating into the EMERALD and NATURA 2000 protected territory networks.

The National Development Programme for Latvia includes an objective for ‘Reasonably used and well-preserved natural environment’, which includes tasks to facilitate the preservation and reasonable use of biological diversity and protected areas; to promote the inclusion of the protected areas in the economic development determining different prohibited zones of economic activities and substantiating the socio-economic decisions in their determination, as well as to attract financial resources for their management; to encourage public participation in environmental protection and preservation by providing timely and true information to the population about environmental quality and natural resources; and to support sustainable development of the natural environment for recreation purposes and to promote ecotourism, among other things.

The Daugava River Basin District Management Plan, developed and implemented by Sweden and Latvia, incorporates the EU Water Framework Directive. The Management Plan sets the objectives for the Surface Water Bodies in the Daugava River Basin District: for seven – good ecological status; for two – high ecological status; and for the other eleven there is a temporary objective – good ecological status. The ecological status is based on biological and physio-chemical monitoring.

3. Building partnerships

National partnerships for biodiversity including private sector involvement (E3.1):

There are initiatives in Latvia promoting partnership for biodiversity, specifically in the tourism, farming and municipalities sectors. There are national awards to promote business engagement with biodiversity. These include the Green Certificate for rural tourism enterprises; an annual award for agriculture and rural SMEs “Sejejs” (joint effort of Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Agriculture); and an annual award for municipalities “Abols” (Ministry of Environment).

4. Building public education, awareness and participation

National/Sub-national public awareness campaigns/initiatives (E4.1):

According to the ECNC analysis of the Flash Eurobarometer Report, 44 % of respondents from Latvia had never heard of the term ‘biodiversity.’ Of those who had heard of it, 41 % knew what it meant. A total of 35 % of Latvian respondents felt that they were either well informed or very well informed about biodiversity loss. A higher proportion of Latvian respondents had not heard of the Natura 2000 network (88 %). Of those who had heard of it, only 3 % knew what it meant. On the whole, 66 % of Latvian respondents felt that they made personal efforts to protect biodiversity.

The National Programme for Biological Diversity includes a number of targets relating to raising awareness about biological diversity. These range from seminars for local governments on managing natural areas to an award for the ‘best nature guard of the year’ to promote good deeds on a national level. Much of the focus for these targets is on education — in both education settings (developing a text book) and leisure settings (topical environmental information on Latvian television). A variety of literature will be produced in the form of booklets, handbooks, textbooks, journal articles, signs and videos.

F. MONITORING

Information on biodiversity indicators is not available. The following biodiversity monitoring schemes have been identified: Monitoring of seacoast habitats scheme, Monitoring of birds, Monitoring of fish and Monitoring of migrating bird and bat species.

DATA SOURCES

A1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species:

Member State Questionnaire response

Article 17 report <http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/>

Natura 2000 http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/barometer/index_en.htm

<http://dataservice.eea.europa.eu/atlas/viewdata/viewpub.asp?id=2639>

Completeness of N2000
http://themes.eea.europa.eu/IMS/ISpecs/ISpecification20041007131611/guide_summary_plus_public

Spatial data http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/db_gis/index_en.htm#sites

Management plans <http://www.dap.gov.lv/?objid=820>

Bird Atlas <http://www.lob.lv/lv/atlants/index.php>

Common Bird Monitoring <http://www.ebcc.info/pecbm-latvia.html> ;
<http://biodiv.lvgma.gov.lv/fo1302307/fo1038572/fo1873799>,

LIFE expenditure <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm>

Ex-situ measures (CBD 3rd National Report) <http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/lv/lv-nr-03-en.pdf>

A2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside

A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8

Published National Rural Development Programmes (IEEP database 2008)

European Commission unpublished data (2008)

MS questionnaire

<http://www.zm.gov.lv/?sadala=1267>

A2.1.11

Third National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/lv/lv-nr-03-en.pdf>

A2.1.4 & 2.1.10

Alliance Environment (2007). Evaluation of the application of cross compliance as foreseen under Regulation 1782/2003. Part I: Descriptive Report - 26/07/2007. Report to the European Commission.

A2.1.5 & A2.1.1

MS Questionnaire

<http://www.vidm.gov.lv/eng/likumdosana/?doc=3669>

http://www.vidm.gov.lv/eng/darbibas_veidi/soil_quality/

A2.3.1

WFD Scoreboard http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/transp_rep/scoreboard_en.htm

A2.4.2 & 2.4.3

Latvia NEC Directive submission (15 Feb 2008)

<http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/lv/eu/colrztrba>

NEC Directive National Programmes

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/nationalprogr_dir200181.htm

MS reporting to NEC Directive

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/implem_nec_directive.htm

A3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment

A3.1a

Article 17 National Summary-Latvia

http://www.helcom.fi/BSAP/en_GB/intro/

http://www.vidm.gov.lv/eng/dokumenti/politikas_planosanas_dokumenti/?doc=3304

http://www.vidm.gov.lv/eng/dokumenti/politikas_planosanas_dokumenti/files/text/EDokumenti/dokumenti/NPB_D.zip

A.3.1.b

http://www.rupprecht-consult.eu/iczm/iczm_national_reporting_latvia.htm;

<http://www.coastalguide.org/icm/baltic/index.html>;

http://www.helcom.fi/helcom/cp/en_GB/latvia/

A3.2

http://ec.europa.eu/water/water-bathing/report_2007.html

http://www.helcom.fi/groups/monas/en_GB/plcwaterguide/;

http://www.vidm.gov.lv/eng/dokumenti/politikas_planosanas_dokumenti/?doc=3304

A3.3

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/operational_programmes_en.htm

A3.4

[http://www.zm.gov.lv/doc_upl/RP_eng_20112007\(2\).doc](http://www.zm.gov.lv/doc_upl/RP_eng_20112007(2).doc)

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/op/latvia_lv_02.pdf

MS Questionnaire

A3.5.a

http://www.helcom.fi/Recommendations/en_GB/rec19_2/

http://www.vidm.gov.lv/eng/dokumenti/politikas_planosanas_dokumenti/?doc=3304

A3.5.b

[http://www.zm.gov.lv/doc_upl/RP_eng_20112007\(2\).doc](http://www.zm.gov.lv/doc_upl/RP_eng_20112007(2).doc)

A3.6

http://www.helcom.fi/Recommendations/en_GB/rec27-28_2/

http://www.helcom.fi/Recommendations/en_GB/rec17_2/

<http://www.dap.gov.lv/?objid=820>

http://www.helcom.fi/helcom/cp/en_GB/latvia/

<http://www.lza.lv/EN/INST/IN22.HTM>

<http://www.latzra.lv/?sadala=51>

<http://biodiv.lvgma.gov.lv/fo1302307/fo1038572/fo1579889/fo1922779>

A3.7

[http://www.zm.gov.lv/doc_upl/RP_eng_20112007\(2\).doc](http://www.zm.gov.lv/doc_upl/RP_eng_20112007(2).doc)

A4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU

Infoview Data (DG Regio)

LIFE+ 2007 Call for Proposals – DG Environment

Life Expenses 2000-2006 – DG Environment

A5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes

A5.1.2

MS questionnaire

Miller, C., Kettunen, M. & Shine, C. 2006. Scope options for EU action on invasive alien species (IAS) Final report for the European Commission. Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP), Brussels, Belgium.

A5.1.2 & 5.1.3

National Report on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

<http://www.cbd.int/biosafety/parties/reports.shtml?report=NR-CPB-01>

European Commission Report on the Implementation of National Measures on the Coexistence of Genetically Modified Crops with Conventional and Organic Farming

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/coexistence/index_en.htm

B6: To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services

<http://www.cbd.int/reports/search.shtml>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/lv/lv-nr-03-en.pdf>

http://www.vidm.gov.lv/eng/dokumenti/politikas_planosanas_dokumenti/?doc=3304

<http://www.cbd.int/convention/parties/contributions.shtml?tab=2&yr=2007>

http://www.ramsar.org/res/key_res_ix_12_e.htm

http://www.cms.int/bodies/StC/32_stc_meeting/French/Doc_09_Fonds_Affectation_avec_Annexes.pdf

http://www.unep-awa.org/meetings/en/stc_meetings/stc4docs/pdf/stc4_9_income_expenditures.pdf

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/31COM/documents/>

http://www.unep.org/rmu/en/Financing_of_UNEP/Environment_Fund/Table_2007/index.asp

B7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance

B7.1.3 & 7.1.6:

<http://www.mfa.gov.lv/en/DevelopmentCo-operation/Latvia/>

<http://www.mfa.gov.lv/en/DevelopmentCo-operation/Projects/projects2007/>

B8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services

<http://www.cites.org/eng/resources/reports/biennial.shtml>

<http://www.cites.org/common/resources/reports/pab/05-06Latvia.pdf>

<http://www.cites.org/common/resources/reports/pab/05-06Latvia.pdf>

<http://www.cites.org/common/resources/reports/pab/03-04Latvia.pdf>

<http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/14/doc/E14-07-1.pdf>

C9: To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change

C9.1.1

EC (2007) Communication from the Commission. Progress towards achieving the Kyoto objectives.

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/climat/gge_progress.htm

C9.4.1 & 9.4.3

Third National Report to CBD (2005)

http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/lv/lv-nr-03-en.doc#_Toc78202034

Fourth National Report to UNFCCC

<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/natc/latnc4.pdf>

D10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally

D10.1

MS Questionnaire,

<http://biodiv.lvgma.gov.lv/convention/CHM>

E1. Ensuring adequate financing

MS questionnaire

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rurdev/countries/lv/index_en.htm

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rur/countries/lv/lv_en.pdf

<http://www.zm.gov.lv/index.php?sadala=774&id=5856>

E2. Strengthening EU decision-making

E2.1

MS Questionnaire

E2.2

http://www.vidm.gov.lv/eng/dokumenti/politikas_planosanas_dokumenti/?doc=3304

E2.5

www.nap.lv/in_site/tools/download.php?file=files/text/National_development_plan_2007-2013_eng.pdf

http://www.vidm.gov.lv/eng/dokumenti/politikas_planosanas_dokumenti/?doc=3304

<http://www.vattenresurs.se/Daugavas%20Projekts%20report.pdf>

E3. Building partnerships

E3.1

MS Questionnaire

<http://www.vidm.gov.lv/lat/konkursi/>

E4. Building public education, awareness and participation

E4.1

http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/index_en.htm

http://www.vidm.gov.lv/eng/dokumenti/politikas_planosanas_dokumenti/?doc=3304

F1-4. Monitoring, evaluation and review

<http://eumon.ckff.si/>

<http://biodiv.lvgma.gov.lv/fo1302307/fo1038572>

LITHUANIA

Competent authority(ies) for nature & biodiversity:

Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania

<http://www.am.lt/VI/en/VI/index.php>

Most recent national/subnational biodiversity strategy/action plan:

1996

Latest review of the implementation of biodiversity strategy/action plan:

Alignment with EU biodiversity plan:

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/lt/lt-nbsap-01-en.pdf>

Alignment with EU 2010 Biodiversity Indicators (SEBI 2010):

Key sources of official nature & biodiversity information used for evaluation:

- See data sources at end of this document

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS IN DELIVERY OF OBJECTIVES OF EU BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN

A. POLICY AREA 1: BIODIVERSITY IN THE EU

1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species.

Natura 2000 sites (terrestrial and marine) (A.1.1, A.1.2 & A.1.4)

	<i>Number of sites</i>	<i>Area (km²)</i>
Total SCIs/SACs (Habitats Directive)	267	6 664
SCIs/SACs with marine component (Habitats Directive)	2	171
Total SPAs (Birds Directive)	77	5 435
SPAs with marine component (Birds Directive)	1	171

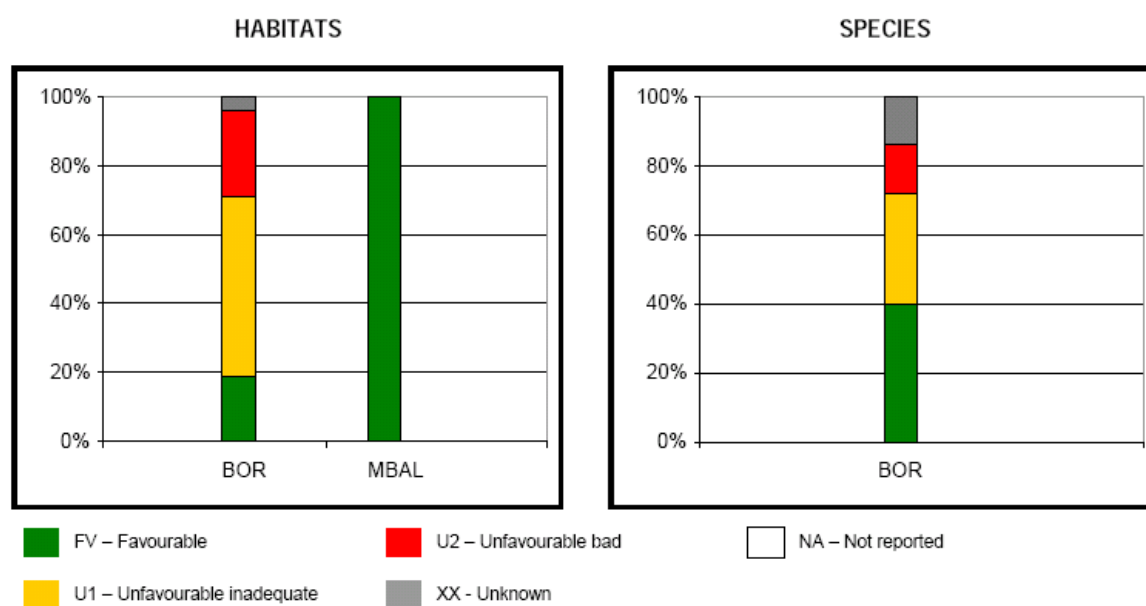
Number of SCIs and SACs - Natura 2000 Barometer – June 2008 (Source: European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity based on data supplied by Member State)

Lithuania was considered, by June 2008, to have achieved a level of sufficiency of 61.2 % for site selection for species and habitat types under Habitats Directive, in its territory. No Natura 2000 sites have completed/agreed management plans; however 61 plans are in development.

According to the EC LIFE Programme/Database, under the LIFE Nature programme, there was a total of 2 projects in Lithuania with an EC contribution of EUR 1 482 395, during the period 2000-2006.

Conservation status assessment (A1.2)

Under the Habitats Directive Lithuania has one biogeographical region (boreal). The results of the first conservation status assessment for species and habitats of community interest are as follows:



Region / Conclusion	HABITATS					SPECIES				
	FV	U1	U2	XX	NA	FV	U1	U2	XX	NA
Boreal	19	52	25	4		40	32	14	14	
Marine Baltic	100									
Member State	20	52	24	4		40	32	14	14	

*The conservation status categories: FV = favourable, U1 = unfavourable-inadequate, U2 = unfavourable-bad, XX = unknown, NA = no evaluation given by MS

Overall assessment of conservation status by biogeographical region (Analysis by the European Topic centre on Biological Diversity based on data supplied by Member State)

In order to support ecological connectivity and coherence, an interrelated territorial system called the Nature Frame has been implemented. The purpose of the Nature Frame is a) to create a framework for maintaining and improving natural ecological system in the country; b) to ensure connections between natural protected areas; and c) to assure the conservation of natural landscape, biodiversity and natural recreational resources. The Nature Frame consists of zones with important ecological functions, such as groundwater filtration, conservation of biodiversity, recreational resource protection and aesthetic improvements. It is based on a geo-ecological approach and managing areas at the level of watersheds and catchments. Consequently, the focus of the Frame is broader than the solely ecological focus adopted by

several ecological networks. However, a country-wide network of protected areas forms one of the most important elements of the Nature Frame.

Red Data Books/Lists, National/Subnational Atlases, Action Plans (A1.3)

Lithuanian Red Lists are available for the following: Mammals, Birds, Amphibians, Reptiles, Fish, Dragonflies, Butterflies, Beetles, Mosses, Algae, Fungi and Lichen. National/sub-national atlases are available for: Mammals, Birds, Amphibians, Reptiles, Fish, Dragonflies, Butterflies, Beetles, Orbatida, species included in Red Data Book, Orchidaceae, map of forests and prevailing tree species, Mosses, Algae, Fungi and Lichen.

Ex-situ conservation is referred to in the NBSAP as submitted to the CBD Secretariat.

Common bird monitoring (A1.4)

Common bird monitoring is carried out annually by the Environment Ministry of Lithuanian Republic. The results and trend indicators could not be found.

Information could not be found on spatial information on Natura 2000 sites, species action plans or Article 17 conservation status assessments (on species).

2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside.

Rural Development Programmes (A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8):

According to information supplied by the Lithuanian authorities, the Rural Development Programme for 2007-2013 21.8 % of the budget is allocated for landscape improvement and biodiversity protection. This is a relatively small proportion compared to most Members States. In particular, only 16.1 % of its EAFRD budget is to be spent on agri-environment measures (EUR 364 900 000). However, it is utilizing the Natura payment measures, with EUR 7 500 000 allocated for Natura 2000 agriculture and WFD payments (0.3 % of EAFRD budget) and EUR 25 500 000 for Natura forest measures (1.1 % of EAFRD budget). These measures aim to include 54 000 ha of agricultural land and 91 500 ha of forest land in Natura sites respectively. There is also an additional EUR 10 million allocated for forest-environment measures.

Agricultural genetic diversity (A2.1.11):

The Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan includes a target for the conservation of genetic resources that is in accordance with the CBD target. The strategy sets the main provisions for the conservation of local plant varieties and animal breeds, which are included in the relevant institutional strategic plans. Genetic conservation measures are included in The Law on Wild Plant, Wild Animals and The Law on Conservation of National Plant Genetic Resources.

The Lithuanian Plant Gene Bank is implementing a programme on the conservation of plant genetic diversity. The Lithuanian Institute of Agriculture, the Institute of Animal Science of the Lithuanian Veterinary Academy and the Ministry of Agriculture are responsible for maintaining local plant varieties and animal breeds.

Agricultural cross-compliance measures (A2.1.4 & 2.1.10):

Lithuania appears to have few GAEC Minimum Level of Maintenance measures that may provide significant biodiversity conservation benefits. There are no measures to ensure that permanent grasslands are maintained by grazing (as they can be cut once a year if they are not

grazed) and there are no measures to maintain important landscape features.

Afforestation / deforestation policies and biodiversity (A2.1.5):

Lithuania takes biodiversity considerations into account in afforestation and deforestation programmes through SEA, EIA, biodiversity surveys and the provision on guidance.

Soil protection and biodiversity (A2.2.1):

According to the State Land Planning Institute, research on all soil types has been undertaken and soil maps have been compiled. About 14 % of agricultural land is affected by water and wind erosion. However, there appear to be few other actions underway to address soil biodiversity conservation issues in Lithuania. Soil biodiversity indicators have not been established and risks to soil biodiversity have not been identified or mapped. Furthermore, there are no plans to undertake such actions (according to the Member State's questionnaire response).

Measures to improve the ecological status of freshwaters (A2.3.1):

Lithuania completed all the legal transposition and the implementation elements of the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC (WFD) which have deadlines during 2004, 2005 and 2007. These include the production of a River Basin District Report and River Basin Analysis report and Monitoring Network Report.

Measures to reduce air pollution impacts on biodiversity (A2.4.2 & 2.4.3):

Emissions for sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, ammonia and volatile organic compounds are currently below the EU Emissions Ceilings Directive targets for Lithuania. Furthermore, it is predicted that the implementation of all current legislation for these pollutants and other measures taken within the framework of climate change policy will allow Lithuania to maintain emissions below these levels in 2010.

3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment.

Good marine ecological status (A3.1.a):

There is no specific marine biodiversity strategy, but marine and coastal aspects are integrated into some other environmental policies. Lithuania's Rural Development Programme for 2007-2013, promotes environmentally friendly fish farming practices; protection of the Baltic sea coastline; and implementation of the Nitrates Directive including a reduction of eutrophication in the Baltic Sea. A Master Plan has been developed for Klaipeda County (which includes all the coastal area of Lithuania) which aims to provide clear guidelines for sustainable and integrated development priorities until 2020. There is also a sustainable development strategy for Lithuania (2002) which has an objective to reduce sea pollution, and includes the seashore as an important Lithuanian landscape. Further to this Lithuania is member of HELCOM which has a Baltic Sea Action Plan and within this a biodiversity and nature conservation segment. Lithuania's national biodiversity strategy and action plan includes some marine and coastal elements such as the protection of bird wintering & fish spawning sites and establishing marine protected areas. We could not verify if there is a national marine strategy.

Integrated coastal zone management (ICZM) (A.3.1.b):

A 2006 evaluation report of ICZM plans in Europe reported that Lithuania does not have an ICZM plan or equivalent, and has only fragmented tools in place. The Lithuanian Government has conceptualized but not elaborated an ICZM strategy. The document that is nearest to ICZM is the Development Strategy for the Klaipeda County, addressing the whole coastal municipalities in Lithuania (draft issued in 2005). It is unclear if Lithuania has a finalized national ICZM plan.

Pollution: Bathing water quality (A3.2)

For the coastal areas, all bathing areas (100 %) complied with the mandatory values and ten (66.7 %) complied with the more stringent guide values. No bathing areas were insufficiently sampled.

Ecosystem approaches in Fisheries management measures (A3.3):

Within the operational plan for Lithuanian fisheries priority three includes protection and development of aquatic fauna and flora and priority four includes protecting natural and architectural heritage. Also within the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action plan (of which Lithuania is a member) there is a section on moving 'Towards a Baltic Sea with maritime activities carried out in an environmentally friendly way'.

Community and National Financing under European Fisheries Funds (EFF) (A3.4):

An operational programme for the Lithuania Fisheries Sector has been approved (for 2007-2013) co-funded by the European Fisheries Fund. Priority axis one includes support for more selective fishing techniques; priority three includes protection and development of aquatic fauna and flora and priority four includes protecting natural and architectural heritage.

Restoration programmes for diadromous species (A3.5.a):

Within the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan, member states agree to develop national programmes for the conservation of eel stocks by 2008, and develop restoration plans (including restoration of spawning sites and migration routes) in suitable rivers to reinstate migratory fish species (i.e. salmon, eel, sea trout and sturgeon), by 2010.

Fishing Capacity-Decommissioning (3.5.b):

Decommission of the Lithuanian fleet took place between 2000 and 2006, and with support from the EU, the Baltic high seas fleet was reduced by 45 %. There is a national control programme for the Baltic Sea cod which covers means of control, monitoring of fisheries stocks, designation of ports, landing controls and inspection procedures.

Action plans and conservation status for marine species and habitats (A3.6):

There is a publication on Lithuanian fish, but it is not clear whether this includes a biodiversity plan related to fish. The HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan also has a target of improved conservation status of species included in the HELCOM lists of threatened and/or declining species and habitats of the Baltic Sea area, with the final target to reach and ensure favourable conservation status of all species, by 2015.

As part of obligations under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive a number of coastal habitats are monitored including: Estuaries, Coastal lagoons and Reefs (currently with favourable conservation status); Embryonic shifting dunes, Shifting dunes along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenaria* (white dunes) and Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) (currently inadequate and deteriorating conservation status); and decalcified fixed

dunes with *Empetrum nigrum* (currently bad conservation status).

Aquaculture planning and biodiversity (A3.7):

The EFF operational programme for Lithuanian fisheries includes an objective to promote environmentally friendly fish farming practices.

4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU.

Biodiversity spending under Cohesion and Structural funds:

There is no reply given by the MS in the questionnaire. According to the data of DG Regio:

EUR 79 million is allocated from EU resources for the “Promotion of natural assets” and EUR 79 million to “Natural heritage”.

5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes.

Strategies to reduce impacts from invasive alien species (A5.1.2):

Lithuania has IAS legislation covering trade issues and intentional introductions. The Law on Wild Flora and the Regulation of the Ministry of Environment on import of new plant and fungi species as well as the Law on Plant Protection refer to the issue of invasive alien species. The Ministry of Environment also approved an Order on Introduction, Reintroduction and Relocation, the Order on Control and Eradication of Invasive Species Organisms and Composition of Committee on Invasive Species Control.

Measures for IAS are also included in the national biodiversity strategy and action plan.

Lithuania is a participating country in the North European and Baltic Network on Invasive Alien Species (NOBANIS).

Lithuania has a National Invasive Species Database, called The “Lithuanian Invasive Species Database” as of 2003.

Biosafety measures to reduce impacts from alien genotypes (A5.1.2 & 5.1.3):

Lithuania harmonized its existing legislation with the EU provisions on GMOs in the framework of its accession to the European Community in 2004. As a result, it also adopted Regulation 1946/2003 on trans-boundary movements, which implements the provisions of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety into EU law.

Several relevant legal orders have been adopted, including Order D1-225, which regulates the use and control requirements on GMOs and GMPs, and the deliberate release into the environment.

Lithuania has prepared draft rules on co-existence of genetically modified crops with conventional and organic farming and their propagating material with due consideration to European Commission Recommendations on guidelines for the development of national strategies and best practices to ensure the co-existence of genetically modified crops with conventional and organic farming.

B. POLICY AREA 2: THE EU AND GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY

6. To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Lithuania prepared its National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan in 1996. The Third National Report to the CBD was submitted in 2005, and thematic reports on alien species and forest ecosystems were prepared. For implementation of the Convention, financial resources are allocated from the State budget for various programmes, but it is difficult to extract exact figures. Some funds allocated to biodiversity derive from license fees for hunting. Lithuania paid their annual contributions to CBD, Ramsar, CMS, AEW, World Heritage Convention and the UNEP Environment Fund.

7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance.

Funds allocated for biodiversity projects and programmes in developing countries (A7.1.3 & 7.1.6):

In 2005, Lithuanian ODA amounted to EUR 12 500 000. Although the amount of bilateral biodiversity-related aid is unclear, it is unlikely to be significant: Lithuania focuses its international development co-operation on other development issues.

Integration of biodiversity considerations into development programmes and projects impacts on biodiversity (Action B7.2.2 & 7.2.5):

No information is readily available on the integration of biodiversity issues into development assistance.

8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services.

The biennial report to CITES for 2005-06 has not been submitted, while the report for 2003-04 cannot be downloaded from the CITES website. No figures on trade in CITES species or capacity building for CITES implementation are therefore available. Lithuania paid their annual contribution to the CITES Trust Funds.

C. POLICY AREA 3: BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

9. To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change.

Progress on Kyoto targets (C9.1.1):

In 2005 greenhouse gas emissions were 22.6 million tons or 53.1 % less than in the base year. Although emissions have been increasing in recent years, projections for 2010 indicate that Lithuania's emissions are likely to be 30.2 % below base levels; therefore easily meeting its Kyoto target of an 8 % reduction.

Adaptation measures to increase biodiversity resilience to climate change (C9.4.1 & 9.4.3):

Lithuania does not currently have a strategy for increasing the resilience of biodiversity to climate change. However, the Institute of Ecology is carrying out studies on the impacts of climate change on biodiversity. These will be used to prepare recommendations concerning

implementation of the CBD target for increasing biodiversity resilience.

D. POLICY AREA 4: THE KNOWLEDGE BASE

10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally.

National research programmes (D10.1):

There are currently no national or sub-national programmes supporting biodiversity research or forum ensuring that biodiversity is integrated into policy development and implementation. There are also so plans for such a forum to be created by 2010.

E. THE FOUR KEY SUPPORTING MEASURES

1. Ensuring adequate financing

Overall use of Community funds for biodiversity:

Agri-environment and other land management schemes

According to the Rural Development Programme for 2007-2013 21.8 % of the budget is allocated for landscape improvement and biodiversity protection. This is a relatively small proportion compared to most Members States. In particular, only 16.1 % of its EAFRD budget is to be spent on agri-environment measures (EUR 364 900 000). However, it is utilizing the Natura payment measures, with EUR 7 500 000 allocated for Natura 2000 agriculture and WFD payments (0.3 % of EAFRD budget).

With regards to forests a total EUR 50 500 000 is allocated (2.2 % of the total EAFRD budget). Of this sum, EUR 25 500 000 is allocated for Natura 2000 forest measures (1.1 % of EAFRD budget). There is also an additional EUR 10 000 000 allocated for forest-environment measures.

Fisheries

Lithuania is a fishing country. Out of the total EFF budget EUR 13 600 000 is allocated for utilization under axis 1 EUR, 22 400 000 from axis 2 (41 %) and EUR 9 200 000 from axis 3 (17 %). There are no further details mentioned for the specific allocations from the three axes.

Research

According to the MS response to the questionnaire there are no dedicated programs supporting biodiversity research.

2. Strengthening EU decision-making

Plans and follow-up to UN Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (E2.1):

It is not known whether there are plans to follow up the MA at the national, sub-national or local level. A number of systems are currently assessed, but not all those listed.

Alignment of national biodiversity strategies with EU (E2.2):

The SEA and EIA are the place for integrating biodiversity and ecosystem services into decision making processes. There are no other specific policies known.

Effective integration of Natura 2000, Rural development, river basin management and other territorial plans and programmes in support for biodiversity (E2.5):

Natura sites have been developed for Lithuania. There is a Rural Development Programme (2007-2013). The national report on sustainable development includes a section on water which covers 'river basin management'. Biodiversity is 'relatively well' integrated into land-use plans (see MS questionnaire)

3. Building partnerships

National partnerships for biodiversity including private sector involvement (E3.1):

There are some partnerships that have been set up between the government and the private sector to promote biodiversity protection. This includes a mechanism set up within the Rural Development Programme (2007-2013) where by the private sector can be paid for activities such as habitat management. In addition the government has also made contracts with private land owners within Natural 2000 sites that allow the State Service for Protected Areas to undertake habitat management activities.

4. Building public education, awareness and participation

National/Sub-national public awareness campaigns/initiatives (E4.1):

According to the ECNC analysis of the Flash Eurobarometer Report, the number of Lithuanian respondents who had never heard of the term 'biodiversity' was 51 %. Of those who had heard of the term, 19 % knew what it meant. On the whole, 22 % of the Lithuanian respondents felt that they were either well informed or very well informed about biodiversity loss. Fewer respondents had heard of the Natura 2000 network (78 %). Of those who had heard of 'Natura 2000', 6 % new what it meant. The proportion of respondents who felt they made personal efforts to protect biodiversity was 48 %.

The Lithuanian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan provides information, sets training and education actions for each ecosystem types and species. Public education and awareness raising activities also take place within nature conservation projects and management plans of protected areas.

F. MONITORING

Lithuania has developed a number of biodiversity indicators, addressing species, habitats, protected areas, and water quality. No indicators are available for the following CBD focal areas and corresponding EU headline indicators: sustainable use, threats to biodiversity, resource transfer, access and benefit-sharing and public awareness. In 2005, a new National Environmental Monitoring Programme for 2005-2010 was approved by the Government, which includes monitoring of biodiversity condition and changes. It addresses a range of habitats and species, including those of EU interest and others.

DATA SOURCES

A1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species:

A.1.

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/lt/lt-nbsap-01-en.pdf>

<http://www.ebcc.info/pecbm-lithuania.html>

<http://dataservice.eea.europa.eu/atlas/viewdata/viewpub.asp?id=2639>

http://themes.eea.europa.eu/IMS/IMS/ISpecs/ISpecification20041007131611/IAssessment1175086782375/view_content

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/countries/index.htm>

<http://www.am.lt/TA/ta.php3?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww3.lrs.lt%2Fc-bin%2Fspec%2Fpreps2%3FCondition1%3D294695%26Condition2%3D>

A2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside

A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8

Published National Rural Development Programmes (IIEP database 2008)

European Commission unpublished data (2008)

MS questionnaire

http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.showdoc_l?p_id=286470&p_query=&p_tr2=

http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.showdoc_l?p_id=241571&p_query=&p_tr2=

A2.1.11

Third National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity (2005)

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/lt/lt-nr-03-en.doc>

MS questionnaire

A2.1.4 & 2.1.10

Alliance Environment (2007). Evaluation of the application of cross compliance as foreseen under Regulation 1782/2003. Part I: Descriptive Report - 26/07/2007. Report to the European Commission.

A2.1.5 & A2.2.1

MS Questionnaire

http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.showdoc_l?p_id=286470&p_query=&p_tr2=

http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.showdoc_l?p_id=241571&p_query=&p_tr2=

http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.showdoc_l?p_id=293264&p_query=&p_tr2=

A2.3.1

WFD Scoreboard

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/transp_rep/scoreboard_en.htm

A2.4.2 & 2.4.3

Lithuania NEC Directive submission (27 Dec 2007)

<http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/lt/eu/nec/envrzpbeg>

NEC Directive National Programmes

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/nationalprogr_dir200181.htm

MS reporting to NEC Directive

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/implem_nec_directive.htm

A3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment

A3.1a

http://www.zum.lt/min/failai/RDP_2007-2013_2007_09_19_EK.pdf

<http://www.am.lt/LSP/files/NAT-REP-ON-SUS-DEV.pdf>

<http://www.am.lt/VI/files/0.639044001195625648.pdf>

<http://www.am.lt/LSP/files/BI-strat-anglu.pdf>

A3.1b

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/iczm/pdf/evaluation_iczm_report.pdf

A3.2

http://ec.europa.eu/water/water-bathing/report_2007.html

<http://www.am.lt/LSP/files/NAT-REP-ON-SUS-DEV.pdf>

A3.3

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/op/lithuania_lt.pdf

<http://europa.eu/rapid/searchAction.do> (Search for Lithuania)

HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan: <http://www.am.lt/VI/files/0.639044001195625648.pdf>

A3.4

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/op/lithuania_lt.pdf

<http://europa.eu/rapid/searchAction.do> (Search for Lithuania)

A3.5a

<http://www.am.lt/VI/files/0.639044001195625648.pdf>

A3.5b

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/op/lithuania_lt.pdf

<http://europa.eu/rapid/searchAction.do> (Search for Lithuania)

A3.6

<http://www.am.lt/TA/ta.php3?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww3.lrs.lt%2Fcb%2Fspec%2Fpreps2%3FCondition1%3D294695%26Condition2%3D>

<http://www.am.lt/VI/files/0.639044001195625648.pdf>

<http://eumon.ckff.si/monitoring/>

<http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/>

A3.7

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/op/lithuania_lt.pdf

<http://europa.eu/rapid/searchAction.do> (Search for Lithuania)

A4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU

Infoview Data (DG Regio)

A5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes

A5.1.2

MS questionnaire

<http://www.am.lt/TA/ta.php3?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww3.lrs.lt%2Fcb%2Fspec%2Fpreps2%3FCondition1%3D179371%26Condition2%3D>

<http://www.am.lt/TA/ta.php3?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww3.lrs.lt%2Fcb%2Fspec%2Fpreps2%3FCondition1%3D179371%26Condition2%3D>

bin %2Fspec %2Fpreps2 %3FCondition1 %3D179371 %26Condition2 %3D

<http://www.ku.lt/lisd/>

Miller, C., Kettunen, M. & Shine, C. 2006. Scope options for EU action on invasive alien species (IAS) Final report for the European Commission. Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP), Brussels, Belgium.

A5.1.2 & 5.1.3

National Report on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

<http://www.cbd.int/biosafety/parties/reports.shtml?report=NR-CPB-01>

European Commission Report on the Implementation of National Measures on the Coexistence of Genetically Modified Crops with Conventional and Organic Farming

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/coexistence/index_en.htm

National legislation and information

<http://gmo.am.lt/>

B6: To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services

B.6

<http://www.cbd.int/countries/?country=lt>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/lt/lt-nr-03-en.pdf>

<http://www.cbd.int/convention/parties/contributions.shtml?tab=2&yr=2007>

http://www.ramsar.org/res/key_res_ix_12_e.htm

http://www.cms.int/bodies/StC/32_stc_meeting/French/Doc_09_Fonds_Affectation_avec_Annexes.pdf

http://www.unep-aewa.org/meetings/en/stc_meetings/stc4docs/pdf/stc4_9_income_expenditures.pdf

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/31COM/documents/>

http://www.unep.org/rmu/en/Financing_of_UNEP/Environment_Fund/Table_2007/index.asp

B7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance

B7.1.3 & 7.1.6

http://www.euroresources.org/guide_to_population_assistance/lithuania/introduction.html

<http://www.urm.lt/>

B7.2.2 & 7.2.5

No information found

B8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services

B.8

<http://www.cites.org/eng/resources/reports/biennial.shtml>

<http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/14/doc/E14-07-1.pdf>

C9: To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change

C9.1.1

[EC \(2007\) Communication from the Commission. Progress towards achieving the Kyoto objectives. \[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/climat/gge_progress.htm\]\(http://ec.europa.eu/environment/climat/gge_progress.htm\)](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/climat/gge_progress.htm)

C9.4.1 & 9.4.3

Third National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/lt/lt-nr-03-en.doc>

D10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally

D10.1

Member state questionnaire

E1. Ensuring adequate financing

3rd National Report to the CBD

OECD: Biodiversity-related bilateral aid by DAC member

MS questionnaire

GEF database

Lithuanian Ministry of Environment

World Bank

EU DG Envi – LIFE

E2. Strengthening EU decision-making

E2.1 & B2.2

Member state questionnaire

E2.5

<http://www.am.lt/LSP/files/BI-strat-anglu.pdf>

<http://www.am.lt/LSP/files/NAT-REP-ON-SUS-DEV.pdf>

E3. Building partnerships

E3.1

Member state questionnaire

E4. Building public education, awareness and participation

E4.1

http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/index_en.htm

<http://www.cbd.int/reports>

F1-4. Monitoring, evaluation and review

<http://eumon.ckff.si/>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/lt/lt-nr-03-en.pdf>

LUXEMBOURG

Competent authority(ies) for nature & biodiversity:

Ministry of Environment: www.mev.etat.lu/

Department of Water and Forests, Ministry of Environment: www.environnement.public.lu

Most recent national/subnational biodiversity strategy/action plan:

First Report of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg on the implementation of Article 6 of the Convention, 1999: <http://www.cbd.int/countries/?country=lu>

Latest review of the implementation of biodiversity strategy/action plan:

Alignment with EU biodiversity plan:

Alignment with EU 2010 Biodiversity Indicators (SEBI 2010):

Key sources of official nature & biodiversity information used for evaluation:

- Ministry of Environment: www.mev.etat.lu/
- Department of Water and Forests, Ministry of Environment: www.environnement.public.lu
- Convention on Biological Diversity Country Profile and First National Report: <http://www.cbd.int/countries/?country=lu> or <http://www.cbd.int/reports/search/>
- Luxembourg Biodiversity Clearinghouse Mechanism: <http://www.environnement.public.lu/>

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS IN DELIVERY OF OBJECTIVES OF EU BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN

A. POLICY AREA 1: BIODIVERSITY IN THE EU

1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species.

Natura 2000 sites (terrestrial) (A.1.1, A.1.2 & A.1.4)

	<i>Number of sites</i>	<i>Area (km²)</i>
Total SCIs/SACs (Habitats Directive)	48	399
SCIs/SACs with marine component (Habitats Directive)	N/A	N/A
Total SPAs (Birds Directive)	12	139
SPAs with marine component (Birds Directive)	N/A	N/A

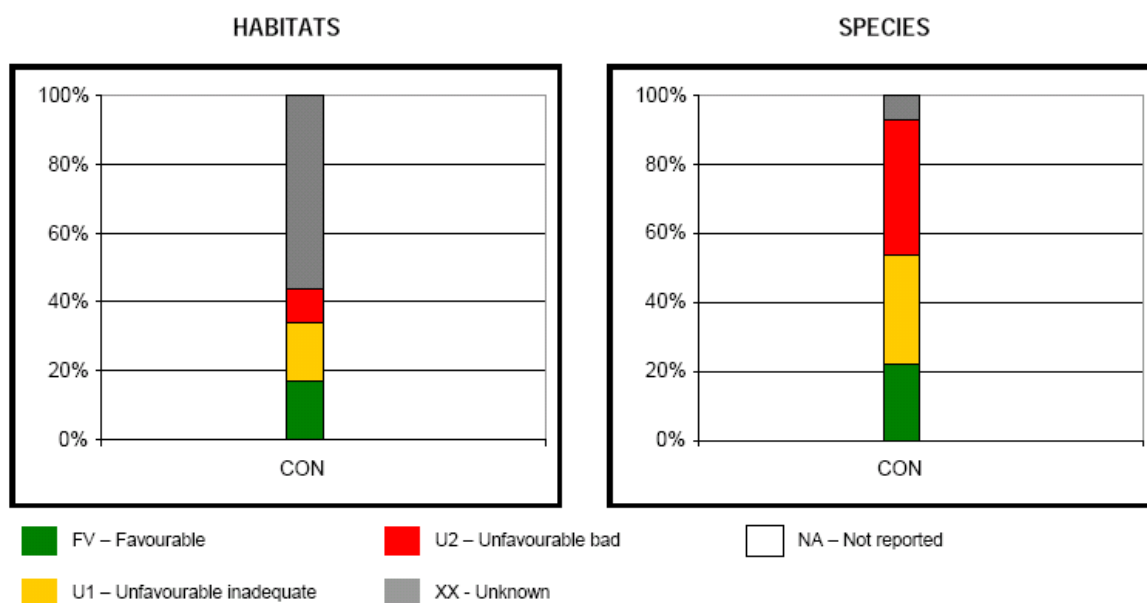
Number of SCIs and SACs - Natura 2000 Barometer – June 2008 (Source: European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity based on data supplied by Member State)

Luxembourg was considered in June 2008 to have achieved a level of sufficiency of 96.7 % for site selection for species and habitat types under Habitats Directive, in its territory. The Luxembourg authority has stated that it has 14 management plans in preparation for Natura 2000 sites.

According to the EC LIFE Programme/Database, under the LIFE Nature programme, there was 1 project in Luxembourg with an EC contribution of EUR 1 132 031, during the period 2000-2006. In the year 2007, according to the indicative national allocations, Luxembourgish projects received EUR 2 044 000 from LIFE+ funds.

Conservation status assessment (A.1.2)

Under the Habitats Directive Luxembourg occurs in one biogeographical region (continental). The results of the first conservation status assessment for species and habitats of community interest are as follows:



Region / Conclusion	HABITATS					SPECIES				
	FV	U1	U2	XX	NA	FV	U1	U2	XX	NA
Continental	17	17	10	56		22	32	39	7	
Member State	17	17	10	56		22	32	39	7	

*The conservation status categories: FV = favourable, U1 = unfavourable-inadequate, U2 = unfavourable-bad, XX = unknown, NA = no evaluation given by MS

Overall assessment of conservation status by biogeographical region (Analysis by the European Topic centre on Biological Diversity based on data supplied by Member State)

Red Data Books/Lists, National/Subnational Atlases, Action Plans (A.1.3)

Red Data Lists have been produced for vascular plants and bryophytes (2003). No information was found on atlases or action plans.

Common bird monitoring (A.1.3)

Luxembourg is currently monitoring breeding birds (2002) and was planning to restart a common bird monitoring programme in 2007. No national indicator is produced using the data collected from the monitoring programme.

Ex-situ conservation (A.1.3)

No information was found on ex-situ activities.

2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside.

Rural Development Programmes (A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8):

According to information supplied by the Luxembourgish authorities, the Axis 2 budget of the RDP accounts for about 57.5 % of public RDP expenditure (i.e. EAFRD allocations plus co-financing). Agri-environment measures have been allocated 29.1 % of EAFRD funds (50.5 % of Axis 2 expenditure). There is a small allocation of funding for Natura 2000 measures,

which only account for 0.2 % of the EAFRD budget.

Agricultural genetic diversity (A2.1.11):

According to the CBD website, Luxembourg has not submitted its third national report. In the absence of this and other readily available information it remains unclear whether any measures have been taken to conserve genetic resources in the agricultural sector.

Agricultural cross-compliance measures (A2.1.4 & 2.1.10):

Luxembourg has a number of GAEC Minimum Level of Maintenance measures. These include minimum stocking density levels for pasture land (which are set at 0.15 LU/hectare). Other GAEC measures appear to be primarily aimed at maintaining good agricultural condition rather than maintaining biodiversity.

Afforestation / deforestation policies and biodiversity (A2.1.5):

No response was received from the Member State to the European Commission's questionnaire. In the absence of other readily available data, progress with this target and related actions cannot therefore be evaluated.

Soil protection and biodiversity (A2.2.1):

No response was received from the Member State to the European Commission's questionnaire. In the absence of other readily available data, progress with this target and related actions cannot therefore be evaluated.

Measures to improve the ecological status of freshwaters (A2.3.1):

According to the European Commission's WFD Scoreboard, Luxembourg has not met its WFD notification obligations under Article 24. However, it has submitted all its other required reports in accordance with WFD requirements.

Measures to reduce air pollution impacts on biodiversity (A2.4.2 & 2.4.3):

In 2004, Luxembourg's nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds (VOC) emissions did not meet the ceilings of the NEC Directive. According to its 2002 National Programme Report, the country expects emissions in 2010 to be well below the NEC Directive targets for VOC, sulphur oxides and ammonia. However, projected emission scenarios show that nitrogen oxides emissions will significantly exceed the ceilings of the Directive. The country aims to reduce emissions mainly by focusing on the use of end-of-pipe and clean technologies in the industrial sector.

3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment.

Good marine ecological status (A3.1a):

Not applicable

Integrated coastal zone management (ICZM) (A.3.1.b):

Not applicable

Pollution: Bathing water quality (A3.2)

Not assessed.

Ecosystem approaches in Fisheries management measures (A3.3):

Luxembourg has not yet completed an operational programme for the period: 2007-2013. Despite the absence of a coastline, and thus of a fishing fleet, Luxembourg had participated in measures that related to the development of aquaculture and the processing and marketing of products. These activities were financed by the Financial Instrument for Fisheries Guidance (the previous fisheries structural funds before the EFF Operational Programmes).

Community and National Financing under European Fisheries Funds (EFF) (A3.4):

Over ECU 1 million (about LUF 40 million) was made available to Luxembourg authorities and businesses for the period 1994-99 by the FIFG. There are no details available on the current funds available to Luxembourg, as they have not yet finalised an EFF Operational Programme for the period 2007-2013.

Restoration programmes for diadromous species (A3.5.a):

Not applicable

Fishing Capacity-Decommissioning (3.5.b):

Not applicable

Action plans and conservation status for marine species and habitats (A3.6):

Not applicable

Aquaculture planning and biodiversity (A3.7):

Luxembourg has not yet completed an EFF Operational Programme for the period: 2007-2013. Despite the absence of a coastline, and thus of a fishing fleet, Luxembourg had participated in measures that related to the development of aquaculture and the processing and marketing of products financed by the Financial Instrument for Fisheries Guidance (the previous fisheries structural funds before the operational programmes).

4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU.

Biodiversity spending under Cohesion and structural funds:

There is no data available for expenditures foreseen by Luxembourg for Biodiversity & nature protection under the Cohesion and structural funds for the period 2007-2013.

5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes.

Strategies to reduce impacts from invasive alien species (A5.1.2):

No questionnaire response was received from the Member State. However, according to an IEEP study carried out in 2006, Luxembourg has adopted legislation addressing invasive alien species (IAS), including issues such as possession and introduction. The Act on the Protection of Nature and Natural Resources refers to the introduction of alien species. In addition, hunting legislation seems to be developed to enable control of alien animal species by hunting if necessary. Also a national strategy on IAS seems to be under construction.

It is unclear whether a national/subnational data centre or database has been created.

Biosafety measures to reduce impacts from alien genotypes (A5.1.2 & 5.1.3):

Besides having ratified the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, Luxembourg has adopted/implemented relevant EU Regulations and Directives including Regulation 1946/2003 on transboundary movements, which implements the provisions of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety into EU law.

The country has developed a notified draft legislation regarding coexistence of genetically modified crops with conventional and organic farming. It remains unclear whether relevant legislation has been already adopted.

According to the CBD website, Luxembourg has not submitted a national report of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. In the absence of this and other readily available information, no further analysis of available legislation has been carried out.

B. POLICY AREA 2: THE EU AND GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY

6. To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services.

In 1999, Luxembourg prepared the First Report of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg on the implementation of Article 6 of the Convention on Biological Diversity. So far, no National Report and thematic report has been submitted by Luxembourg. Information on the level of direct financial contributions to national biodiversity conservation activities and the level of direct financial contributions to developing countries for biodiversity conservation purposes is not available. Luxembourg has paid their contributions to CBD, Ramsar, CMS, AEWA, World Heritage Convention and the UNEP Environment Fund.

7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance.

Funds allocated for biodiversity projects and programmes in developing countries (B7.1.3) and Members State's Overseas Countries and Territories (B7.1.6):

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has political responsibility for development cooperation and is, at the same time, the principal actor within the government in this field. The Inter-Ministerial Committee for Development Cooperation ensures coordination and exchanges of information on the major orientations of development cooperation policy. Lux-Development is the Luxembourg agency responsible for implementing development cooperation. Luxembourg has made sustainable development and the fight against poverty the main objectives of its development cooperation policy. Target countries have been selected according to their level of human development; more than half of these belong to the category of least-developed countries. Another demonstration of Luxembourg's policy to reduce poverty is the very clear priority given to social infrastructure and services (82 % of total ODA in 2001), in particular, education and basic health as well as water supply and sanitation.

The level of spending on biodiversity related development projects is unknown.

Integration of biodiversity considerations into development programmes and projects impacts on biodiversity (Action B7.2.2 & 7.2.5):

Due to time and language constraints on this study, no readily available information could be found on this subject. The extent to which biodiversity considerations are taken into account in external projects and programmes is therefore unknown.

8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services.

According to the number of CITES certificates, Luxembourg enjoys a low level of trade in CITES species. The number of import documents issued was 45 in 2005 and 54 in 2006. No denied permit applications were reported. Figures for the number of seizures in the latest reporting cycle (2005/06) are not available. However, 4 seizures were reported in 2003/04. Information on capacity building was not available in the 2005/6 biennial report. Luxembourg paid their annual contribution to the CITES Trust Funds.

C. POLICY AREA 3: BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

9. To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change.

Progress on Kyoto targets (C9.1.1):

Under the EU burden-sharing agreement Luxembourg has a Kyoto target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 28 % for the period 2008–2012 compared to 1990. Luxembourg appears to be having problems with meeting this target. In 2005 emissions were 0.4 % higher than 1990 and projections for 2010 indicate that emissions will be 11.9 % above baseline levels. However, Luxembourg could meet its target with additional measures and the use of Kyoto mechanisms.

Adaptation measures to increase biodiversity resilience to climate change (C9.4.1 & 9.4.3):

According to the CBD and UNFCCC websites Luxembourg has not submitted its third national CBD report or a UNFCCC report. No other information on climate change adaptation targets and measures for biodiversity appear to be readily available.

D. POLICY AREA 4: THE KNOWLEDGE BASE

10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally.

National research programmes (D10.1):

The National Plan for the Protection of Nature (2007-2011) indicates that EUR 2 370 000 will be dedicated to research between 2007 and 2011. This is 4.5 % of the total budget for the plan. No information was provided on whether there is a dedicated forum to ensure that biodiversity outcomes are reflected in policy development and implementation, but this could be considered to be the role of the National Plan on Sustainable Development (1999).

E. THE FOUR KEY SUPPORTING MEASURES

1. Ensuring adequate financing

Overall use of Community funds for biodiversity:

RDP (2000-2006)

The total public cost of the programme is EUR 373 639 000. The European Community's contribution of EUR 91 000 000 comes from the Guarantee Section of the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF Guarantee).

The biodiversity-related activities under this RDP are covered under Priority 3: Environmental protection and Landscape conservation. The aims of this priority area are to promote environment-friendly farming methods, improve landscape maintenance and preserve biodiversity. Premiums are granted for protecting water resources and bio-types through crop extension and for reducing stocking densities per unit of feed area, organic farming, preservation of traditional orchards, etc.

Priority	Total Public Expenditure	EC Contribution
3: Environmental Protection & Landscape Conservation	85 630 000	41 870 000

RDP 2007-2013

Biodiversity-related activities under this RDP are covered by Axis 2, with a total budget of EUR 212 014 500, of which EUR 53 003 625 are contributed by EAFRD. The priority objectives for this axis are: Supporting agricultural activity in less-favoured areas, and Agri-environmental measures. Unfortunately, it was not possible to find information on specific spending allocation.

2. Strengthening EU decision-making

Plans and follow-up to UN Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (E2.1):

There is no information on whether Luxembourg is planning a follow-up to the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment.

Alignment of national biodiversity strategies with EU (E2.2):

Luxembourg developed a national plan for sustainable development in 1999 that integrates protection of the environment, nature and biodiversity within national decision making. In particular it considers the environmental impacts of industry, agriculture, consumption and transport. A National Plan for the protection of nature (2007-2011) has also been developed. This includes an aim to integrate the protection of nature within other sectors and with a number of stakeholders. It is not clear whether this plan was developed in the light of the Communication 'Halting the loss of biodiversity by 2010 and beyond'

Effective integration of Natura 2000, Rural development, river basin management and other territorial plans and programmes in support for biodiversity (E2.5):

The National Plan for the protection of nature (2007-2011) includes objectives to finalise the Natura 2000 network in Luxembourg. The National Plan for sustainable development in 1999 includes the integration of nature protection into agriculture (i.e. rural development). Biodiversity indicators have not yet been developed, but will be identified and monitored as part of the National plan for the protection of nature.

3. Building partnerships

National partnerships for biodiversity including private sector involvement (E3.1):

There is no information on whether Luxembourg has any national or sub-national initiatives to promote partnership for biodiversity or Natura 2000.

4. Building public education, awareness and participation

National/Sub-national public awareness campaigns/initiatives (E4.1):

The National Plan for the Protection of Nature (2007-2011) indicates that there will be a national platform created for education on the environment and sustainable development. There will also be an improvement in information provision as well as integration of these issues within school programmes. Finally a programme will be created called 'Nature for everyone' in order to reach the general public.

Within the assessment of public awareness of biodiversity, according to the Flash Eurobarometer, 54 % of respondents from Luxembourg had heard of biodiversity, and 28 % know what it means. 49 % of respondents are well informed about biodiversity loss, but only 8 % have heard of the Natura 2000 network and know what it means. 85 % of respondents think they make personal efforts to protect biodiversity.

F. MONITORING

No information is available on national biodiversity indicators in Luxembourg. Only one biodiversity monitoring project - the Breeding Bird Monitoring Scheme - is currently underway. The scheme focuses particularly on bird species.

DATA SOURCES

A1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species:

A.1.1, A.1.2 & A.1.4

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/barometer/index_en.htm

<http://dataservice.eea.europa.eu/atlas/viewdata/viewpub.asp?id=2639>

http://themes.eea.europa.eu/IMS/ISpecs/ISpecification20041007131611/guide_summary_plus_public

<http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/>

A.1.2.

<http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/>

A.1.3

http://www.plantaeuropa.org/pe-EPCS-hot_issues-red_lists.htm

<http://www.mnhn.lu/recherche/redbook/vascplants/default.htm>

A.13

<http://www.ebcc.info/pecbm-luxembourg.html>

A2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside

A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8

Published National Rural Development Programmes (IEEP database 2008)

European Commission unpublished data (2008)

MS questionnaire

A2.1.4 & 2.1.10

Alliance Environment (2007). Evaluation of the application of cross compliance as foreseen under Regulation 1782/2003. Part I: Descriptive Report - 26/07/2007. Report to the European Commission.

A2.3.1

WFD Scoreboard http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/transp_rep/scoreboard_en.htm

A2.4.2 & 2.4.3

Luxembourg OECD Data Compendium submission (10 Oct 2006)

http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/lu/oecd/colri_3q/envrstsba

NEC Directive National Programmes

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/nationalprogr_dir200181.htm

MS reporting to NEC Directive

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/implem_nec_directive.htm

A3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment

A.3.3

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/operational_programmes_en.htm

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/archives/summary_structural_interventions/lu_en.htm

A3.4

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/operational_programmes_en.htm

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/archives/summary_structural_interventions/lu_en.htm

A3.7

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/operational_programmes_en.htm

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/archives/

A4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU

A4.

Infoview Data (DG Regio)

LIFE+ 2007 Call for Proposals – DG Environment

A5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes

A5.1.2

Miller, C., Kettunen, M. & Shine, C. 2006. Scope options for EU action on invasive alien species (IAS) Final report for the European Commission. Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP), Brussels, Belgium.

A5.1.2 & 5.1.3

European Commission Report on the Implementation of National Measures on the Coexistence of Genetically Modified Crops with Conventional and Organic Farming

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/coexistence/index_en.htm

<http://www.environnement.public.lu/index.html>

B6: To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services

B6

<http://www.cbd.int/convention/parties/contributions.shtml?tab=2&yr=2007>

<http://www.cbd.int/reports/search.shtml>

<http://www.cbd.int/countries/?country=lu>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/lu/lu-nr-01-fr.pdf>

http://www.ramsar.org/res/key_res_ix_12_e.htm

http://www.cms.int/bodies/StC/32_stc_meeting/French/Doc_09_Fonds_Affectation_avec_Annexes.pdf

http://www.unep-aewa.org/meetings/en/stc_meetings/stc4docs/pdf/stc4_9_income_expenditures.pdf

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/31COM/documents/>

http://www.unep.org/rmu/en/Financing_of_UNEP/Environment_Fund/Table_2007/index.asp

B7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance

B7.1.3 & 7.1.6:

http://www.oecd.org/document/17/0,3343,en_2649_34603_33887057_1_1_1_1,00.html

B8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services

B8

<http://www.cites.org/eng/resources/reports/biennial.shtml>

<http://www.cites.org/common/resources/reports/pab/05-06Luxembourg.pdf>

<http://www.cites.org/common/resources/reports/pab/03-04Luxemburg.pdf>

<http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/14/doc/E14-07-1.pdf>

C9: To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change

C9.1.1

EC (2007) Communication from the Commission. Progress towards achieving the Kyoto objectives.

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/climat/gge_progress.htm

D10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally

D10.1

http://www.environnement.public.lu/conserv_nature/dossiers/PNPN/PNPNvfinale200407-2.pdf

http://www.environnement.public.lu/developpement_durable/publications/PNDD_1999_brochure/PNDD_brochure_00_07_PDF.pdf

E1. Ensuring adequate financing

E1

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rur/countries/lu/hori/fiche_en.pdf

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/07/371&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

E2. Strengthening EU decision-making

E2.2 & E2.5

http://www.environnement.public.lu/developpement_durable/publications/PNDD_1999_brochure/PNDD_brochure_00_07_PDF.pdf

[ure_00_07_PDF.pdf](#)

http://www.environnement.public.lu/conserv_nature/dossiers/PNPN/PNPNvfinale200407-2.pdf

E3. Building partnerships

E4. Building public education, awareness and participation

E4.1

http://www.environnement.public.lu/conserv_nature/dossiers/PNPN/PNPNvfinale200407-2.pdf

http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/flash/fl_219_en.pdf

F1-4. Monitoring, evaluation and review

<http://eumon.ckff.si/>

MALTA

Competent authority(ies) for nature & biodiversity:

Malta Environment and Planning Authority:
http://www.mepa.org.mt/environment/index.htm?nature_protection/mainpage.htm&1
Ministry of Rural Affairs and the Environment: <http://www.maltafisheries.gov.mt/index.htm>

Most recent national/subnational biodiversity strategy/action plan:

Malta Environment and Planning Authority: What is natural protection?
http://www.mepa.org.mt/environment/index.htm?nature_protection/mainpage.htm&1

Latest review of the implementation of biodiversity strategy/action plan:

Alignment with EU biodiversity plan:

Alignment with EU 2010 Biodiversity Indicators (SEBI 2010):

Key sources of official nature & biodiversity information used for evaluation:

- Malta Environment and Planning Authority: What is natural protection?
http://www.mepa.org.mt/environment/index.htm?nature_protection/mainpage.htm&1
- Ministry of Rural Affairs and the Environment:
<http://www.maltafisheries.gov.mt/index.htm>
- Convention on Biological Diversity Country Profile:
<http://www.cbd.int/countries/?country=mt>
- Malta Biodiversity Clearinghouse Mechanism: <http://www.mepa.org.mt/>
- Sustainability Indicators - Malta Observatory within the Foundation for International Studies:
- National Report on the Strategic Action Plan for the Conservation of Maltese Coastal and Marine Biodiversity - SAP-BIO project:
<http://www.mepa.org.mt/environment/publications/sap-bio.pdf>
- State of the Environment Report Indicators:
<http://www.mepa.org.mt/Environment/SOER/indicators2006/pdfs/SOEI2006.pdf>

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS IN DELIVERY OF OBJECTIVES OF EU BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN

A. POLICY AREA 1: BIODIVERSITY IN THE EU

1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species.

Natura 2000 sites (terrestrial and marine) (A.1.1, A.1.2. & A.1.4)

	<i>Number of sites</i>	<i>Area (km²)</i>
Total SCIs/SACs (Habitats Directive)	27	48
SCIs/SACs with marine component (Habitats Directive)	1	8
Total SPAs (Birds Directive)	12	14
SPAs with marine component (Birds Directive)	0 (?)	0 (?)

Number of SCIs and SACs - Natura 2000 Barometer – June 2008 (Source: European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity based on data supplied by Member State)

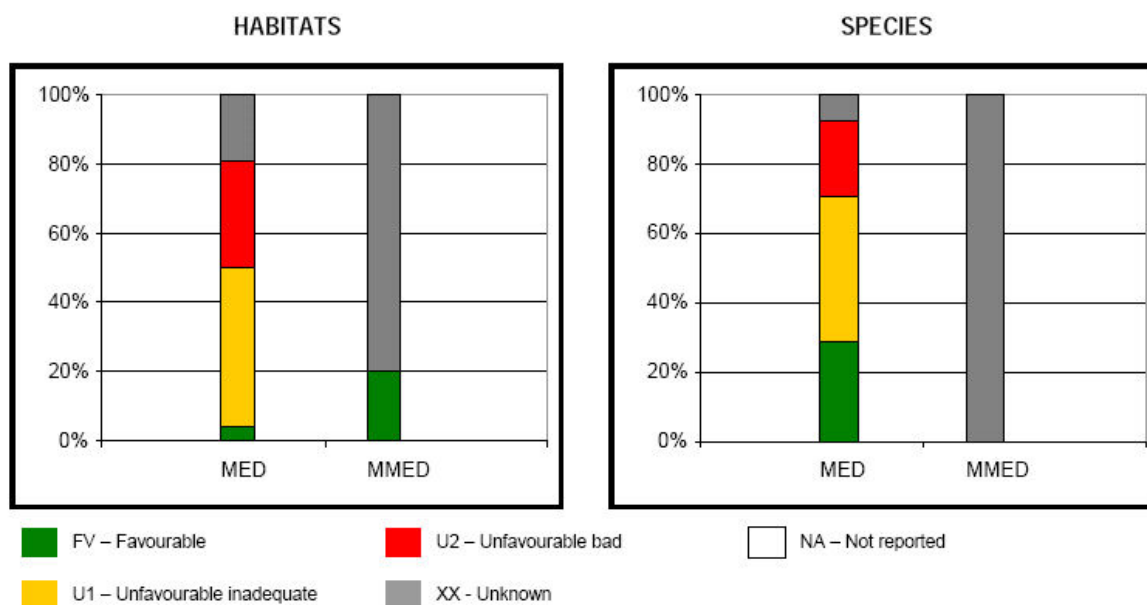
Malta was considered in June 2008 to have achieved a level of sufficiency of 92.6 % for site selection for species and habitat types under Habitats Directive, in its territory. The Maltese authority has not made information available on the number of management completed and in preparation for Natura 2000 sites.

In 2003 Malta received EUR 213 030 under the LIFE-Third Countries funding for the establishment of a coastal nature reserve at Dwejra (first protected area of that kind). According to the EC LIFE Programme/Database, under the LIFE Nature programme, there was 1 project in Malta with an EC contribution of EUR 459 866, during the period 2000-2006. In the year 2007, according to the indicative national allocations, Maltese projects received EUR 2 148 000 from LIFE+ funds.

Sites of Natura 2000 have been mapped and are available, while no information was found in relation to connectivity of the landscape.

Conservation status assessment (A.1.2)

Under the Habitats Directive Malta has one biogeographical region (mediterranean). The results of the first conservation status assessment for species and habitats of community interest are as follows:



Region / Conclusion	HABITATS					SPECIES				
	FV	U1	U2	XX	NA	FV	U1	U2	XX	NA
Mediterranean	4	46	31	19		29	42	21	8	
Marine Mediterranean	20			80					100	
Member State	7	38	26	29		20	29	15	36	

*The conservation status categories: FV = favourable, U1 = unfavourable-inadequate, U2 = unfavourable-bad, XX = unknown, NA = no evaluation given by MS

Overall assessment of conservation status of species and habitat types in Malta (Analysis by the European Topic centre on Biological Diversity)

Red Data Books/Lists, National/Subnational Atlases, Action Plans (A.1.3)

A red data list was completed for the Maltese Islands in 1989. No information on atlases or action plans for the Birds and Habitats directives was found.

Common bird monitoring (A.1.3)

There is currently no common bird monitoring programme in Malta, but a Raptor specific programme currently exists.

Ex-situ conservation (A.13)

No information was found on ex-situ conservation

2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside.

Rural Development Programmes (A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8):

According to information supplied by the Maltese authorities, Axis 2 of the RDP budget in Malta accounts for about 25.0 % of public RDP expenditure (i.e. EAFRD allocations plus co-financing). The only measures under Axis 2 that are likely to provide significant biodiversity benefits are agri-environment measures. However, only 10.5 % of the EAFRD budget is

allocated for these (42.1 % of Axis 2 expenditure). It is anticipated that these agri-environment measures will cover 50 % of the Natura 2000 area.

In addition some support is provided for the preparation of Natura 2000 management plans under Axis 3 measure (conservation and upgrading of the natural heritage). It is anticipated that 50 % of plans will be supported by these measures and Natura 2000 payments will be included in future to implement the plans.

Agricultural genetic diversity (A2.1.11):

According to the country, given the limited agricultural land in the Maltese Islands, the future of local agriculture lies in the ability to further add value to typical products. This can be done through research and development, diversification and the education of consumers about the benefits of typical and organic products. Malta has also ratified the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

However, no readily available information could be found on measures taken to achieve relevant objectives.

Agricultural cross-compliance measures (A2.1.4 & 2.1.10):

Malta has included a number of GAEC Minimum Level of Maintenance measures (as referred to in article 5 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003) in its cross-compliance regulations. Most of these appear to primarily focus on maintaining land in good agricultural condition. However, there are requirements to protect indigenous trees and the dumping of soil on garrigue (dwarf shrub habitats) is prohibited.

Afforestation / deforestation policies and biodiversity (A2.1.5):

No response regarding the issue was received from the Member State to the European Commission's questionnaire. In the absence of other readily available data, progress with this target and related actions cannot therefore be evaluated.

Soil protection and biodiversity (A2.2.1):

No response regarding the issue was received from the Member State to the European Commission's questionnaire. In the absence of other readily available data, progress with this target and related actions cannot therefore be evaluated.

Measures to improve the ecological status of freshwaters (A2.3.1):

According to the European Commission's WFD Scoreboard, Malta has completed the legal transposition and most other requirements under the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC (WFD) that have deadlines during 2004, 2005 and 2007. These include the production of a River Basin District Report and River Basin Analysis report. However, requirements for a Monitoring Network Report have only been partially fulfilled.

Measures to reduce air pollution impacts on biodiversity (A2.4.2 & 2.4.3):

In 2006, Malta's nitrogen oxides and sulphur emissions exceeded the ceilings set by the NEC Directive. According to its 2006 National Programme Report, taking into account all currently implemented and adopted policies and measures, Malta will not be able to meet its NEC targets. Therefore, additional plans and programmes are needed. These will need to focus on areas such as road transport, combustion in power plants and energy production, energy efficiency and renewable resources as well as combustion.

3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment.

Good marine ecological status (A3.1a):

It is unclear whether Malta has a National Strategy or Plan for the Marine Environment. However, as Malta is a contracting party to the Barcelona Convention, a regional Strategic Action Plan does exist for the Conservation of Coastal and Marine Biodiversity in the Mediterranean (SAP-BIO Project). Malta contributed to this and drawn its own national report and action plans for the conservation of certain important marine species. Some marine conservation provisions are included in the Fisheries Conservation and Management Act (last amended in 2007), such as the establishment of marine protected areas for conservation and sustainable fisheries purposes.

According to the Article 17 National Summary, 20 % of marine habitats under the EU Habitats Directive in Malta have a 'favourable' status, and the remaining 80 % have an 'unknown' status.

Integrated coastal zone management (ICZM) (A.3.1.b):

Malta submitted its official Report on the Implementation of the Recommendation for Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) in Europe to the European Commission on 27 March 2006. According to a report in 2006 on the implementation of the EU Recommendation on ICZM (2002), a Strategy (assessed as being equivalent to a National ICZM Strategy) has existed since 2004. This Strategy was formulated as part of the revision of the Structure Plan for the Maltese Islands and was prepared prior to Malta's accession to EU membership. The Strategy is considered to be very well integrated in the spatial planning process. However, since the Strategy is essentially a spatial planning tool, it does not address (or does so only indirectly) aspects such as regional development, education, employment, and resource management. ICZM is the remit of a number of agencies, though its close linkage with spatial and regional development planning places the Malta Environment & Planning Authority in the lead role.

Pollution: Bathing water quality (A3.2)

According to the Bathing Waters report for the 2007 season, 95.4 % of Malta's coastal waters met minimum standards and 89.7 met guideline standards. These compare with 99.6 % that met minimum standards and 83.9 % that met guideline standards in the 2006 season. Four bathing waters were listed as 'not complying' in the 2007 season. MEPA commissions regular monitoring of coastal water quality. A report in 2005 however notes that more frequent monitoring at a larger number of sites would be necessary to assess marine water quality particularly from developments (e.g. fish farming).

Ecosystem approaches in fisheries management measures (A3.3):

The National Strategic Plan for Fisheries (2007-2013) is an integral part of Malta's national strategic reference vision and is integrated in the National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF) along with the National Rural Development Strategy for Malta 2007-2013. Malta was the first Member State to successfully adopt a NSRF in 2006.

It is unclear whether the National Strategic Plan for Fisheries (2007-2013) includes an ecosystem approach.

Malta's accession to the EU in May 2004 required extensive changes in national fisheries legislation to ensure compliance with EC regulations related to the Common Fisheries Policy

(CFP). The results of Malta-EU negotiations on the 25-mile Fisheries Management Zone were transposed into a new Council Regulation (EC 813/2004) detailing conservation measures in connection with the zone's management regime. These include a limit on the number, size and power of fishing vessels allowed in the zone, depending on the type of fishing activities. Some conservation provisions (such as the establishment of Marine protected Areas) are also included in the Fisheries Conservation and Management Act (2001) (last amended in 2007). The Malta Centre for Fisheries Sciences has been involved (since 2001) in an FAO sub-regional project "MedSudMed" which is focusing on the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) in the central Mediterranean.

Community and National Financing under European Fisheries Funds (EFF) (A3.4):

The total contribution from the EFF to Malta for 2007-2013 was set at EUR 7 435 476. Malta's Fisheries Operational Programme has not yet been adopted by the Commission.

Restoration programmes for diadromous species (A3.5.a):

Not applicable.

Fishing Capacity-Decommissioning (3.5.b):

According to the annual report from the Commission in 2007, the seasonal and fishing patterns during 2006 of the Maltese fleet remained the same as in previous years with no indication of any increase in fishing effort in any fishery. The catches of blue fin tuna remained well below the allocation set for Malta by the ICCAT. During 2006 three vessels stopped fishing operations and their fishing effort was not replaced. However, the impact on overall fishing capacity was minimal.

The number of vessels in the Maltese fleet decreased from 2 132 in 2004 to 1 413 in 2006. During the same period, tonnage was reduced from 16 241 tons to 15 167 tons and power declined from 119 421 to 98 539 kW.

Action plans and conservation status for marine species and habitats (A3.6):

Sea-horses (Żwiemel tal-Baħar) such as the Short-Snouted Sea Horse (*Hippocampus hippocampus*) and the Long-Snouted Sea Horse (*Hippochampus guttulatus*), fished illegally for sale or caught as by-catch. The loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*) is also subject to by-catch. Some rehabilitation programmes have released accidentally caught turtles. Marine invertebrate species such as seashells (Triton shells, Tun shells, Cowries, Pen shells and Top shells) are valued for commercial and ornamental purposes and are illegally exhibited for sale.

Part XII of the Fisheries Conservation and Management Act (last amended in 2007) includes provisions for the "protection of turtles, dolphins and other aquatic animals" and "the control of the exploitation of coral and sponge resources". A protocol Code of Practice 01/99 Protocol for Cetacean Stranding was devised in 1999, setting out a procedure to be followed in these situations.

The 2005 Status of the Environment report from Malta concluded that there was a need for completion of management and action plans; however, it was unclear whether Malta has developed any.

Part XII of the Fisheries Conservation and Management Act (last amended in 2007) includes provisions for the "protection of turtles, dolphins and other aquatic animals" and "the control of the exploitation of coral and sponge resources". A protocol Code of Practice 01/99 Protocol for Cetacean Stranding was devised in 1999, setting out a procedure to be followed

in these situations.

The 2005 Status of the Environment report from Malta concluded that there was a need for completion of management and action plans; however, it is unclear whether Malta has developed any.

Malta participates in the Regional Activity Centre of the Mediterranean Action Plan for the conservation of marine turtles, monk seal, seabirds, cartilaginous fishes and cetaceans. Action plans and monitoring programmes have been established for these species at the regional level.

Through Malta Centre for Fisheries Sciences (MCFS), Malta has a scientific data collection programme, in line with Commission Regulation (EC) No 1581/2004, the results of which are used in national and regional fisheries management processes. In January 2005, the MCFS initiated an annual fisheries scientific data collection programme. It appears that an assessment of priority habitats and species present on Maltese territory is underway following which action Plans will be developed. Once this process is finished, the action plans will be integrated within the National Biodiversity Action Plan. The 2005 Status of the Environment report from Malta concluded that there was need for wider and continuous monitoring of marine biodiversity.

Aquaculture planning and biodiversity (A3.7)

The aquaculture industry in Malta started in the late 1980s with the culture of marine finfish in offshore cages. The Operational Programme for Fisheries 2007-2013 for Malta has not yet been approved by the EU.

4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU.

Biodiversity spending under Cohesion and structural funds:

Under the Cohesion and structural funds, for the period 2007-2013, expenditures foreseen by Malta for Biodiversity & nature protection, amount to EUR 2 000 000. Other relevant areas where Cohesion and structural funds will be allocated are Promotion of Natural Assets (EUR 19 000 000) Natural Heritage (EUR 4 000 000).

5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes.

Strategies to reduce impacts from invasive alien species (A5.1.2):

No questionnaire response was received from the Member State referring to the target. However, according to an IEEP study carried out in 2006, has adopted relevant legislation addressing invasive alien species (IAS), including trade, export and import, introduction and eradication/control. With regard to Non-EU countries, the competent authority can prohibit the importation of any species of flora and fauna that may endanger native biodiversity. In addition, the propagation, sowing, and sale of certain listed plant species is not allowed. The Environmental Protection Act as well as trees and woodland protection regulations refer to the introduction of IAS. It also seems that a national strategy on IAS is being developed. However, no details are available. It remains unclear whether a national/subnational data centre or database on IAS has been created.

Biosafety measures to reduce impacts from alien genotypes (A5.1.2 & 5.1.3):

Besides having ratified the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, Malta has adopted/ implemented relevant EU Regulations and Directives including Regulation 1946/2003 on transboundary movements, which implements the provisions of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety into EU law.

According to the CBD website, Malta has not submitted a national report of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. In the absence of this and other readily available information, no further analysis of available legislation has been carried out.

According to an EC report, Malta has not initiated a process drafting legislation with regard to coexistence of genetically modified crops with conventional and organic farming.

B. POLICY AREA 2: THE EU AND GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY

6. To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Malta has not prepared a National Biodiversity Strategy and the National Report. Also, Malta has not provided thematic reports as requested by the CBD except the Global Taxonomic Initiative report. Malta paid their contributions to CBD, Ramsar, CMS, World Heritage Convention and the UNEP Environment Fund (Malta is not a member of AEWAs)

7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance.

Funds allocated for biodiversity projects and programmes in developing countries (B7.1.3) and Members State's Overseas Countries and Territories (B7.1.6):

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is the institution mainly responsible for development cooperation. An assessment will be made as to whether the better carrying out of its functions require the transformation of the responsible unit into a Malta Development Agency. The country has developed an Overseas Development Policy describing the country's areas of focus, geographic scope and principles. According to Malta, it has ten areas of focus, including for example information and communications technologies, democratization and good governance, migration and asylum, gender equality, children, climate change and water. It also states that it will in particular focus on Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and on regions such as the Horn of Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa as well as small islands, the Mediterranean and Middle East.

The level of spending on biodiversity related development projects is unknown.

Integration of biodiversity considerations into development programmes and projects impacts on biodiversity (Action B7.2.2 & 7.2.5):

Due to time and language constraints on this study, no readily available information could be found on this subject. The extent to which biodiversity considerations are taken into account in external projects and programmes is therefore unknown.

8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Malta has not submitted the 2005/6 biennial report. Only the 2003/4 report is available on the CITES website. Malta issued 20 import documents in 2004. No denied permit applications were reported. Figures are not available for the number of seizures. Oral/written advice/guidance, technical and financial assistance was provided to the Management Authority. Advice/guidance was also provided for traders and the public. Malta paid their annual contribution to the CITES Trust Funds.

C. POLICY AREA 3: BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

9. To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change.

Progress on Kyoto targets (C9.1.1):

Malta does not currently have a greenhouse gas emissions reduction target under the Kyoto Protocol. Nevertheless, it is of concern that its greenhouse gas emissions have risen in recent years and reached 3.4 million tonnes in 2005 (estimated by gap filling), an increase of 54.8 % compared to 1990 base-year levels. Under its existing policies, emissions are projected to continue increasing to some 123.5 % above base-year levels in 2010.

Adaptation measures to increase biodiversity resilience to climate change (C9.4.1 & 9.4.3):

Malta is not a part to UNFCCC and has not submitted a national report to CBD. No other information on climate change adaptation targets and measures for biodiversity appear to be readily available.

D. POLICY AREA 4: THE KNOWLEDGE BASE

10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally.

National research programmes (D10.1):

It is not clear whether Malta has a dedicated national or sub-national programme supporting biodiversity research or a forum to ensure that biodiversity outcomes are reflected in biodiversity policy development and implementation. Malta is a member of the European Platform for Biodiversity Research Strategy (EPBRS) and has set up a National BioPlatform as part of a European funded project.

E. THE FOUR KEY SUPPORTING MEASURES

1. Ensuring adequate financing

Overall use of Community funds for biodiversity:

RDP 2004-2006

The total cost of this programme is EUR 33 600 000 The contribution of EAGGF, Guarantee Section amounts to EUR 26 900 000 and the co-financing rate is of 80 %. Unfortunately no information could be found on specific allocations to biodiversity-related activities, only on

the percentages of EAGGF funding allocated to LFAs and areas with environmental restrictions (15.4 %) and Agri-environment (12 %) activities.

RDP 2007-2013

Axis 2 of this RDP has a total public funding of EUR 25 025 000 and an EAFRD contribution of EUR 20 020 000. This axis intends to improve the environment and the countryside through encouraging the retention of agricultural activity and promotion of environmental friendly production methods in line with rural heritage. The financial weight of axis 2 is 26 %.

In terms of measures, the situation is the following: 58 % of the resources go to support for areas with handicaps, other than mountain areas, and 34 % are addressed to financing agri-environment actions. A remaining 8 % will be used for financing Natura 2000 payments and payments linked to Directive 2000/60/EEC (EU Water Framework Directive). Unfortunately no information could be found on specific allocations to biodiversity-related activities.

2. Strengthening EU decision-making

Plans and follow-up to UN Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (E2.1):

There is no information on whether Malta plans a follow-up to the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment.

Alignment of national biodiversity strategies with EU (E2.2):

Malta's National Reform Programme 2005-2008 is aimed at addressing the key challenges facing the Maltese economy which was prepared to enhance Malta's competitive edge in connection with the guidance provided by the EU through the Lisbon Agenda, includes 5 strategic themes including the environment. The need to establish a National Biodiversity Strategy for the Maltese Islands was recognised as one of the priorities under the Strategic Theme 05 – Environment.

In December 2006, a communication from Malta's Environment and Planning Authority, MRAE to the Commission regarding the EU Biodiversity Communication stated that Malta was preparing its National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP). The strategy will establish priority objectives for action to conserve sustainable use and manage local biodiversity. The NBSAP development process is planned to be finalised by the 2009. The SAP-BIO was seen as a first step in formulating the Maltese NBSAP.

Effective integration of Natura 2000, Rural development, river basin management and other territorial plans and programmes in support for biodiversity (E2.5):

The Nature Protection Unit of the Environment Protection Directorate of Malta has started implementing activities in connection with biodiversity indicators. The Sustainability Indicators Malta Observatory was established on 1st December 2000. It is mentioned in the National Reform Programme (under theme 5) that Malta is implementing the Flora, Fauna and Habitats Protection Regulations which covers the National Ecological Network and the selection of the candidate Natura 2000 sites.

Measures under the second axis of Malta's National Rural Development Plan 2007-2013 contribute to improving the environmental status and assists in promoting more environmentally-friendly agriculture practices as well as conserving biological diversity and promoting long term high added value in the protection of natural resources.

3. Building partnerships

National partnerships for biodiversity including private sector involvement (E3.1):

The Maltese Government has adopted a national tourism policy with biodiversity conservation considerations and plans to fully coordinate environmental concerns with diving tourism.

There is no information on whether Malta has any additional national or sub-national initiatives to promote partnership with biodiversity or Natura 2000.

4. Building public education, awareness and participation

National/Sub-national public awareness campaigns/initiatives (E4.1):

According to the ECNC analysis of the Flash Eurobarometer Report, 57 % of Maltese respondents have never heard of the term 'biodiversity'. Of the remaining 43 % who had heard of the term, 14 % knew what it meant. A total of 33 % of respondents from Malta felt that they were either 'well informed' or 'very well informed' about biodiversity loss. There was much less awareness about the Natura 2000 network; 83 % of respondents from Malta had never heard of it. Of those who had heard of it, 11 % knew what it was. Overall, 81 % of Maltese respondents felt that they made personal contributions to protecting biodiversity.

Communication, education and public awareness actions were identified as a key area where more work was needed in the 2005 'State of the Environment' Report for Malta. Early in 2005 government appointed Green Leaders in each Ministry, with the aim of raising environment awareness while promoting eco-friendly practices. A Green Leader will eventually be appointed in each government department and state agency.

Malta lacks a formal environmental education curriculum policy despite examples of good practice in certain areas. Informal education is well addressed by NGOs, but more recognition and support is needed.

F. MONITORING

Malta developed State of the Environment Indicators, which are updated annually. According to the information available, there is only one biodiversity monitoring scheme in Malta (Organic farming in garrigue habitat).

DATA SOURCES

A1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species:

A.1.1, A.1.2. & A.1.4

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/barometer/index_en.htm

<http://dataservice.eea.europa.eu/atlas/viewdata/viewpub.asp?id=2639>

http://themes.eea.europa.eu/IMS/ISpecs/ISpecification20041007131611/guide_summary_public

http://www.mepa.org.mt/Environment/SOER/indicators2006/pdfs/maps/B3_Sites_proposed_or_designated_as_part_of_Natura_2000_network.pdf

A.1.2

<http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/>

A.1.3.

<http://www.birdlifemalta.org/>

A2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside

A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8

Published National Rural Development Programmes (IEEP database 2008)

European Commission unpublished data (2008)

MS questionnaire

A2.1.11

<http://mrra.gov.mt/pressrelease.asp?id=1560>

<http://www.planttreaty.org/>

A2.1.4 & 2.1.10

Alliance Environment (2007). Evaluation of the application of cross compliance as foreseen under Regulation 1782/2003. Part I: Descriptive Report - 26/07/2007. Report to the European Commission.

A2.3.1

WFD Scoreboard http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/transp_rep/scoreboard_en.htm

A2.4.2 & 2.4.3

Malta NEC Directive submission (23 Jan 2008)

<http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/mt/eu/nec>

NEC Directive National Programmes

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/nationalprogr_dir200181.htm

MS reporting to NEC Directive

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/implem_nec_directive.htm

A3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment

A3.1a

<http://www.mepa.org.mt/environment/publications/sap-bio.pdf>

<http://www.unepmap.org/>

Article 17 National Summary Malta

A3.1b

http://www.rupprecht-consult.de/iczm/iczm_national_reporting_malta.htm

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/iczm/pdf/evaluation_iczm_report.pdf

A3.2

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-bathing/summary_report_2008.html

[http://www.mepa.org.mt/Environment/SOER/documents/Waters/SOER %2005 %20Sub %20Report %207 %20-%20Waters.pdf](http://www.mepa.org.mt/Environment/SOER/documents/Waters/SOER%2005%20Sub%20Report%207%20-%20Waters.pdf)

A3.3

http://docs.justice.gov.mt/lom/legislation/english/leg/vol_13/chapt425.pdf

[http://www.doi.gov.mt/images/homepage/banners/national %20strategic %20ref/nat %20strat %20document.pdf](http://www.doi.gov.mt/images/homepage/banners/national%20strategic%20ref/nat%20strat%20document.pdf)

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/mt/mt-nr-gti-en.pdf>

[http://finance.gov.mt/image.aspx?site=MFIN&ref=NSRF %20-%20English](http://finance.gov.mt/image.aspx?site=MFIN&ref=NSRF%20-%20English)

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:52007SC1456:EN:HTML>

A3.5b

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2007:0828:FIN:EN:DOC>

<http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/fleetstatistics/index.cfm?lng=en>

A3.6

<http://www.mepa.org.mt/environment/publications/sap-bio.pdf>

http://docs.justice.gov.mt/lom/legislation/english/leg/vol_13/chapt425.pdf

http://www.rac-spa.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=106&Itemid=149

A4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU

A4.

Infoview Data (DG Regio)

LIFE+ 2007 Call for Proposals – DG Environment

<http://www.dwejra.org/>

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.home>

A5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes

A5.1.2

Miller, C., Kettunen, M. & Shine, C. 2006. Scope options for EU action on invasive alien species (IAS) Final report for the European Commission. Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP), Brussels, Belgium.

A5.1.2 & 5.1.3

European Commission Report on the Implementation of National Measures on the Coexistence of Genetically Modified Crops with Conventional and Organic Farming

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/coexistence/index_en.htm

National legislation and information

<http://mrra.gov.mt/>

B6: To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services

B6

<http://www.cbd.int/convention/parties/contributions.shtml?tab=2&yr=2007>

http://www.ramsar.org/res/key_res_ix_12_e.htm

http://www.cms.int/bodies/StC/32_stc_meeting/French/Doc_09_Fonds_Affectation_avec_Annexes.pdf

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/31COM/documents/>

http://www.unep.org/rmu/en/Financing_of_UNEP/Environment_Fund/Table_2007/index.asp

B7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance

B7.1.3 & 7.1.6:

<http://www.foreign.gov.mt/pages/main.asp?sec=86>

B8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services

B8

<http://www.cites.org/eng/resources/reports/biennial.shtml>

<http://www.cites.org/common/resources/reports/pab/03-04Malta.pdf>

<http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/14/doc/E14-07-1.pdf>

C9: To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change

C9.1.1

EC (2007) Communication from the Commission. Progress towards achieving the Kyoto objectives.

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/climat/gge_progress.htm

D10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally

D10.1

<http://maltabioplatform.org/>

E1. Ensuring adequate financing

E1

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rur/countries/mt/malta_en.pdf

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/07/606&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

E2. Strengthening EU decision-making

E2.2

http://www.mcmp.gov.mt/pdfs/National_Reform_Programme_Malta.pdf

[http://www.parliament.gov.mt/information/Papers/6160\(C\).doc](http://www.parliament.gov.mt/information/Papers/6160(C).doc)

<http://www.mepa.org.mt/environment/publications/sap-bio.pdf>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/nbsap/nbsapcbw-eur-01/official/nbsapcbw-eur-01-02-rev1-en.pdf>

E2.5

http://www.planbleu.org/methodologie/imdd_mai2005/session3_mt.pdf

[http://www.mepa.org.mt/Environment/SOER/documents/Biodiversity/SOER %2005 %20Sub %20Report %20-%20-%20Biodiversity.pdf](http://www.mepa.org.mt/Environment/SOER/documents/Biodiversity/SOER%2005%20Sub%20Report%20-%20-%20Biodiversity.pdf)

[http://www.agric.gov.mt/Documents/RDD %20Documents/Programme_2007/Draft_Rural_Development_Programme_MALTA_2007_2013.pdf](http://www.agric.gov.mt/Documents/RDD%20Documents/Programme_2007/Draft_Rural_Development_Programme_MALTA_2007_2013.pdf)

E3. Building partnerships

E3.1

Ministry for Tourism and Culture (2006), Tourism Policy for the Maltese Islands 2007-2011: Draft for External Consultation

E4. Building public education, awareness and participation

http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/index_en.htm

http://www.greennetwork.gov.mt/resources/state_environment_report.pdf

F1-4. Monitoring, evaluation and review

http://www.mepa.org.mt/environment/index.htm?nature_protection/biodiversity/mainpage_introduction.htm&1
http://www.mepa.org.mt/environment/index.htm?nature_protection/biodiversity/mainpage_introduction.htm&1
http://www.mepa.org.mt/environment/index.htm?nature_protection/biodiversity/mainpage_introduction.htm&1
http://www.mepa.org.mt/environment/index.htm?nature_protection/biodiversity/mainpage_introduction.htm&1
http://www.mepa.org.mt/environment/index.htm?nature_protection/biodiversity/mainpage_introduction.htm&1
<http://eumon.ckff.si/>
http://eumon.ckff.si/monitoring/monitor_show_wp23-2.php?sid=836&mid=344

NETHERLANDS

Competent authority(ies) for nature & biodiversity:

Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality

http://www.minlnv.nl/portal/page?_pageid=116.1&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL

Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment:

<http://international.vrom.nl/pagina.html?id=5450&ref=http://www.vrom.nl/pagina.html?id=25089>

Most recent national/subnational biodiversity strategy/action plan:

‘Biodiversity works: for nature, for people, forever; policy programme of the Netherlands on biodiversity 2008-2011’ (‘Biodiversiteit werkt: voor natuur, voor mensen, voor altijd; beleidsprogramma biodiversiteit 2008-2011’; an English version will become available)

Latest review of the implementation of biodiversity strategy/action plan:

The Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency annually publishes evaluations of national biodiversity policy in its ‘Natuurbalansen’ (see for the latest item (2007): http://www.mnp.nl/nl/publicaties/2007/Natuurbalans_2007.html), and also publishes a variety of evaluations and biodiversity indicators online in its ‘Milieu- en Natuurcompendium’ (see: <http://www.milieuennatuurcompendium.nl/>); in addition, the Agency has evaluated national biodiversity policy against the EU 2010 target on biodiversity (see: <http://www.mnp.nl/bibliotheek/digitaaldepot/HaltingBiodiversityLossInTheNetherlands.pdf>)

Alignment with EU biodiversity plan:

Alignment with EU 2010 Biodiversity Indicators (SEBI 2010):

Key sources of official nature & biodiversity information used for evaluation:

- Ministry of Transport, Public Works and Water: <http://www.verkeerenwaterstaat.nl/english/topics/water/>
- Department of Nature Management: http://www.minlnv.nl/portal/page?_pageid=116.1640893&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL
- Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency: <http://www.mnp.nl/en/index.html>
- Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment: <http://international.vrom.nl/pagina.html?id=5450&ref=http://www.vrom.nl/pagina.html?id=25089>
- Netherlands Biodiversity Data Portal: <http://www.nlbif.nl/>
- Fisheries Operational Programme 2007-2013 (in Dutch): http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/op/netherlands_nl_01.pdf
- Netherlands Biodiversity Clearinghouse Mechanism: <http://netherlands.biodiv-chm.org/>
- Convention on Biological Diversity Country Profile and Third Report:

<http://www.cbd.int/countries/profile.shtml?country=nl#nbsap>

- Trilateral Wadden Sea Plan: <http://www.waddensea-secretariat.org/management/Plan.html>

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS IN DELIVERY OF OBJECTIVES OF EU BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN

A. POLICY AREA 1: BIODIVERSITY IN THE EU

1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species.

Natura 2000 sites (terrestrial and marine) (A.1.1, A.1.2 & A.1.3)

	<i>Number of sites</i>	<i>Area (km²)</i>
Total SCIs/SACs (Habitats Directive)	142	7 552
SCIs/SACs with marine component (Habitats Directive)	10	4 067
Total SPAs (Birds Directive)	77	10 125
SPAs with marine component (Birds Directive)	6	4 895

Number of SCIs and SACs - Natura 2000 Barometer – June 2008 (Source: European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity based on data supplied by Member State)

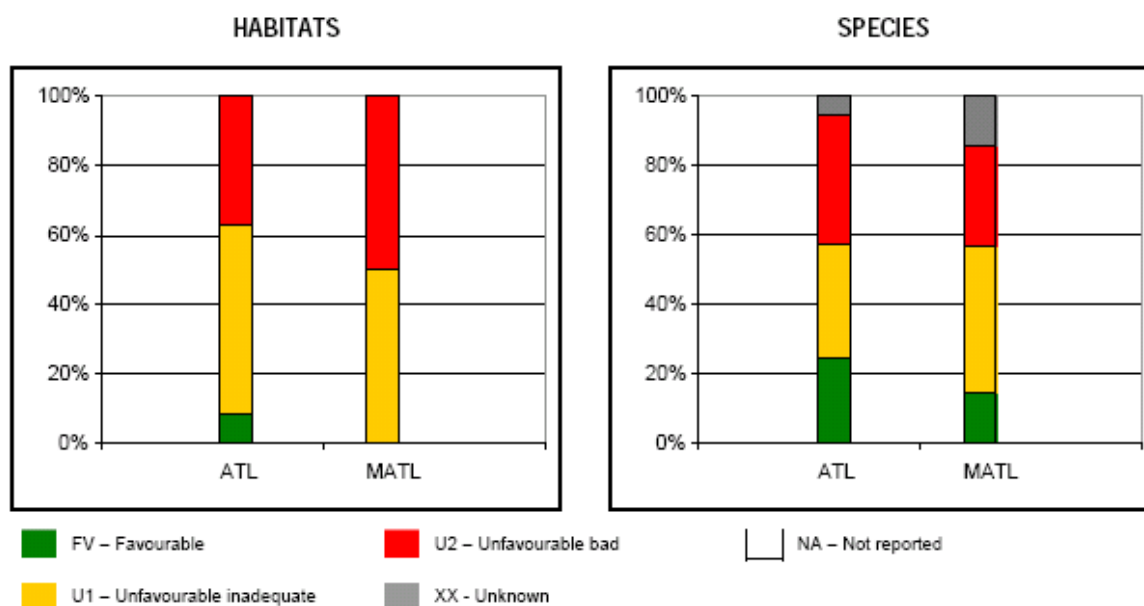
The Netherlands was considered in June 2008 to have achieved a level of sufficiency of 100 % for site selection for species and habitat types under Habitats Directive, in its territory. The Dutch authority has stated there are 4 management plans in preparation for Natura 2000 sites.

According to the EC LIFE Programme/Database, under the LIFE Nature programme, there was a total of 16 projects in the Netherlands with an EC contribution of EUR 18 601 825, during the period 2000-2006. In the year 2007, according to the indicative national allocations, Dutch projects received EUR 5 996 000 from LIFE+ funds.

Connectivity is achieved through the Dutch National Ecological Network (*Ecologische Hoofdstructuur*; EHS), which is a coherent network of nature areas and connection zones. The Netherlands also has a national habitat connectivity plan that is consulted when planning for improvements to the transportation system, as well as individual projects.

Conservation status assessment (A1.2)

Under the Habitats Directive the Netherlands have one biogeographical region (atlantic). The results of the first conservation status assessment for species and habitats of community interest are as follows:



Region / Conclusion	HABITATS					SPECIES				
	FV	U1	U2	XX	NA	FV	U1	U2	XX	NA
Atlantic	8	55	37			25	33	37	5	
Marine Atlantic		50	50			14	43	29	14	
Member State	8	55	37			24	33	37	6	

*The conservation status categories: FV = favourable, U1 = unfavourable-inadequate, U2 = unfavourable-bad, XX = unknown, NA = no evaluation given by MS

Overall assessment of conservation status of species and habitat types in the Netherlands (Analysis by the European Topic centre on Biological Diversity)

Red Data Books/Lists, National/Subnational Atlases, Action Plans (A.1.3)

The Netherlands have a number of Red Lists covering mammals (1994), birds (2004), amphibians (1996), reptiles (1996), fish (1997 and 2000), dragonflies (1998), butterflies (1995), grasshoppers, crickets and locusts (1999), wild bees (2003), Aqua macrofauna (2001; i.e., mayflies, caddisflies, flatworms, and stoneflies), vascular plants (2000), mushrooms (1996), and lichens (1998).

Red Data Lists are or may be used:

- To select species that will be subject to a more strict legal protection under the Flora and Fauna Act;
- To select species that will be subject to management schemes related to the establishment and management of the Dutch National Ecological Network ('target species');
- To select species that will be subject to additional measures for integrated local conservation of sets of different species ('species' habitats approach' ('leefgebiedenbenadering');
- For an indicator in the National Budget on the effectiveness of Dutch nature policy;
- For biodiversity indicators produced by the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency

- To select species those are explicitly reviewed by proponents in Environmental Impact Statements.

The Netherlands have also produced a number of atlases.

Common bird monitoring (A.1.3)

The Netherlands have a common bird monitoring programme, called the Dutch Common Breeding Bird Census (*Broedvogel Monitoring Project; BMP*; carried out by SOVON and Statistics Netherlands), which has been collecting data since 1984.

2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside.

Rural Development Programmes (A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8):

According to information supplied by the Dutch authorities, in the environment/land management budget (Axis 2) of the Rural Development Programme (RDP) accounts for about 30 % of EAFRD allocations (including national co-financing). The majority of Axis 2 funds are focused on agri-environment (AE) payments, amounting to some EUR 217 000 000, which is 22 % of the national EAFRD budget. There are several AE measures for biodiversity or for landscape in combination with biodiversity; support is mainly provided for areas of national priority (including the National Ecological Network, Natura 2000 sites and 20 National Landscape areas).

The target for Natura 2000 coverage is 96 000 ha of agricultural land in receipt of Less Favoured Area (LFA) payments, and 4 500 ha under AE payments. Non-productive investments on agricultural land are closely linked to LFA payments and AE measures (priority is often given to Natura 2000 areas). Support for Natura 2000 management plans is via the Axis 3 measures for conservation and upgrading of the rural heritage. In addition some funds are allocated towards afforestation measures (approximately 2 % of public expenditure and EUR 5 600 000 in additional national financing).

For the period 2007–2013, the national government and the provinces have agreed to improve the quality of rural areas, and the *Investeringsbudget Landelijk Gebied* (ILG) is intended to support this. Example measures include the implementation of the Dutch National Ecological Network, projects on sustainable use of agro-biodiversity and realization of national landscapes. The national budget for the whole period is EUR 3.2 billion.

Agricultural genetic diversity (A2.1.11):

Several specific targets relating to the maintenance of genetic diversity of crops, livestock, and of harvested species of trees have been set and included in the Dutch policy plan on genetic diversity ‘Sources of Existence’ (*Bronnen van ons bestaan: behoud en duurzaam gebruik van genetische diversiteit*). It refers to issues such as the conservation, sustainable use and fair distribution of the benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources; and the application of general basic principles and regulations for dealing with genetic resources.

Also related measures have been taken. Plant genetic diversity for food and agriculture is mainly maintained *ex situ*, whereas farm animal genetic resources are maintained *ex situ* and *in situ*. Plant gene bank stocks are in good condition, whereas animal gene bank stocks are still being expanded.

Agricultural cross-compliance measures (A2.1.4 & 2.1.10):

The Netherlands has designated a few Good Agricultural and Environmental Conditions (GAEC) Minimum Level of Maintenance measures that may provide biodiversity conservation benefits. These include rules relating to the declaration and management of permanent pasture and reseeded of pasture. All land taken out of food production must have a 'green cover', or non-food/non-feed crop, crops for energy/biomass or forage legumes. There are no standards relating to the retention of landscape features.

Afforestation / deforestation policies and biodiversity (A2.1.5):

It seems that no national/subnational strategy ensuring the assessment of biodiversity in relation to afforestation or deforestation projects has been developed. However, EIA and SEA are required for afforestation and deforestation projects affecting more than 10 ha.

Soil protection and biodiversity (A2.2.1):

Soil biodiversity loss has been evaluated and indicators have been identified in a study on the conservation and sustainable use of soil biodiversity, submitted by the country to the Convention on Biological Diversity. Risks to soil biodiversity are taken into account in the elaboration and implementation of relevant plans, programmes and strategies by the Dutch Soil Protection Act and by the foreseen new policy for soil.

National/subnational research to identify risk areas is underway. A methodology has been developed to identify areas at risk from soil organic matter loss, compaction and the other threats. Also, a preliminary study has been carried out of the possibilities for mitigating the negative impacts of soil sealing on soil biodiversity. The Technical Soil Protection Committee will provide advice on this subject in 2009.

Measures to improve the ecological status of freshwaters (A2.3.1):

The Netherlands has completed all the legal transposition and the implementation elements of the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC (WFD) which have deadlines during 2004, 2005 and 2007. These include the production of a River Basin District Report and River Basin Analysis report and Monitoring Network Report. River Basin Management plans are currently being developed.

Measures to reduce air pollution impacts on biodiversity (A2.4.2 & 2.4.3):

The Netherlands' projected emissions are based on policies that have been implemented as well as new policies and the most up-to-date information on oil prices and emissions from heavy goods vehicle traffic. The resulting adjusted projections indicate that ammonia and volatile organic compounds emissions will fall within, or only slightly exceed, national NECD ceilings. Nitrogen oxide and sulphur dioxide emissions will at least come within range of their target levels, but will only be met if all potential new policies are definitely implemented. This will require considerable effort on the part of the Netherlands. An implementation document entitled *Erop of eronder (Make or break)* was drafted, to set out a plan of action for meeting the national emission ceilings by 2010.

3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment.

Good marine ecological status (A3.1a):

The Netherlands has a national plan for the Integrated Management of the North Sea 2015. Biodiversity and environmental issues are incorporated under the objective 'management to

foster a healthy sea.’ In addition, the Netherlands is a contracting party to the OSPAR Commission. The Third National Report to the Convention of Biological Diversity states that “within the OSPAR framework, five strategies are developed with the aim of protection and restoration of the marine environment.” The Netherlands is also beginning the implementation of the Marine Strategy Directive.

The Article 17 National Summary for the Netherlands indicates that 50 % of the marine habitats covered by the EU Habitats Directive have an ‘unfavourable-inadequate’ status and the remaining 50 % have an ‘unfavourable-bad’ status.

Integrated coastal zone management (ICZM) (A.3.1.b):

According to the progress report that the Netherlands submitted to the European Commission on 3 March 2006 on the implementation of the ICZM Recommendation, the Netherlands has decided not to develop a separate strategy for ICZM. Instead, they will make use of two existing building blocks which in fact are supported by a variety of complementary statutory institutions: the National Spatial Strategy, which establishes a national strategy for integrated spatial planning policies generally; and makes the coastal zone, Wadden Sea and Deltas explicitly part of the main national spatial structures; and the Third Policy Document on Coastal Areas, which provides an integrated frame-work for coastal zone management and policies on coastal areas. ICZM was initiated - although not always explicitly mentioned as such - even before the Recommendation. The case for the Netherlands shows that a specific ICZM strategy is not necessarily needed in the country to implement ICZM principles as long as the notion of sustainable development guides the set up of governance and participation.

Pollution: Bathing water quality (A3.2)

According to the Bathing Waters report for the 2007 season, in coastal areas the rate of compliance with the mandatory values was 95.4 %, a reduction from 100 % in 2006. The rate of compliance with the more stringent guide values was 90.7 % in both 2006 and 2007. All coastal areas were sufficiently sampled and were open for bathing.

Ecosystem approaches in Fisheries management measures (A3.3):

In late 2006, the Netherlands launched ‘Responsible Fishing’ a multi-year plan supervised by a responsible fishing committee. In the statement of intent, the plan states “We wish to contribute to maintaining natural resources and the ecosystem, because this is essential to the future of the fish sector.” The most significant biodiversity measure proposed is the reduction of by-catch in cooperation with NGOs.

Community and National Financing under European Fisheries Funds (EFF) (A3.4):

The Netherlands Operational Programme "Perspectives for a sustainable fisheries sector" 2007-2013 was approved by the Commission. The total eligible public expenditure of the programme is EUR 120 678 417, with EU assistance through the European Fisheries Fund (EFF) amounting to EUR 48 578 417. EFF Funding for Priority Axis 1 amounted to 34.8 % of the total EFF Contribution. Axis 2 amounted to 15.2 % of the total EFF Contribution and Axis 3 amounted to 34.8 % of the total EFF contribution. Of the EFF funds invested, 38.5 % will be made e towards biodiversity and nature-related activities under the axes (based on disaggregated information provided in BAP Questionnaire Response).

Under Axis 1, the Netherlands will implement a decommissioning round in 2007 and 2008, which will reduce the fishing capacity of the total flatfish fleet by 15 %. At the same time, the Netherlands wants to stimulate the remaining vessels to invest in more sustainable fisheries

techniques. These involve reduced sediment disturbance, the application of more selective fishing techniques to reduce discards, and the stimulation of fuel savings. Under Axis 2, the Netherlands will support modernisation of aquaculture, particularly the introduction of aquaculture methods that will substantially reduce the negative effects on the environment or increase the positive effects compared to common aquaculture practices. Also under Axis 2 are measures to reduce pressure on inland fisheries. The Netherlands is planning to temporarily cease the fishing on silver eel as part of the still to be formulated National Eel Management Plan. This measure will contribute to an enlargement of the spawning stock biomass, which will eventually contribute to a recovery of the eel stock. Under Axis 3 the Netherlands will concentrate support on the stimulation of joint ventures throughout the fisheries chain that promote selective fishing methods, a sustainable management of fish stock, improvement of quality, traceability of fish and fish products, etc.

Restoration programmes for diadromous species (A3.5.a):

As per Commission Regulation (EG 1100/2007), the Netherlands is currently preparing a national eel management plan. This plan will be submitted for approval to the European Commission before 31 December 2008 and will become effective from 1 July 2009.

The Netherlands is a member of the Convention on the Protection of the Rhine and therefore co-operates with neighbouring Convention members to protect the Rhine, its banks and floodplains. As part of this, the Netherlands is a participant in the ICPR Programme 'Salmon 2020' to facilitate a sustainable population of wild salmon in the Rhine by 2020. The programme outlines actions in order to achieve this goal.

There are no other specific management plans for other diadromous fish species in the Netherlands. However, under the Water Framework Directive much effort is being put into the removal or adaptation of obstacles that prevent fish migration, for example: fish guidance devices to make migration along hydro power stations, sluices and pumps possible; adaptive management of sluices etc. Other diadromous fish will also benefit from these developments.

Fishing Capacity-Decommissioning (3.5.b):

Between 1999 and 2006, the number of vessels in the Netherlands fleet has been reduced by 25.7 %, the tonnage has been reduced by 17.4 % and the power by 23.7 %. The Netherlands Operational Programme 2007-2013 press release stated that the primary focus of Axis one is the Dutch flatfish fleet. "Following the recent adoption of a multi-annual plan for plaice and sole fisheries in the North Sea (Council Regulation (EC) No 676/2007 of 11 June 2007), the capacity of this fleet segment is too large for the available fishing possibilities. A decommissioning round in 2007 and 2008 should reduce the fishing capacity by 15 %. The Netherlands also intend to take accompanying measures to support the crew of the vessels concerned, including additional training and early retirement. The remaining vessels will be encouraged to invest in more sustainable fishing techniques."

Action plans and conservation status for marine species and habitats (A3.6):

The Netherlands is a party to the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation, and as such participates in the Conservation and Management Plan for the Wadden Sea Seal Population 2007- 2010.

As a party to the ASCOBANS Agreement, the Netherlands is working with other contracting parties to revise the standing ASCOBANS Recovery Plan for Baltic Harbour Porpoises (Jastarnia plan). In addition, the Netherlands is working on a recovery plan for Harbour Porpoises in the North Sea as well.

There are monitoring programmes for both species and habitats underway in the Netherlands.

The Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research (NIOZ) conducts monitoring programmes relating to biodiversity, including: Biological monitoring programme North Sea and Outer Delta (BIOMON, RWS-RIKZ); Beached bird survey monitoring programme; and Nearshore windfarm seabird observations (IMARES).

Aquaculture planning and biodiversity (A3.7):

The Netherlands has an Operational Programme that describes plans for aquaculture development, but none are foreseen that specifically aim at biodiversity. However, since aquaculture in the Netherlands is mainly undertaken in closed, recirculation systems the risk that aquaculture negatively affects biodiversity is very low.

4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU.

Biodiversity spending under Cohesion and structural funds:

Under the Cohesion and structural funds, for the period 2007-2013, expenditures foreseen by the Netherlands for biodiversity & nature protection, amount to EUR 6 000 000. Other relevant areas where Cohesion and structural funds will be allocated are Promotion of Natural Assets (EUR 2 000 000) Natural Heritage (EUR 16 000 000).

5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes.

Strategies to reduce impacts from invasive alien species (A5.1.2):

The main regulation addressing IAS is the Flora and Fauna Act, which forbids the trade and possession of two listed invasive alien species (IAS) and requires permits for the intentional introduction of animal species in the Netherlands.

Recently, a policy document has been developed referring to issues such as the prevention of the introduction of IAS, eradication and control, analysing threats to biodiversity caused by IAS as well as public awareness and education. Execution of the policy will be partly coordinated by an organisation that will include an independent advisory body and a supporting secretariat. The advisory body will advise the government, either on demand or voluntarily, on the risks of IAS and feasible management options.

An IAS early warning system is being set-up in the Netherlands: with a pilot project in 2008 by several nature organizations involving several thousands of volunteers surveying IAS (and native species). The IAS observation data will be stored in the 'national database of flora and fauna', which contains many observation data on native and alien species in the Netherlands.

Biosafety measures to reduce impacts from alien genotypes (A5.1.2 & 5.1.3):

In the Netherlands, relevant EU provisions on GMOs have been adopted/implemented. The EU Directives on GMOs have been transposed into the Genetically Modified Organisms Act. The Act contains rules for contained use, introduction of GMOs into the environment and introduction into the environment of living modified organisms (LMOs) intended for direct use as food, feed, or for processing. Only LMOs that have received a market authorisation are not covered by the GMO Act.

Netherlands has not yet passed legislation on coexistence, but preparations are underway. It tried to develop coexistence guidelines with consensus from all stakeholders. The van Dijk committee was able to come up with an agreement between farmers, seed producers (both

conventional and organic) and chain organizations involved in Dutch agriculture on practical measures for enabling coexistence.

B. POLICY AREA 2: THE EU AND GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY

6. To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services.

There is no separate National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, but the national strategy is integrated into a series of policy papers and programmes. The Netherlands submitted the Third National Report to the CBD in 2005. The following thematic reports to the CBD were submitted: Alien Species, Forest Ecosystems, Global Taxonomy Initiative, Mountain Ecosystems, and Protected Areas.

Specific figures for financial support to biodiversity nationally are not available, but the budgets of the various levels of government (from national to local) as well as private sources, such as NGOs, companies and lotteries, provide funding for biodiversity. However, the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality spends about EUR 390 000 000 annually (figure for 2005; annually increasing) in the Nature chapter of its budget, i.e. on the conservation of biodiversity. Some EUR 3 000 000 are provided annually for biodiversity in developing countries. The Netherlands paid their annual contributions to CBD, Ramsar, CMS, AWEA, World Heritage Convention and the UNEP Environment Fund.

7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance.

Funds allocated for biodiversity projects and programmes in developing countries (B7.1.3) and Members State's Overseas Countries and Territories (B7.1.6):

Within the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the Directorate General for International Cooperation (DGIS) is the organisational heart of much of Dutch development cooperation. Its development policy reaffirms sustainable poverty reduction as the main objective of Dutch development co-operation and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as the basic reference point. A key principle of the policy is that Dutch aid should be concentrated in 36 partner countries and in two to three sectors, at most, within each country, out of an overall range of five sector priorities (education, environment, water, HIV/AIDS and reproductive health and rights).

The Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations is responsible for coordinating cooperation with the country's overseas territories, Aruba and the Netherlands Antilles. In 2002, a multiyear programme for the Netherlands Antilles amounting to 69 million Euros for sustainable economic development, institutional strengthening and education was launched. However, it remains unclear whether environmental issues are also covered.

Annual spending on biodiversity-related bilateral aid in 2005 was EUR 48 500 000, which amounted to 2.2 % of the total bilateral aid budget.

In 2002, a multiyear programme for the Netherlands Antilles amounting EUR 40 000 000 per year for sustainable economic development, institutional strengthening and education was launched. Nature and environment are part of the sustainable economic development programme, and receive EUR 10 000 000 for 10 years in total. This money goes to the Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance (DCNA). DCNA is a non governmental, not for profit foundation. DCNA's vision is to: safeguard the biodiversity and promote the sustainable management of

the natural resources of the islands of the Dutch Caribbean, both on land and in the water, for the benefit of present and future generations, by supporting and assisting the protected area management organizations and nature conservation activities in the Dutch Caribbean.

Integration of biodiversity considerations into development programmes and projects impacts on biodiversity (Action B7.2.2 & 7.2.5):

A review of environmental assessment regimes of bilateral and multilateral development agencies by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), on behalf of the OECD, found that in the Netherlands environmental assessment is a prior condition for funding of certain projects. It must be integrated into the project cycle "as an overall aspect of project preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation".

8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services.

The Netherlands report a high volume of trade in CITES species, with 5510 permits for import, export or re-export issued in 2005 and 4347 in 2006. The respective figures for intra-EU trade are 3783 and 3639. Just under 100 permit applications for import, export or re-export were denied in 2005 and 2006 each. In 2005, 586 parts and products, and 40 live specimens were seized; in 2006 the figures were 571 parts and products, and 50 live specimen. The respective figures for 2003/04 are not available.

Capacity building at the national level included increased budget, hiring of staff, improvement of national networks, and computerisation. Staff of the Management and Scientific Authorities and the enforcement authorities, as well as traders and the public, have received advice/guidance. The biennial report to CITES for 2005/06 does not indicate contributions to developing countries for CITES implementation. The Netherlands paid the annual contribution to the CITES Trust Funds.

C. POLICY AREA 3: BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

9. To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change.

Progress on Kyoto targets (C9.1.1):

The Netherlands has a Kyoto Protocol target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions in 2010 by 6.0 % compared to baseline levels. By 2005 emissions had declined by 1.1 %, but it is unlikely to meet its target with existing policies and measures: current emission projections are for a reduction of only 0.6 % compared to baseline levels. But with all existing measures and taking into account the use of Kyoto mechanisms and carbon sinks then it is projected that emissions will fall to 10.1 % below baseline levels in 2010.

Further measures are also planned by the government (through the adopted "Clean and Efficient" plan) to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase energy efficiency and increase the use of renewable forms of energy, with the aim of reducing emissions by 30 % compared to 1990 levels by 2020.

Adaptation measures to increase biodiversity resilience to climate change (C9.4.1 & 9.4.3):

The Netherlands has a national target to increase the resilience of biodiversity to climate change in accordance with the CBD target. According to the Third National Report to the CBD this target is also incorporated into various sectoral strategies and programmes, but no

details of adaptation actions are given.

There does not appear to be a programme of measures to support biodiversity adaptation, except for an intention to continue developing the National Ecological Network and its 'robust corridors' (*Robuuste Verbindingen*). This network aims to increase the resilience of habitats and species by securing core and buffer areas and increasing connectivity amongst them. It is also considered that such networks may facilitate the movement of species in response to climate change.

A number of research projects have been carried out on climate change impacts on biodiversity, e.g. relating to drought impacts, the Wadden Sea Ramsar site and SAC, and the national ecological network. However, it is uncertain if habitats and species at risk from climate change have been identified.

D. POLICY AREA 4: THE KNOWLEDGE BASE

10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally.

National research programmes (D10.1):

There is a current dedicated national programme supporting biodiversity research in the Netherlands. The overall spending is EUR 12 000 000 or approximately 5 % of the overall environmental research budget.

The Netherlands participates in the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) with a national node (NIBIF). Further, the Netherlands has launched a comprehensive online species database containing the names and often also other data of all multi-cellular species recorded in the Netherlands (<http://www.nederlandsesoorten.nl>). The database is also the Dutch node of Encyclopedia of Life (EoL). For a number of specific species, the Dutch Network Ecological Monitoring (NEM) assesses population trends. For taxonomic research, possibilities are investigated to found a Netherlands Centre for Biodiversity that should combine and strengthen the efforts of Naturalis - the National Museum of Natural History, the National Herbarium of the Netherlands and the Zoological Museum Amsterdam. Other related research programmes include the WOTRO Science for Global Development which supports scientific research on development issues, in particular poverty alleviation and sustainable development and the Dutch Research Database (NOD).

The Netherlands also has a dedicated forum to ensure that biodiversity outcomes are reflected, where appropriate, in biodiversity policy development and implementation.

E. THE FOUR KEY SUPPORTING MEASURES

1. Ensuring adequate financing

Overall use of Community funds for biodiversity:

RDP 2000 -2006

The Dutch RDP 2000-2006 covers biodiversity activities in many of its priority areas, which makes it difficult to identify the exact amount allocated for biodiversity-activities alone.

Biodiversity-related activities in the Dutch RDP include: Support for Less Favoured Areas through nature conservation, and agri-environmental measures, including organic farming. Using agri-environmental measures to conserve nature and landscapes and introducing a

network of protection areas, increasing planting to improve land, for example along roads and watercourses, re-parcelling of land to achieve environmental benefits, promoting afforestation of agricultural land, both temporary and permanent, and the sustainable management of forests.

Allocations to biodiversity-related activities under the Dutch RDP 2000 – 2006

Priorities with Biodiversity-related activities	Total Cost (EUR)	EU Contribution (EUR)
Developing sustainable agriculture	312 760 000	113 620 000
Improving nature and landscape	386 450 000	141 810 000
Sustainable water management	107 920 000	41 580 000

The public cost of the programme was EUR 1 057.39 million, including an EU contribution of EUR 417 million from the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund, Guarantee Section (EAGGF/Guarantee). The programme covered the whole of the Netherlands.

RDP 2007 – 2013

Biodiversity-related activities under this RDP are covered under axes 1 and 2. These include sustainable management of Natura 2000 sites, means to enable farmers to better meet social demands in terms of the environment, water management, food quality, animal health and animal welfare.

Financial allocations to axes containing biodiversity-activities under the DRP 2007 – 2013

Axis	Total Public Cost (EUR)	EU Contribution (EUR)
1	291 000 000	145 000 000
2	289 000 000	145 000 000

The European Fisheries Fund (EFF)

The Netherlands Operational Programme "Perspectives for a sustainable fisheries sector" 2007-2013 was approved by the Commission. The total eligible public expenditure of the programme is EUR 120 678 417, with EU assistance through the European Fisheries Fund (EFF) amounting to EUR 48 578 417. Of the EFF funds invested, 38.5 % will be made e towards biodiversity and nature-related activities under the axes (based on disaggregated information provided in the BAP Questionnaire Response).

2. Strengthening EU decision-making

Plans and follow-up to UN Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (E2.1):

There is no assessment proposed to specifically integrate the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment into national assessment programme, but there are various national assessments

related to biodiversity issues, such as periodically reported in the ‘*Natuurbalans*’, ‘*Milieubalans*’, ‘*Natuurverkenningen*’, and ‘*Duurzaamheidsverkenningen*’. These assessments cover ecosystems including: marine, inland water and wetland, coastal and island, cultivated land, forest, natural grassland, and healthlands/shrubland/tundra. They are assessed in regards to services such as biodiversity, fresh water quality, fish, water flow regulation, nutrient cycling, climate and air quality, and fuel and energy. To a limited extent, cost-benefit analyses are applied. A further application of cost-benefit analyses is under consideration. In 2007, research started on the actual and potential use of ecosystem services in three different areas (town, peat-meadow agricultural area and a sandy nature area). The first data will be expected in autumn 2008, and will lay the foundation of more extensive research on this topic. This research is part of the new Dutch policy programme ‘Biodiversity works: for nature, for people, forever’ (‘*Biodiversiteit werkt: voor natuur, voor mensen, voor altijd*’).

Alignment of national biodiversity strategies with EU (E2.2):

According to the National Clearing House for the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Netherlands has undertaken policies and programmes to implement its resolutions in respect of the CBD. The results can be seen in its policies for nature, agriculture, environment, fishing, spatial planning, infrastructure, water management, economic activities and development cooperation. Policies and strategies that integrate biodiversity and ecosystem service benefits into wider decision making are published by a number of Ministries.

Under the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality the Netherlands published “Nature for people, people for nature: the Dutch national plan for nature, forests and landscape in the 21st century” (*Natuur voor mensen, mensen voor natuur*) with programmes and goals associated with: international nature policy; the ecological network of the Netherlands; wetland management; nature policy for rural areas, and nature policy in urban areas. The Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment published the Fourth National Environmental Policy Plan” (*Vierde Nationaal Milieubeleidsplan*) which describes loss of biodiversity as one of the major environmental issues to address. The Ministry of Transport, Public Works and Water Management is active in numerous policy areas. The core tasks of Ministry are: guaranteeing safe, versatile and reliable accessibility both over land and water, through the air, and for telecommunications and post; offering protection against floods; and, ensuring the existence of clean water and sufficient supplies thereof. The water policy of the Netherlands' Government is described in the "Fourth National Policy Document on Water Management". This policy sets out a new strategy under the name of *integrated water management* and takes accounts of key interests including ecology.

In 2008, the policy programme ‘Biodiversity works: for nature, for people, forever; policy programme of the Netherlands on biodiversity 2008-2011’ (‘*Biodiversiteit werkt: voor natuur, voor mensen, voor altijd; beleidsprogramma biodiversiteit 2008-2011*’; an English version will become available soon) was published. This “national 2010 biodiversity action programme” indicates specific priorities and needs for intensification of existing policy measures in the Netherlands.

Effective integration of Natura 2000, Rural development, river basin management and other territorial plans and programmes in support for biodiversity (E2.5):

The Third National Report for the Convention on Biological Diversity states that “Integration of consideration of the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources into national decision making has been mainly implemented for terrestrial and fresh water ecosystems, and,

to a lesser extent, for marine ecosystems.” Biodiversity is one of the major objectives of forest management in the Netherlands. Within the sectors of agriculture and rural development, the corresponding EU policies are implemented on the national level. These include components on cross-compliance and agri-environmental programmes. Biodiversity is fully integrated into spatial planning.

National Planning Approaches such as the National Spatial Strategy consider impacts on the environment, including biodiversity. The Fourth National Policy Document on Water Management sets out to “maintain flood protection in the face of larger design discharges, while at the same time conserving landscape, ecological and historical features, promoting navigational use and creating new wildlife areas.” This will incorporate integrated river basin management in close cooperation with other riparian states along the Rhine, Scheldt and Maas. Water management, physical planning and habitat creation will go hand in hand.

The Third National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity lists a number of indicators used for assessing the status of biodiversity in the Netherlands. One of these is the Natural Capital Index (NCI), which entails both the changes in "nature quality" as the change in area of ecosystems. Other indicators include: trends in species abundance, trends in land use, relative distribution of species in the Netherlands for the species groups considered in the analysis over different national red list categories, trends in nitrogen deposition in the Netherlands (accumulated exceedance of critical loads), trends in the percentages of large fishes in catches by Dutch fisheries, trends in phosphorus concentrations in surface water in the Netherlands, and targets regarding - and realization of the Dutch National Ecological Network.

3. Building partnerships

National partnerships for biodiversity including private sector involvement (E3.1):

The Netherlands has a number of initiatives aimed at promoting partnership for biodiversity in various sectors. The finance and banking sector is doing ‘VDBO’ biodiversity scans for specific sectors, periodically consulting, and stimulating ‘green investing.’ A project in the tourism sector is the Netherlands Alps Platform, which promotes sustainable Alpine tourism. Participants in the project ‘*Stimuleringsprogramma agrobiodiversiteit en duurzaam bodembeheer*’ (SPADE) assist biodiversity in the farming sector.

Guidance documents in the form of codes of conduct based on the Flora and Fauna act have been produced on forest management, soil management in the Krimpenerwaard, small landscape elements in the province of Limburg, public works of the cities of Tiel and Leiden, water management by water-boards, infrastructural works by provinces and more. Further, so-called ‘sector documents’ (*sector-notities*) have been prepared to briefly review possible consequences of the Bird Directive and Habitat Directive for specific sectors in the Netherlands.

4. Building public education, awareness and participation

National/Sub-national public awareness campaigns/initiatives (E4.1):

Based on the ECNC analysis of the Flash Eurobarometer Report, 50 % of respondents from the Netherlands were not familiar with the term ‘biodiversity’. Of the respondents who had heard of it, 23 % knew what it meant. A total of 44 % of respondents from the Netherlands felt either well informed or very well informed about biodiversity loss. The Natura 2000 network was less well-known. Of the respondents from the Netherlands, 89 % had never

heard of 'Natura 2000'. Of those who had heard of it, 4 % knew what it meant. Overall, 63 % of respondents from the Netherlands felt that they made personal efforts to protect biodiversity.

The aim of the interdepartmental biodiversity communication programme "comBIO" is to streamline and tune the national governmental biodiversity communication. The Intra-ministerial Programme "Learning for Sustainability" includes biodiversity as one of its main themes. The Programme is supported by 5 national ministries and funds a broad range of CEPA projects on national, provincial and local level.

The province of Noord-Brabant has a high population density in combination with intense levels of economic activity. Together, this puts enormous strains on biodiversity. The Noord-Brabant Biodiversity Programme includes the objective 'make biodiversity visible and understandable for common people.' Also, in the province of South-Holland biodiversity is under considerable strain. The province supports regions and cities in creating their own biodiversity action plan. As the home province of the harbour of Rotterdam, South Holland initiated the discussion paper 'Ports and Biodiversity: Identification of opportunities to strengthen the relationship.'

In 2006 ECNC worked to stimulate the involvement of local and regional authorities in the Netherlands in reaching the European target to halt the loss of biodiversity by 2010. This led to the establishment of a national network of contacts and to basic information material for the target groups concerned. The current project aims to build on this work by creating an information network for local and regional authorities as a support to reach the 2010 target.

More specifically, the two-year project will raise awareness of previous work on '*Biodiversiteit werkt*', the 2010 target and the Countdown 2010 process. It will stimulate the target groups to take action, collect best practice projects in an on-line register, organize a contest for successful projects, and stimulate an active network of partners.

F. MONITORING

The Netherlands have developed a sophisticated system of biodiversity indicators and monitoring. The Dutch Network Ecological Monitoring has been monitoring population trends in various species groups, including breeding birds, meadow birds, waterbirds, non-nocturnal mammals, bats, amphibians, reptiles, butterflies, dragonflies, lichens, mushrooms (macro-fungi), and vascular plants. In addition, there is a monitoring scheme for the vegetation types of the country. Also, a number of aquatic species is being monitored. No monitoring of biodiversity at the genetic level is being carried out.

Based on the monitoring data, a number of biodiversity indicators is composed, many of them being multi-species indicators, such as a farmland bird indicator and a butterfly indicator. These fit into the framework SEBI 2010 and CBD. There is also an overall indicator for the biodiversity of habitats available, the Natural Capital Index (NCI), which considers biodiversity of an ecosystem as the stock of its characteristic species including their corresponding abundances. NCI is a function of changes in the area of ecosystems and the changes in abundance of a core set of species within the remaining ecosystem. In addition, a soil biodiversity indicator ('Bobi') has been developed.

DATA SOURCES

A1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species:

A.1.1, A.1.2 & A.1.3

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/barometer/index_en.htm

<http://dataservice.eea.europa.eu/atlas/viewdata/viewpub.asp?id=2639>

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/ecosystems/docs/adaptation_fragmentation_guidelines.pdf

<http://www.milieuennatuurcompendium.nl/indicatoren/nl1478-Bedreiging-fauna.html?i=2-8>

A.1.3

MA Questionnaire

<http://www.minlnv.nederlandsesoorten.nl/lnv.db/lnv.db/home.html>

<http://www.milieuennatuurcompendium.nl/indicatoren/nl1478-Bedreiging-fauna.html?i=2-8>

A.1.3

http://www.sovon.nl/pdf/SOVON_english_introduction.pdf

<http://www.sovon.nl/default.asp?id=26>

A2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside

A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8

Published National Rural Development Programmes (IEEP database 2008)

European Commission unpublished data (2008)

MS questionnaire

A2.1.11

Third National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity (2005)

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/nl/nl-nr-03-en.pdf>

http://www.absfocalpoint.nl/note_on_biodiversity_Summary.htm

A2.1.4 & 2.1.10

Alliance Environment (2007). Evaluation of the application of cross compliance as foreseen under Regulation 1782/2003. Part I: Descriptive Report - 26/07/2007. Report to the European Commission.

A2.1.5 & A2.2.1

MS Questionnaire

Besluit milieu-effectrapportage 1994, Bijlage, onderdeel D, activiteit D.27 (Staatsblad 2006, nr. 388)

<http://www.eia.nl/>

Rutgers, M. & Eijs, A.W.M. (2007). Conservation and sustainable use of soil biodiversity: the case of the Netherlands.

<http://wetten.overheid.nl/>

http://international.vrom.nl/docs/internationaal/7178menarev_1.pdf

A2.3.1

WFD Scoreboard http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/transp_rep/scoreboard_en.htm

A2.4.2 & 2.4.3

Netherlands NEC Directive submission (29 Jan 2007)

<http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/nl/eu/nec>

NEC Directive National Programmes

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/nationalprogr_dir200181.htm

MS reporting to NEC Directive

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/implem_nec_directive.htm

A3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment

A3.1a:

[http://www.noordzeeloket.nl/Images/IBN2015_%20Managementsamenvatting_%20\(engels\)_tcm14-3031.pdf](http://www.noordzeeloket.nl/Images/IBN2015_%20Managementsamenvatting_%20(engels)_tcm14-3031.pdf)

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/nl/nl-nr-03-en.doc>

Article 17 National Summary

A3.1b:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/iczm/evaluation/iczm_national_reporting_netherlands.htm

A3.2:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-bathing/summary_report_2008.html

A3.3:

http://www.pvis.nl/engels/pages/Pressrelease_20061107.html

A3.4:

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/op/netherlands_nl_01.pdf

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/08/24&format=HTML&aged=1&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

MS Questionnaire

A3.5a:

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/press_corner/press_releases/2008/com08_08_en.htm

http://iksr.de/fileadmin/user_upload/documents/rz_engl_lachs2020_net.pdf

A3.5b:

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/press_corner/press_releases/2008/com08_08_en.htm

A3.6:

http://www.waddensea-secretariat.org/management/SMP/SMP_%202007-2010.pdf

http://www.cms.int/species/ascobans/asc_summ_new.htm

http://www.nwo.nl/nwohome.nsf/pages/NWOA_6XTJFU_Eng

A3.7:

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/op/netherlands_nl_01.pdf

A4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU

Infoview Data (DG Regio)

LIFE+ 2007 Call for Proposals – DG Environment

LIFE expenditure 2000-2006 – DG Environment

A5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes

Data Sources:

A5.1.2

MS questionnaire

http://www.minlnv.nl/portal/page?_pageid=116.1640321&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL&p_file_id=22123

A5.1.2 & 5.1.3

National Report on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

<http://www.cbd.int/biosafety/parties/reports.shtml?report=NR-CPB-01>

European Commission Report on the Implementation of National Measures on the Coexistence of Genetically Modified Crops with Conventional and Organic Farming

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/coexistence/index_en.htm

http://www.gmo-compass.org/eng/news/country_reports/

National legislation and information

<http://www.bioveiligheid.nl/gits>

IEEP (2007) *Manual of Environmental Policy – the EU and Britain*. Maney Publishing, Leeds, the UK (Chapters 7.13 – 14 and 7.22-24)

B6: To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services

B.6

<http://www.cbd.int/countries/?country=nl>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/nl/nl-nr-03-en.pdf>

<http://www.cbd.int/convention/parties/contributions.shtml?tab=2&yr=2007>

http://www.ramsar.org/res/key_res_ix_12_e.htm

http://www.cms.int/bodies/StC/32_stc_meeting/French/Doc_09_Fonds_Affectation_avec_Annexes.pdf

http://www.unep-aewa.org/meetings/en/stc_meetings/stc4docs/pdf/stc4_9_income_expenditures.pdf

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/31COM/documents/>

http://www.unep.org/rmu/en/Financing_of_UNEP/Environment_Fund/Table_2007/index.asp

B7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance

B7.1.3 & 7.1.6:

www.oecd.org/dac/stats/crs.

OECD Development Cooperation Directorate

http://www.oecd.org/department/0,3355,en_2649_33721_1_1_1_1_1,00.html

<http://www.minbzk.nl/>

B7.2.2 & 7.2.5:

<http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/CIDAWEB/acdicida.nsf/En/REN-218131217-PEH>

B8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services

B.8

<http://www.cites.org/eng/resources/reports/biennial.shtml>

<http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/14/doc/E14-07-1.pdf>

C9: To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change

C9.1.1

EC (2007) Communication from the Commission. Progress towards achieving the Kyoto objectives.
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/climat/gge_progress.htm

C9.4.1 & 9.4.3

Third National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity (2005)

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/nl/nl-nr-03-en.doc>

Fourth National Communication On Climate Change to the UNFCCC (2005)

<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/natc/netnc4.pdf>

D10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally

D10.1:

MS Questionnaire

<http://netherlands.biodiv-chm.org/>

http://www.nwo.nl/nwohome.nsf/pages/NWOA_6UB9S8

http://www.nwo.nl/nwohome.nsf/pages/ACPP_4WMJGH

<http://www.onderzoekinformatie.nl/en/oi/nod/>

E1. Ensuring adequate financing

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rur/countries/nl/hori/fiche_en.pdf

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rurdev/countries/nl/index_en.htm

MS Questionnaire

E2. Strengthening EU decision-making

E2.1:

<http://www.milieuennatuurcompendium.nl/onderwerpen/nl0002-Biodiversiteit.html?i=2>

MS Questionnaire

E2.2 :

<http://netherlands.biodiv-chm.org/index.php?menuid=4500&lang=en>

http://www.minlnv.nl/portal/page?_pageid=116.1640321&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL&p_file_id=14008

<http://www.vrom.nl/pagina.html?id=2706&sp=2&dn=1076>

<http://www.waterland.net/nw4/English/wk-2-str/index.html>

<http://www.cbd.int/countries/profile.shtml?country=nl#nbsap>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/nbsap/nbsapcbw-eur-01/official/nbsapcbw-eur-01-02-rev1-en.doc>

http://www.minlnv.nl/portal/page?_pageid=116.1640330&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL&p_file_id=26043

E2.5 :

<http://international.vrom.nl/pagina.html?id=7348>

<http://www.waterland.net/nw4/English/wk-2-str/index.html>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/nl/nl-nr-03-en.doc>

<http://www.mnp.nl/mnc/i-en-1119.html>

E3. Building partnerships

E3.1:

MS Questionnaire

<http://www.vrom.nl/pagina.html?id=2706&sp=2&dn=5293>

<http://www.vbdo.nl/>

<http://www.alpenplatform.nl/englishdeutsch/english.htm>

<http://www.vrom.nl/pagina.html?id=8350>

http://www.minlnv.nl/portal/page?_pageid=116.1640898&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL&p_document_id=110637&p_node_id=985092&p_mode=BROWSE

E4. Building public education, awareness and participation

E4.1:

http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/index_en.htm

<http://www.duurzaamleren.org/index.html>

<http://www.biodiversitybrabant.nl/>

<http://www.ecnc.nl/jump/page/758/Overview%20English.html>

<http://www.vrom.nl/pagina.html?id=20947>

F1-4. Monitoring, evaluation and review

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/nl/nl-nr-03-en.pdf>

<http://www.mnp.nl/en/dossiers/Biodiversity/index.html>

<http://eumon.ckff.si/>

<http://www.rivm.nl/bibliotheek/rapporten/607604003.html>

<http://www.milieuennatuurcompendium.nl>

POLAND

Competent authority(ies) for nature & biodiversity:

Ministry of Environment: http://www.mos.gov.pl/index_main.shtml

Most recent national/subnational biodiversity strategy/action plan:

A National Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity Together with an Action Plan Programme, 2003: <http://www.cbd.int/countries/?country=pl>

Latest review of the implementation of biodiversity strategy/action plan:

Third National Report, 2005: http://www.mos.gov.pl/index_main.shtml

Alignment with EU biodiversity plan:

Alignment with EU 2010 Biodiversity Indicators (SEBI 2010):

Key sources of official nature & biodiversity information used for evaluation:

- Ministry of Environment: http://www.mos.gov.pl/index_main.shtml
- European Ecological Natura 2000 Network: <http://natura2000.mos.gov.pl/natura2000/en/>
- Biodiversity Clearinghouse Mechanism in Poland: <http://biodiversity-chm.org.pl/>
- Convention on Biological Diversity Country Profile and Third National Report: <http://www.cbd.int/countries/?country=pl>

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS IN DELIVERY OF OBJECTIVES OF EU BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN

A. POLICY AREA 1: BIODIVERSITY IN THE EU

1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species.

Natura 2000 sites (terrestrial and marine) (A.1.1, A.1.2 & A.1.4)

	<i>Number of sites</i>	<i>Area (km²)</i>
Total SCIs/SACs (Habitats Directive)	364	28 904
SCIs/SACs with marine component (Habitats Directive)	6	3 594
Total SPAs (Birds Directive)	124	50 407

SPAs with marine component (Birds Directive)	4	6 463
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Number of SCIs and SACs - Natura 2000 Barometer – June 2008 (Source: European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity based on data supplied by Member State)

Poland was considered in June 2008 to have achieved a level of sufficiency of 17 % for site selection for species and habitat types under Habitats Directive, in its territory. The Polish authority has released no information in regards to management plans for Natura 2000 sites.

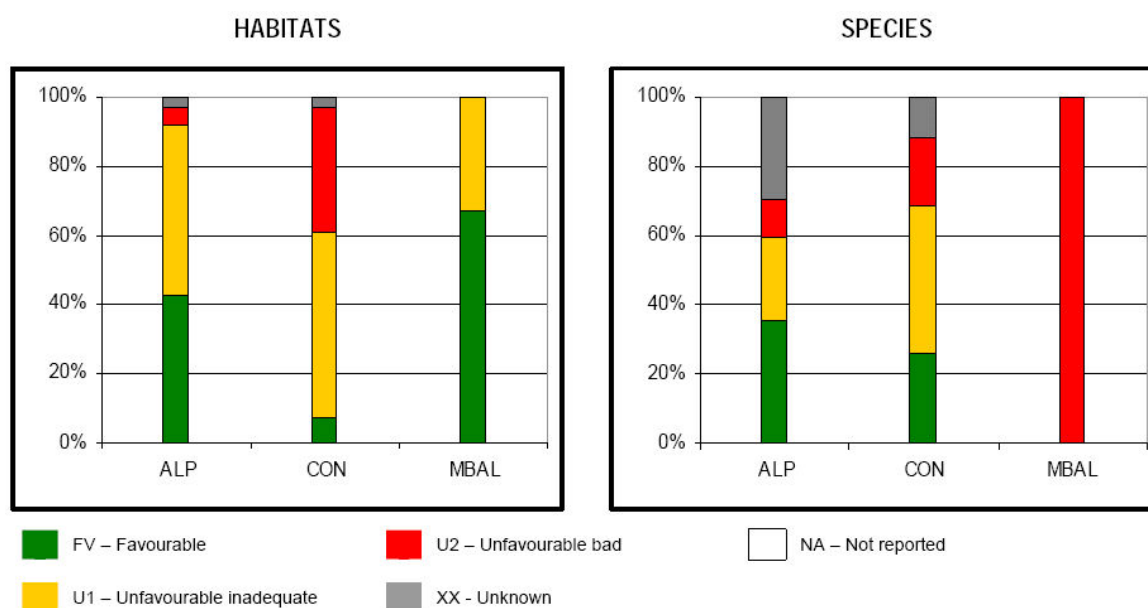
According to the EC LIFE Programme/Database, under the LIFE Nature programme, there was a total of 4 projects in Poland with an EC contribution of EUR 6 368 994, during the period 2000-2006. In the year 2007, according to the indicative national allocations, Polish projects received EUR 8 858 000 from LIFE+ funds.

GIS information is available for designated Natura 2000 sites in Poland.

Corridors are established between Natura 2000 sites, and networks in neighbouring countries are taken into account.

Conservation status assessment (A.1.2)

Under the Habitats Directive Poland has two bio-geographical regions (alpine, continental). The results of the first conservation status assessment for species and habitats of community interest are as follows:



Region / Conclusion	HABITATS					SPECIES				
	FV	U1	U2	XX	NA	FV	U1	U2	XX	NA
Alpine	43	49	5	3		35	24	11	30	
Continental	7	54	36	3		26	42	20	12	
Marine Baltic	67	33						100		
Member State	21	52	24	3		30	34	17	19	

*The conservation status categories: FV = favourable, U1 = unfavourable-inadequate, U2 = unfavourable-bad, XX = unknown, NA = no evaluation given by MS

Overall assessment of conservation status by biogeographical region (Analysis by the European Topic centre on Biological Diversity based on data supplied by Member State)

Red Data Books/Lists, National/Subnational Atlases, Action Plans (A.1.3)

Poland has three Red Data Books for vertebrates (2001), invertebrates (2004) and vascular plants (2001). No information was available on national and sub-national atlases or action plans.

Common bird monitoring (A.1.3)

Poland has in place a common breeding bird monitoring scheme, *Monitoring Pospolitych Ptakow Legowych (MPPL)*. A farmland bird index is produced from the monitoring programme. Results of the index show a decline in farmland birds since 2000.

Ex-situ conservation (A.1.3)

The Plant Gene Bank, Pathogen Gene Bank, Forest Gene Bank Kostrzyca in Kostrzyca (LBG) as well as botanical gardens and arboreta take part in *ex situ* conservation of plant biodiversity. *Ex situ* conservation of wild fauna takes place in Poland in zoological gardens, aquaria, centres for animal breeding and private collections.

2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside.

Rural Development Programmes (A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8):

According to information supplied by the Polish authorities, the Axis 2 budget of the RDP in Poland accounts for 32.2 % of public RDP expenditure (i.e. EAFRD allocations plus co-financing). Most of the Axis 2 budget is allocated for natural handicap payments in mountain areas and agri-environment measures. The latter account for 13.4 % of total RDP public expenditure (41.5 % of Axis 2 expenditure). Agri-environment measures include management of bird breeding habitats, sedge-moss and sedge-swamp communities, xerothermic grasslands, wet meadows, various semi-natural grasslands, salt marshes and extensive permanent meadows and pastures.

Natura 2000 funding measures are not utilised, but agri-environment measures will be targeted to Natura 2000 areas, with an overall target coverage of 370 000 ha

There is a small allocation of funding for first afforestation of agricultural land (3.8 % of RDP public expenditure), but no allocation of funding for forest management measures.

Agricultural genetic diversity (A2.1.11):

Apart from being included in the National Biodiversity Strategy, targets for conservation of genetic diversity are reflected in plans and programmes for the conservation of traditional varieties and breeds of crop plants and livestock animals. No detailed information on measures taken could be found. Rural Development Programme for the years 2007-2013 includes 2 specific agri-environment measures aimed at upkeep of endangered local varieties of crops and local breeds of farm animals, as well as upkeep of traditional orchards.

Agricultural cross-compliance measures (A2.1.4 & 2.1.10):

Poland has included a number of GAEC Minimum Level of Maintenance measures in its cross-compliance regulations. Most of these appear to primarily focus on maintaining land in good agricultural condition. However, there are requirements to graze pastures annually or

manage them by mowing and harvesting over a single year; which may help overcome problems with land abandonment.

Afforestation / deforestation policies and biodiversity (A2.1.5):

According to Poland's response to the Commission's questionnaire, a national programme to increase forest cover has been initiated (and is supported by its Rural Development Programme). However, there is no national/subnational strategy that ensures that biodiversity issues are assessed as part of afforestation and deforestation programmes. Nevertheless, planning tools such as SEA, EIA, GIS, guidance documents and biodiversity surveys are applied to afforestation plans, programmes and projects. No such tools have been developed for deforestation operations. In 2007, some relevant targets have been supported from the national budget under the Forest Act. These refer to the management of forests and to their protection in case of danger to their sustainable use as well as to the development and implementation of 20 years protection plans for nature reserves managed by public forest authorities.

Soil protection and biodiversity (A2.2.1):

Poland has not yet evaluated soil biodiversity loss and identified indicators. However, the National Institute of Soil Science and Plant Cultivation take the risks of soil biodiversity loss into account in its scientific programmes. The programmes on monitoring environmental effects of Rural Development Programmes as well as on the improvement of farming practices in organic agriculture focus on the monitoring of biodiversity related issues in the agricultural sector. They also attempt to identify geographical risk areas for soil degradation. However, the country plans to take new initiatives in this regard, referring to issues such as soil biodiversity loss, soil degradation and identification of high risk areas.

Other existing programmes address issues such as soil contamination and changes in soil biodiversity. These include, for example, a programme on ecological risk assessment of agricultural soils contaminated with organic pollutants.

Measures to improve the ecological status of freshwaters (A2.3.1):

According to the European Commission's WFD Scoreboard, Poland has completed the legal transposition of the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC (WFD) and met all its other requirements that have deadlines during 2004, 2005 and 2007. These include the production of a River Basin District Report, River Basin Analysis Report and a Monitoring Network Report.

Measures to reduce air pollution impacts on biodiversity (A2.4.2 & 2.4.3):

In 2005, Poland already met its allocated ceilings under the NEC Directive for sulphur, nitrogen and ammonia emissions, but slightly exceeded emission limits for non-methane volatile organic compounds (NMVOC) targets. According to projections NMVOC emissions will increase and the country will not be able to meet its 2010 NMVOC ceilings.

3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment.

Good marine ecological status (A3.1a):

According to the Article 17 National Summary, 67 % of the Baltic-Marine habitats covered by the EU Habitats Directive in Poland have a 'favourable' status. The remaining 33 % of

Baltic-Marine habitats have an ‘unfavourable-inadequate’ status.

No information has been identified to indicate that Poland is developing a specific Marine strategy. Elements of such a strategy are planned and operational activities are carried out by various relevant bodies. Also, within the framework of producing the “Seaports Development Strategy”, steps are made in the desired direction. A further example is the “Polish national control action program for cod in the Baltic Sea in year 2007”:

Poland is a contracting party to HELCOM and therefore has obligations under the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan.

Integrated coastal zone management (ICZM) (A.3.1.b):

The most recent information that was identified regarding the Polish development of a national ICZM strategy (2006, Evaluation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) in Europe) states that “Poland submitted a draft report on progress towards a national ICZM strategy in Poland to the European Commission on 11 April 2006, followed by an official statement regarding reporting to the ICZM Recommendation from the Ministry of Transport and Construction, Department of Spatial Planning and Architecture on 28 April 2006. No strategy has yet been developed and a national stocktaking has not been conducted.”

As an active member of the Helsinki Commission, Poland is a signatory to obligations to eventually formulate its national ICZM plan.

Poland was a partner in the PlanCoast project during which tools and procedures for Maritime Spatial Planning were developed and implemented. According to the PlanCoast report (November 2005) ‘Towards the Polish National Strategy on ICZM’, Poland is at the beginning of a process for developing the ICZM strategy.

Pollution: Bathing water quality (A3.2)

According to the Bathing Water Report for the 2007 season, the percentage of coastal bathing areas complying with the mandatory values Poland was 80.9 %. This is a decrease from 85.7 % in 2006. In 2007, 33.7 % of coastal bathing areas compliant with the more stringent guide values, a reduction from 38.6 % in 2006. A total of 17 coastal bathing areas were considered ‘non complying’ during the 2007 season; however, none were banned throughout the season. Monitoring is done through membership in various international organisations, e.g. Helcom. Bathing water quality is monitored by the State Sanitary Inspection, implementing the 76/160 Bathing Water Directive.

Ecosystem approaches in Fisheries management measures (A3.3):

The Polish fisheries management plans do not explicitly include ecosystem-based management approaches, albeit that some of the principles thereof are included.

Community and National Financing under European Fisheries Funds (EFF) (A3.4):

Polish Operational Programme for Fisheries 2007-2013 Poland has not yet been approved by the European Commission.

Restoration programmes for diadromous species (A3.5.a):

There do not appear to be specific national fisheries management plans for diadromous species in Poland.

Poland is a contracting party to the Helsinki Commission. The Commission unanimously adopts Recommendations for the protection of the marine environment, which the

governments of the Contracting Parties must act on in their respective national programmes and legislation. This includes: HELCOM Recommendation (19/2) adopted in 1998 'Protection and Improvement of the Wild Salmon (*Salmon salar L.*) Populations in the Baltic Sea Area'.

The HELCOM Action Plan urges the competent fisheries authorities in co-operation with the Baltic RAC and HELCOM to take immediate actions for development of long-term management plans for commercially exploited fish stocks so that they are within safe biological limits and reach agreed targets, such as Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY), and improve their distribution and size/age range, especially for salmon and sea trout, in addition to other pelagic species, by 2010.

Fishing Capacity-Decommissioning (3.5.b):

Between 2004 and 2006, there has been a reduction in the number of vessels (-29.1 %), in the available power (-30.6 %), and in the overall tonnage (-32.1 %) of the Polish fleet. The Polish national control action program for cod in the Baltic Sea in year 2008 is focused on improved MCS (Marine Stewardship Council) and does not include decommissioning, and there is no pro-active decommissioning national strategy. Some reference is made to the possibility of scrapping under the EFF but not part of a concerted plan.

Action plans and conservation status for marine species and habitats (A3.6):

Poland is a member of the Helsinki Commission. The Commission unanimously adopts Recommendations for the protection of the marine environment, which the governments of the Contracting Parties must act on in their respective national programmes and legislation. This includes the Recommendation 27-28/2: Conservation of Seals in the Baltic Sea Area (which requires national management plans to be developed) as well as Recommendation 17/2: Protection of Harbour Porpoises in the Baltic Sea Area.

The Biodiversity and nature conservation segment of the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan deals with reducing the impact of fisheries on non-target marine species and habitats. It includes a commitment by 2010 by further developing in co-operation with the 1991 Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS) a coordinated reporting system and database on Baltic harbour porpoise sightings, by-catches and strandings.

It is not clear whether Poland have any national action plans for the protection of non-target marine species. Extensive monitoring of marine species - target and others - and habitats is scheduled as part of the biodiversity and nature conservation segment of the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan.

A requirement of the Helcom recommendations on seals and harbour porpoises is the monitoring of populations and reporting by the contracting parties.

The avian monitoring that is carried out by the Department of Vertebrate Ecology & Zoology University of Gdańsk monitors the following Species of Community interest that spend time in marine or coastal habitat: *Clangula hyemalis*, *Cygnus cygnus*, *Gavia arctica*, *Gavia stellata*, *Larus argentatus*, *Melanitta fusca*, *Melanitta nigra*, *Mergus albellus*, *Mergus serrator*, *Phalacrocorax carbo*.

Aquaculture planning and biodiversity (A3.7):

No Polish Operational Programme for Fisheries 2007-2013 has been approved yet by the European Commission.

4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU.

Biodiversity spending under Cohesion and structural funds:

Under the Cohesion and structural funds for the period 2007-2013, expenditures foreseen by Poland, for Biodiversity & nature protection, amount to EUR 135 000 000. Other relevant areas where Cohesion and structural funds will be allocated are Promotion of Natural Assets (EUR 73 000 000) and Natural Heritage (EUR 99 000 000).

5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes.

Strategies to reduce impacts from invasive alien species (A5.1.2):

No questionnaire response was received from the Member State regarding the target. However, according to an IEEP study carried out in 2006, Poland has adopted national/subnational legislation addressing invasive alien species (IAS), including issues such as import and export, intentional introduction and control/eradication. The Nature Conservation Act includes regulations covering the introduction of alien fungi, plants and animals and the import of alien species that may threaten native biodiversity.

Further regulations such as the Act on Forests, the Hunting Act or the Act on Fisheries also include provisions regarding IAS. Furthermore, it seems that a national strategy on IAS has been partly developed.

However, no details are available. Although it is unclear whether a national database has been created, Poland is a participating country in the North European and Baltic Network on Invasive Alien Species (NOBANIS). It is a gateway to information on alien and invasive species in North and Central Europe.

Biosafety measures to reduce impacts from alien genotypes (A5.1.2 & 5.1.3):

Besides having ratified the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, Poland has adopted/implemented relevant EU Regulations and Directives including Regulation 1946/2003 on transboundary movements, which implements the provisions of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety into EU law.

The main Act regulating genetically modified organisms is the Act of 22 June 2001 on Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO). It includes provisions on issues such as the contained use of genetically modified organisms, the deliberate release into the environment of GMOs for any other purpose than placement on the market and the exportation and transit of the GMO products. The Ministry of Environment has started to prepare a new Act "Law on genetically modified organisms", which will include regulations regarding the coexistence of genetically modified plants with conventional planting. It remains unclear whether the new Act has already been adopted.

B. POLICY AREA 2: THE EU AND GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY

6. To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Poland prepared a National Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity Together with an Action Plan Programme in 2003. Poland has submitted the Third National Report to CBD and the following thematic reports: Alien Species, Access and

Benefit-sharing, Forest Ecosystems, Voluntary Report on Expanded Work Programme for Forests, Mountain Ecosystems, Protected Areas and Technology Transfer and Cooperation. Information on a wide range of funding mechanisms for biodiversity in Poland is available, but this information is not necessarily complete and it is therefore difficult to calculate the percentage of the GDP of funding for national biodiversity. Poland has paid their contributions to CBD, Ramsar, CMS, World Heritage Convention and the UNEP Environment Fund (Poland is not a party to AEWA).

7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance.

Funds allocated for biodiversity projects and programmes in developing countries (B7.1.3) and Members State's Overseas Countries and Territories (B7.1.6):

In Poland, the main institution responsible for development cooperation is the Development Cooperation Department ('Polish Aid') of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Bilateral assistance especially covers Central Asia (e.g., Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan) as well as Balkan states (e.g., Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia and Serbia) and other selected countries of Eastern and South-Eastern Europe.

Building democracy and civil society is an important part of Polish aid. Poland is especially interested in promoting ideas of European integration, Euro-Atlantic co-operation, and international solidarity. Along with these initiatives, the country undertakes activities aimed at economic free market transformation. In 2006, 40 % of Poland's official development assistance was allocated for bilateral aid, corresponding to roughly EUR 70 000 000.

The level of spending on biodiversity related development projects is unknown.

Integration of biodiversity considerations into development programmes and projects impacts on biodiversity (Action B7.2.2 & 7.2.5):

Due to time and language constraints on this study, no readily available information could be found on this subject. The extent to which biodiversity considerations are taken into account in external projects and programmes is therefore unknown.

8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services.

According to the reported number of CITES certificates issued, Poland's participation in the international trade of CITES species is moderately high. In 2005, 224 import documents were issued. The number of imported documents issued increased to 278 in 2006. Only one permit application that was denied was reported in 2005-06. The total number of seizures increased for 138 seizures in the period from 2003-04 (299 recorded seizures) to the period of 2005-06 (437 recorded seizures). National capacity was built through implementation tools, computerisation and improvement of national networks. Advice/guidance and training was provided to the enforcement authorities and the Management Authority. Training was provided to NGOs. Poland paid their annual contribution to the CITES Trust Funds.

C. POLICY AREA 3: BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

9. To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change.

Progress on Kyoto targets (C9.1.1):

Poland's 2008-2012 Kyoto target is a 6.0 % reduction of greenhouse gas emissions compared to base-levels. This target has already been achieved: emissions being 32.0 % below base levels in 2005. Although emissions are expected to increase to some extent, projections suggest that by 2010 Poland will have emissions 28 % below base-year levels.

Adaptation measures to increase biodiversity resilience to climate change (C9.4.1 & 9.4.3):

According to its reports to CBD and UNFCCC, Poland does not appear to have specific targets, strategies or programmes of action relating to climate change adaptation measures for biodiversity.

From the information provided in its CBD and UNFCCC reports Poland does not appear to have undertaken scientific studies of the vulnerability of its habitats and species to climate change

D. POLICY AREA 4: THE KNOWLEDGE BASE

10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally.

National research programmes (D10.1):

As stated in the Third National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity, research on biodiversity conservation and sustainable use has been carried out in Poland within a wide range of fields, but especially in biological, agricultural and forest sciences.

Institutions involved include: the Polish Academy of Science, Universities, research and development institutes, Government ministries, research units of national and landscape parks, regional directorates of State Forests and forest divisions, botanical gardens, zoos, and occasionally also other organizations such as NGOs. Some of the research is also conducted in cooperation with foreign partners (e.g., within EU and NATO programmes).

The main source of financing those research projects is the State Budget through the Ministry of Scientific Research and Information Technology; to a lesser degree the National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management, Provincial Funds for Environmental Protection and Water Management, "Ekofundusz" Foundation and foreign agencies (e.g., UNEP/GEF, pre-accession aid funds of the European Union, contributions of foreign partners. There is no information on whether Poland has a dedicated national or sub-national programme supporting biodiversity research.

Poland also has a Biodiversity Clearinghouse Mechanism set up to "ensure the mechanism of efficient exchange of information on biological diversity in Poland between involved persons and institutions."

There is no information on whether Poland has a dedicated national/sub-national forum to ensure that biodiversity outcomes are reflected, where appropriate, in biodiversity policy development and implementation.

E. THE FOUR KEY SUPPORTING MEASURES

1. Ensuring adequate financing

Overall use of Community funds for biodiversity:

RDP 2004-2006

With a funding of EUR 3 571.8 million from Public Funding and EUR 2 866.4 million from EU funding, biodiversity-related activities under this RDP are under the agri-environmental support section, which represents 7.1 % of the total cost of the programme. It covers activities such as support for agri-environment and animal welfare, with the aim of strengthening the types of stable and sustainable farming systems. It has 7 packages such as: sustainable and organic farming, maintenance of extensive meadows and pastures, soil and water protection, buffer zones, and protection of local breeds of farm animals.

RDP 2007-2013

“Protection of Biodiversity” is one of the objectives under Axis 2 of the RDP for this period, together with Environmental protection and increase in forest cover. The total funding allocated to this axis is as follows:

Axis	Public Funding (EUR)	EU Funding (EUR)
Axis 2	5 546 000 000	4 436 800 000

According to the reply given by the MS to the questionnaire, the estimated allocation to nature and biodiversity spending is EUR 635 501 520 or 27.58 % of Agri-environment funding.

2. Strengthening EU decision-making

Plans and follow-up to UN Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (E2.1):

There is no information on whether Poland has plans or strategies for a follow-up to the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment.

Alignment of national biodiversity strategies with EU (E2.2):

The National Biodiversity Strategy for Poland, created in 2003, states that “the main thrusts to nature conservation applied previously have seemed inadequate in the new circumstances. Instruments applied in task implementation as regards biodiversity conservation require steady strengthening (in terms of personnel and funding) and improvement (as regards the law and organizational structures). It is also necessary for there to be greater integration of protective action with prophylactic action, with the latter being seen as the responsibility of the different sectors of the economy above all”.

In addition, the Strategy indicates that it is “first and foremost addressed to the governmental administration at different levels, and the units subordinated thereto, as well as to local authorities, which is to say to the organs more or less directly involved in the management of Poland’s natural resources, or else involved in other spheres capable of exerting a more major influence on those resources. It is taken as read that attainment of the Strategy’s objectives will require commitment on the part of almost all decision-making centres and support units

and indeed of society as a whole". There is no incorporation of the 2010 target at present.

Effective integration of Natura 2000, Rural development, river basin management and other territorial plans and programmes in support for biodiversity (E2.5):

The National Strategy for Sustainable Use of Biodiversity incorporates Natura 2000 and rural development. According to the Strategy, the Second Environmental Policy for Poland and the Long-term Strategy for Sustainable Development also consider impacts on biodiversity and include Natura 2000.

The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) began a project entitled Integrated River Basin Management of the Southern Baltic Rivers in 2002. The goal of the project is to develop an integrated river basin management (IRBM) schemes for Vistula, Oder and Polish coastal rivers as a model for Southern Baltic rivers.

The project includes both building conceptual and legal basis for the IRBM in Poland as well as the model implementation. One objective is to prepare implementation of the European Union (EU) Water Framework Directive (WFD). Water management authorities in Poland use the opportunities coming from the WFD in the IRBM approach. Another objective is to establish a network of protected areas in river valleys and improve nature conservation measures. It is not clear whether these planning approaches are now in place and if they incorporate impacts on biodiversity.

The Third National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity (2005) states that for the last few years some Polish research institutions have been working on a system for biodiversity indicators that would enable effective and reliable monitoring of the occurring changes. An example of such an indicator, successfully used in Poland for the last few years, is the Average Individual Biomass of Carabid Beetles that enables the assessment of productivity of forest habitats. However, it should be stressed that the problem of indicators has not been satisfactorily worked out in Poland.

3. Building partnerships

National partnerships for biodiversity including private sector involvement (E3.1):

The Third National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity (2005) describes national initiatives for promoting partnership for biodiversity in the tourism and farming sectors.

The main governmental programme implemented in Poland that covers the environmental aspect of tourism is the programme "Conscious development of landscape and conservation of historical landscape". Its aim is to enhance the role of cultural heritage and the natural environment in the educational processes and emphasise cultural and natural environment to extend the tourist offer. The project has been recognised as one of the instruments for implementation of the "Strategy for Development of Tourism in 2001-2006".

The system of stimuli and incentives promoting sustainable use of biological conservation is implemented and developed in the agricultural sector. In that sector, agri-environmental programmes have been implemented, that is, a system of subsidies for farmers who observe principles favouring biodiversity conservation and a system of subsidies for continuing agricultural use in less favoured areas. The legal basis for granting those subsidies are two regulations issued by the Council of Ministers in 2004: on the detailed terms and course of granting financial support for farming in the areas where unfavourable conditions of farming occur covered with the Plan of Rural Development, and on the detailed terms and course of

granting financial support for agri-environmental measures and improvement of animal welfare, covered by the Rural Development Programme.

There is no information on whether there are national programmes promoting partnership with Natura 2000, whether any guidance documents for sectors have been developed, or whether there are any national award schemes that promote business engagement with biodiversity.

4. Building public education, awareness and participation

National/Sub-national public awareness campaigns/initiatives (E4.1):

According to the ECNC analysis of the Flash Eurobarometer Report, only 28 % of respondents from Poland had never heard of the term ‘biodiversity.’ Of those who had heard of it, 31 % knew what it meant. A total of 34 % of Polish respondents felt that they were either ‘well informed’ or ‘very well informed’ about biodiversity loss. More than half (57 %) of the Polish respondents had never heard of the Natura 2000 network. Of those who had heard of it, 15 % knew what it meant. The proportion of Polish respondents who felt that they made personal efforts to protect biodiversity was 53 %.

In 2001, Poland approved a National Environmental Education Strategy. The principal goals of the National Environmental Education Strategy are as follows: 1) Promoting the idea of sustainable development in all spheres of human activity, including work and leisure, i.e. subjecting all citizens of the Republic of Poland to continual environmental education; 2) Introducing environmental education as an interdisciplinary form of education at all levels of formal and informal education system; 3) Creating voivodeship, county, and community environmental education programmes serving as extensions of the National Environmental Education Programme; and 4) Promoting sound practices in environmental education methodology.

The Third National Report for the Convention on Biological Diversity also states that “the role of the media in promoting issues related to biological diversity is specified in the basic documents – both in the *National Strategy for Environmental Education* and in the Nature Conservation Act (2004). In the latter document, in Article 4 concerning duties of various agencies other than public administration and scientific institutions it is indicated that also media should conduct educational, informative and promotional activity in the field of nature conservation. To a large degree the task is fulfilled by the public TV and Polish Radio within the framework of its mission of broadcasting informational, commentary and popular science programmes, and particularly nature films....The 2004 study of environmental awareness of Poles indicates that they find the media the most important source of information about the environment.”

F. MONITORING

No information is available on national indicators in Poland. However, there are quite a significant number of biodiversity monitoring schemes in Poland. The majority of the schemes focus particularly on species or group of species such as mammals, butterflies, amphibians and birds.

DATA SOURCES

A1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species:

A.1.1, A.1.2 & A.1.4

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/barometer/index_en.htm

<http://dataservice.eea.europa.eu/atlas/viewdata/viewpub.asp?id=2639>

<http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/>

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm>

http://natura2000.mos.gov.pl/natura2000/dane/mapy/zbiorcze/s_mapa.jpg

<http://natura2000.mos.gov.pl/natura2000/pl/dokumenty/n3/iba.html>

[www.ecnc.nl/file_handler/documents/original/download/174/04_Part %20I.pdf](http://www.ecnc.nl/file_handler/documents/original/download/174/04_Part%20I.pdf)

A.1.2

<http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/>

A.1.3

[http://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polska_Czerwona_Ksi %C4 %99ga_Zwierz %C4 %85t - Kr %C4 %99gowce](http://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polska_Czerwona_Ksi%C4%99ga_Zwierz%C4%85t_-_Kr%C4%99gowce)

[http://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polska_Czerwona_Ksi %C4 %99ga_Zwierz %C4 %85t - Bezkr %C4 %99gowce](http://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polska_Czerwona_Ksi%C4%99ga_Zwierz%C4%85t_-_Bezkr%C4%99gowce)

[http://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polska_Czerwona_Ksi %C4 %99ga_Ro %C5 %9Blin](http://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polska_Czerwona_Ksi%C4%99ga_Ro%C5%9Blin)

A.1.3

http://monitoringptakow.gios.gov.pl/programy_jednostkowe_monitoringu_ptakow.monitoring_pospolitych_ptakow_legowych_mppl.ave

A.1.3

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/pl/pl-nr-03-en.doc>

A2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside

A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8

Published National Rural Development Programmes (IEEP database 2008)

European Commission unpublished data (2008)

MS questionnaire

A2.1.11

Third National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/pl/pl-nr-03-en.pdf>

A2.1.4 & 2.1.10

Alliance Environment (2007). Evaluation of the application of cross compliance as foreseen under Regulation 1782/2003. Part I: Descriptive Report - 26/07/2007. Report to the European Commission.

A2.1.5 & A2.2.1

MS Questionnaire

A2.3.1

WFD Scoreboard

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/transp_rep/scoreboard_en.htm

A2.4.2 & 2.4.3

Poland NEC Directive submission (04 Jan 2007)

<http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/pl/eu/nec>

NEC Directive National Programmes

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/nationalprogr_dir200181.htm

A3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment

A3.1a

http://www.helcom.fi/helcom/cp/poland/en_GB/poland/

<http://mgm.gov.pl/?sr=!czytaj&j=ang&id=40&m=&dz=aktualnosci&x=0&pocz=0&gr>

<http://mgm.gov.pl/?sr=lista&dz=aktualnosci&j=ang;>

<http://www.minrol.gov.pl/DesktopDefault.aspx?TabOrgId=1210&LangId=1>

Article 17 National Summary-Poland

A.3.1.b

[http://www.rupprecht-consult.eu/iczmdownloads/Towards %20a %20National %20Strategy %20of %20ICZM %20in %20Poland,%20November %202005.pdf](http://www.rupprecht-consult.eu/iczmdownloads/Towards%20a%20National%20Strategy%20of%20ICZM%20in%20Poland,%20November%202005.pdf)

[http://www.rupprecht-consult.eu/iczmdownloads/ICZM %20Progress %20Indicator %202006 %20-%20Poland.pdf](http://www.rupprecht-consult.eu/iczmdownloads/ICZM%20Progress%20Indicator%202006%20-%20Poland.pdf)

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/iczm/pdf/evaluation_iczm_summary.pdf

http://www.helcom.fi/Recommendations/en_GB/rec24_10/?u4.highlight=ICZM

<http://www.plancoast.eu/index.php?id=1>

[http://www.plancoast.eu/files/Towards %20a %20National %20Strategy %20of %20ICZM %20in %20Poland,%20November %202005.pdf](http://www.plancoast.eu/files/Towards%20a%20National%20Strategy%20of%20ICZM%20in%20Poland,%20November%202005.pdf)

A3.2

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-bathing/summary_report_2008.html

http://www.helcom.fi/BSAP/ActionPlan/en_GB/SegmentSummary/

A3.3

[http://www.mgm.gov.pl/pliki/Strategia %20Rozwoju %20Rybolowstwa %202007-2013 %20\(29 %20maja\).pdf;](http://www.mgm.gov.pl/pliki/Strategia%20Rozwoju%20Rybolowstwa%202007-2013%20(29%20maja).pdf)

[http://mgm.gov.pl/pliki/26.09.2007_Control %20action %20program %20in %20year %202007.pdf](http://mgm.gov.pl/pliki/26.09.2007_Control%20action%20program%20in%20year%202007.pdf)

A3.4

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/operational_programmes_en.htm

A3.5.a

http://www.helcom.fi/stc/files/BSAP/BSAP_Final.pdf

http://www.helcom.fi/Recommendations/en_GB/rec19_2/

A3.5.b

<http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/publications/fishyearbook2007.pdf>

http://www.minrol.gov.pl/FileRepozytory/FileRepozytoryShowImage.aspx?item_id=28191

A3.6

http://www.helcom.fi/stc/files/BSAP/BSAP_Final.pdf

http://www.helcom.fi/Recommendations/en_GB/rec27-28_2/

http://www.helcom.fi/Recommendations/en_GB/rec17_2/

http://www.helcom.fi/stc/files/BSAP/BSAP_Final.pdf

http://www.helcom.fi/Recommendations/en_GB/rec27-28_2/

http://www.helcom.fi/Recommendations/en_GB/rec17_2/

http://eumon.ckff.si/monitoring/monitor_show_wp23-2.php?sid=983&mid=445

http://eumon.ckff.si/monitoring/monitor_show_wp23-2.php?sid=756&mid=304

<http://www.iucnredlist.org/search/details.php/49225/summ>

<http://www.iucnredlist.org/search/details.php/17027/summ>

A3.7

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/operational_programmes_en.htm

A4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU

A4.

Infoview Data (DG Regio)

LIFE+ 2007 Call for Proposals – DG Environment

A5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes

A5.1.2

Miller, C., Kettunen, M. & Shine, C. 2006. Scope options for EU action on invasive alien species (IAS) Final report for the European Commission. Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP), Brussels, Belgium.

<http://www.nobanis.org/>

A5.1.2 & 5.1.3

National Report on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

<http://www.cbd.int/biosafety/parties/reports.shtml?report=NR-CPB-01>

European Commission Report on the Implementation of National Measures on the Coexistence of Genetically Modified Crops with Conventional and Organic Farming

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/coexistence/index_en.htm

B6: To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services

B6

<http://www.cbd.int/convention/parties/contributions.shtml?tab=2&yr=2007>

<http://www.cbd.int/reports/search.shtml>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/pl/pl-nbsap-01-en.pdf>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/pl/pl-nr-03-en.pdf>

http://www.ramsar.org/res/key_res_ix_12_e.htm

http://www.cms.int/bodies/StC/32_stc_meeting/French/Doc_09_Fonds_Affectation_avec_Annexes.pdf

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/31COM/documents/>

http://www.unep.org/rmu/en/Financing_of_UNEP/Environment_Fund/Table_2007/index.asp

B7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance

B7.1.3 & 7.1.6:

http://www.oecd.org/document/17/0,3343,en_2649_34603_33887057_1_1_1_1.00.html

B8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services

B8

<http://www.cites.org/eng/resources/reports/biennial.shtml>

<http://www.cites.org/common/resources/reports/pab/03-04Poland.pdf>

<http://www.cites.org/common/resources/reports/pab/05-06Poland.pdf>

<http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/14/doc/E14-07-1.pdf>

C9: To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change

C9.1.1

EC (2007) Communication from the Commission. Progress towards achieving the Kyoto objectives.

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/climat/gge_progress.htm

C9.4.1 & 9.4.3

Third National Report to CBD (2005)

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/pl/pl-nr-03-en.doc>

Fourth National Report to UNFCCC (2006)

<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/natc/polnc4.pdf>

D10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally

D10.1

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/pl/pl-nr-03-en.pdf>

<http://biodiversity-chm.org.pl/index1e.htm>

E1. Ensuring adequate financing

E1

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/07/308&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rur/countries/pl/index_en.htm

E2. Strengthening EU decision-making

E2.1

E2.2

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/pl/pl-nbsap-01-en.pdf>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/nbsap/nbsapcbw-eur-01/official/nbsapcbw-eur-01-02-rev1-en.doc>

E2.5

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/pl/pl-nbsap-01-en.pdf>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/pl/pl-nr-03-en.pdf>

http://www.panda.org/about_wwf/where_we_work/europe/where/poland/index.cfm?uProjectID=PL0013

E3. Building partnerships

E3.1

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/pl/pl-nr-03-en.pdf>

E4. Building public education, awareness and participation

E4.1

http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/flash/fl_219_en.pdf

http://www.mos.gov.pl/mos/publikac/Raporty_opracowania/strategia_ang.pdf

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/pl/pl-nr-03-en.pdf>

F1-4. Monitoring, evaluation and review

<http://eumon.ckff.si/>

PORTUGAL

Competent authority(ies) for nature & biodiversity:

The Institute for the Conservation of Nature (ICNB): <http://portal.icnb.pt/ICNPortal/vEN2007/>

Most recent national/subnational biodiversity strategy/action plan:

Strategy for National Conservation of Nature and Biodiversity, 2001:

<http://www.cbd.int/countries/?country=pt>

Latest review of the implementation of biodiversity strategy/action plan:

Third National Report, 2007: <http://www.cbd.int/countries/?country=pt>

Alignment with EU biodiversity plan:

Alignment with EU 2010 Biodiversity Indicators (SEBI 2010):

Key sources of official nature & biodiversity information used for evaluation:

- The Institute for the Conservation of Nature (ICNB): <http://portal.icnb.pt/ICNPortal/vEN2007/>
- Convention on Biological Diversity Country Profile and Third National Report <http://www.cbd.int/countries/?country=pt> and <http://www.cbd.int/reports/search/>
- ICN Information System of Natural Heritage: <http://www.icn.pt/sipnat/sipnat4.html>
- Agencia Portuguesa do Ambiente: www.apambiente.pt
- Ministério da Agricultura do Desenvolvimento Rural e das Pescas: www.dgpa.min-agricultura.pt
- Ministério do Ambiente, do Ordenamento do Território e do Desenvolvimento Regional: www.maotdr.gov.pt

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS IN DELIVERY OF OBJECTIVES OF EU BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN

A. POLICY AREA 1: BIODIVERSITY IN THE EU

1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species.

Natura 2000 sites (terrestrial and marine) (A.1.1, A.1.2 & A.1.4)

	<i>Number of sites</i>	<i>Area (km²)</i>
Total SCIs/SACs (Habitats)	94	16 503

Directive)		
SCIs/SACs with marine component (Habitats Directive)	23	490
Total SPAs (Birds Directive)	50	9334
SPAs with marine component (Birds Directive)	10	622

Number of SCIs and SACs - Natura 2000 Barometer – June 2008 (Source: European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity based on data supplied by Member State)

Portugal was considered in June 2008 to have achieved a level of sufficiency of 87.8 % for site selection for species and habitat types under Habitats Directive, in its territory. The Portuguese authority has stated that 24 management plans have been completed for Natura 2000 sites. It is unknown how many Natura 2000 management plans are in preparation.

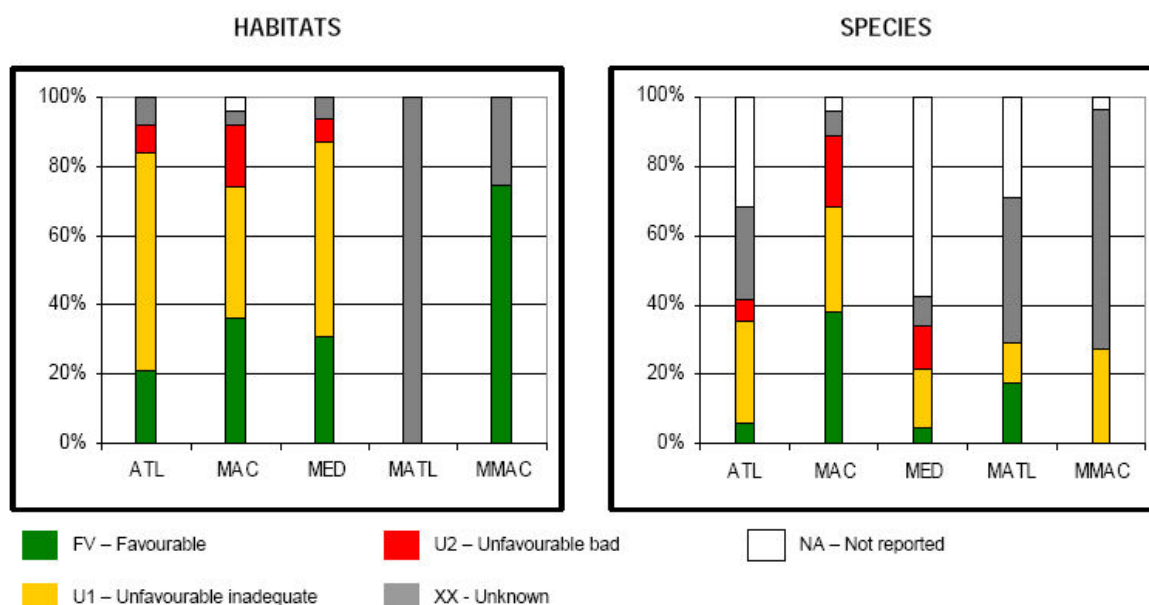
According to the EC LIFE Programme/Database, under the LIFE Nature programme, there was a total of 18 projects in Portugal with an EC contribution of EUR 14 834 979, during the period 2000-2006. In the year 2007, according to the indicative national allocations, Portuguese projects received EUR 5 236 000 from LIFE+ funds.

A map showing distribution of Natura 200 sites in Portugal is available.

No information was found on habitat connectivity for Portugal.

Conservation status assessment (A.1.2)

Under the Habitats Directive Portugal has three biogeographical regions (atlantic, macronesian, mediteranean). The results of the first conservation status assessment for species and habitats of community interest are as follows:



Region / Conclusion	HABITATS					SPECIES				
	FV	U1	U2	XX	NA	FV	U1	U2	XX	NA
Atlantic	21	63	8	8		6	29	6	27	32
Macaronesian	36	38	18	4	4	38	30	21	7	4
Mediterranean	31	56	7	6		5	17	12	9	57
Marine Atlantic				100		18	12		41	29
Marine Macaronesian	75			25			27		69	4
Member State	30	51	9	9	1	13	22	12	17	36

*The conservation status categories: FV = favourable, U1 = unfavourable-inadequate, U2 = unfavourable-bad, XX = unknown, NA = no evaluation given by MS

Overall assessment of conservation status by biogeographical region (Analysis by the European Topic centre on Biological Diversity based on data supplied by Member State)

Red Data Books/Lists, National/Subnational Atlases, Action Plans (A.1.3)

Portugal has a Red Book of vertebrates (2006) and atlases for breeding birds (1995, 2008 *in press*), freshwater bivalvia (2006), reptilian and amphibian (1989, 2008 *in press*) and wintering bird distribution. The Portuguese action Plan for Iberian Lynx was approved by law on 6 of May 2008 (Despacho n.º 12697/2008).

Common bird monitoring (A.1.3)

Portugal have a common bird monitoring programme, *Censo de Aves Comuns (CAC)*. No national indicator is produced from data collected as part of the monitoring programme.

Ex-situ conservation (A.1.3)

Portugal has a number of ex-situ conservation activities, including collections of native and non-native species, which compliment in-situ conservation activities. Portugal also houses ex situ collections of wild species, landraces and cultivated varieties in field collections, germplasm, gene and seed banks. The Iberian Lynx *Ex Situ* Conservation Breeding Program is under development, animals from breeding Centres in Spain are expected in the beginning of 2009.

2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside.

Rural Development Programmes (A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8):

According to information supplied by the Portuguese authorities, the Axis 2 budget of the RDP in Portugal accounts for about 40.0 % of public RDP expenditure (i.e. EAFRD allocations plus co-financing). The majority of Axis 2 funds are allocated for natural handicap payments to farmers in mountain areas (15.1 % of total RDP funds), however, there is a substantial budget for agri-environment measures of approximately EUR 434 000 000 which amounts to 9.8 % of total RDP public expenditure (17.8 % of Axis 2 expenditure).

There are also substantial budgets for afforestation and forestry measures, with 7.1 % of total RDP funds allocated for first afforestation of agricultural land, and smaller locations (each under 1 % of RDP expenditure) for first afforestation of non-agricultural land, establishment of agro-forestry systems and forest-environment measures.

Natura 2000 funding measures are not utilised.

Agricultural genetic diversity (A2.1.11):

The National Biodiversity and Nature Conservation Strategy (NSBNC) include the objective to recover and maintain traditional agricultural systems and autochthonous races through certification. With regard to aromatic and medicinal species, it also states that wild plant harvesting should be replaced by agricultural production of the relevant species. The NSBNC also refers to the importance of the adoption of measures which promote conservation of the national genetic resources heritage, regulating the access, sustainable use and benefit sharing that comes from their utilisation. Related activities include the development of Germplasm Banks and financial incentives for the conservation of autochthonous races and varieties.

Some agri-environment measures will also help to conserve agricultural genetic diversity.

Agricultural cross-compliance measures (A2.1.4 & 2.1.10):

Portugal has included a number of GAEC Minimum Level of Maintenance measures¹ in its cross-compliance regulations. However, these primarily focus on maintaining land in good agricultural condition, through the control of unwanted vegetation or the storage of agrochemicals and wastes. They are unlikely to provide significant protection for biodiversity.

Afforestation / deforestation policies and biodiversity (A2.1.5):

No response relating to the action was received from the Member State to the European Commission's questionnaire. In the absence of other readily available data, progress with this target and related actions cannot therefore be evaluated.

Soil protection and biodiversity (A2.2.1):

No response relating to the action was received from the Member State to the European Commission's questionnaire. In the absence of other readily available data, progress with this target and related actions cannot therefore be evaluated.

Measures to improve the ecological status of freshwaters (A2.3.1):

According to the European Commission's WFD Scoreboard, Portugal has completed the legal transposition of the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC (WFD) and met all its other requirements that have deadlines during 2004, 2005 and 2007. These include the production

of a River Basin District Report, River Basin Analysis Report and a Monitoring Network Report.

Measures to reduce air pollution impacts on biodiversity (A2.4.2 & 2.4.3):

In 2006, ammonia emissions in Portugal were below the 2010 ceilings set by the NEC Directive. Other emissions were above the 2010 ceilings, especially non-methane volatile organic compounds (NMVOC). Portugal does not expect to be able to NMVOC emissions below its ceiling level in 2010. According to the country's NEC Directive reports, there are no plans to develop additional policies and measures to reduce NMVOC emissions and meet the 2010 target.

It is expected that Portugal will comply with all other targets set by the NEC Directive in 2010.

3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment.

Good marine ecological status (A3.1a):

The marine environment is included in the national plan for integrated coastal zone management (ICZM), although this is not yet in force. Portugal has recently developed a National Ocean Strategy (*Estratégia Nacional para o Mar*, approved August 2006). One of the eight priority actions is 'protection and recovery of marine ecosystems', within which are included the priority measures 'promoting the conservation and knowledge on marine biodiversity' and 'establishing a national network of marine protected areas and implementing Natura 2000 in the marine environment'. Last May, the Permanent Forum for Marine Issues (*Fórum Permanente para os Assuntos do Mar*) *Fórum Permanente para os Assuntos do Mar* was established by EMAM, promoting the participation of a great number of stakeholders and different sectors of society in the public debate about the management of the marine environment. Also, the action plan for 2008 for the *Estrutura de Missão para os Assuntos do Mar* (EMAM), approved recently by the *Comissão Interministerial dos Assuntos do Mar* (CIAM), includes environmental monitoring of the EEZ and implementation of an information system on marine biodiversity. The action plans approved include several strategic tools: 1) Marine Spatial Planning; 2) Network for the Promoting of Knowledge of the Marine Environment; 3) Coastal Defence; 4) Communication and Awareness on the Marine Environment and 5) International Cooperation on Marine Issues. Portugal is also a contracting party of the OSPAR convention, and as such follows the Strategies drafted, including 'Biological Diversity and Ecosystems' with the objective to protect and conserve the ecosystems and the biological diversity of the maritime area which are, or could be, affected as a result of human activities, and to restore, where practicable, marine areas which have been adversely affected, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, including Annex V and Appendix 3.

Integrated coastal zone management (ICZM) (A.3.1.b):

The process of ICZM has been initiated in Portugal and first steps have been taken to integrate existing laws and procedures into the process. The Portuguese Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Regional Development (*Ministério do Ambiente, do Ordenamento do Território e do Desenvolvimento Regional*) through its Water Institute (*Instituto da Água*, INAG) is developing an Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) strategy. It covers the principles of good ICZM and strives for a truly holistic approach, although it is still a plan and no actions have yet resulted from this new approach. The

integration of the different sectors is rather new for Portugal and still needs to be strengthened at all levels.

Pollution: Bathing water quality (A3.2)

During the bathing season (1 June – 30 September), a bathing water monitoring programme is carried out to check that bathing waters conform to standards set out in national and EU legislation. Since 2002 this has been implemented by the Ministry of Cities, Territorial Planning and Environment (*Ministério das Cidades, Ordenamento do Território e Ambiente*) together with the Portuguese Environment Agency (*Agência Portuguesa do Ambiente, APA*), the Water Institute (*Instituto da Água, INAG*) and the Regional Directorates for Environment and Territorial Planning (*Direcções Regionais do Ambiente e do Ordenamento do Território, DRAOTs*). In 2007 the rate of compliance with the mandatory values was 94.6 % (down from 97.6 % in 2006) and compliance with the guideline standard 86.7 % (down from 90.3 % in 2006). In two bathing areas, bathing was banned and 21 areas did not comply with the minimum standards.

Ecosystem approaches in Fisheries management measures (A3.3):

The National Strategic Fisheries Plan 2007-2013 (*Plano Estratégico Nacional, PEN*) is in line with European policy on the ecosystem approach and recognises the need for progressive implementation of an approach that brings ecosystem thinking closer to fisheries management, in order to ensure the viability of the sector and minimise the impact on marine ecosystems. The second generation of River Basin Management Plans until 2009 is also in development and will include inland superficial waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater. A revision of the national law which regulates the fisheries sector is underway in order to integrate issues related to Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing, as defined in the Council Regulation (EC) No 2371/2002.

Community and National Financing under European Fisheries Funds (EFF) (A3.4):

The Operational Programme for the Portuguese Fisheries Industry for the period 2007-2013 was approved by the European Commission. The total eligible public expenditure of the programme is EUR 324 900 000, with EU assistance through the EFF amounting to EUR 246 500 000. Axis 1 received 21.5 % of the total EFF funds, Axis 2 received 31.6 % of the total EFF funds and Axis 3 received 36.5 % of the total EFF funds.

Axis 1 includes actions to bring fleet capacity in line with fishing opportunities through a decommissioning programme for the sector, as well as the use of more selective gears in order to minimise environmental impacts of fishing. In Axis 2 regarding aquaculture, although none of the main objectives include an environmentally friendly aspect, although it does mention the need for localisation of aquaculture facilities to take into account ecosystem conservation issues, as well as the use of production methods that are compatible with protection and improvement of the environment.

Restoration programmes for diadromous species (A3.5.a):

No information available.

Fishing Capacity-Decommissioning (3.5.b):

No information on decommissioning schemes was available. Between 1999 and 2006, the number of vessels in the Portuguese fleet has reduced from over 10,800 to 8,700 (19 % reduction). However, decreases in tonnage (10 % reduction) and power (3.5 % reduction)

have been more modest. The 2007-2013 operational programme sets targets to reduce tonnage to 97 840 GT by 2013, and to reduce power to 646 195 kW by 2013 (from 680 095 kW).

Action plans and conservation status for marine species and habitats (A3.6):

The European Action Plans for Endangered Birds are being applied in general for *Pterodroma feae* and *P. madeira* and increased knowledge is being acquired about *Puffinus mauritanicus* in the coastal mainland. Two LIFE - Natura Projects are being developed for the identification of important bird areas in the marine environment (LIFE-IBAs marinhas) and for the conservation of *Pterodroma feae* in Desertas Islands (LIFE - SOS Freira do Bugio). Both projects intend to identify feeding and resting areas in the sea for several seabird species at national and regional level respectively.

Monitoring programmes at the species level are being carried out, at national, regional and local levels, for some threatened species, including marine birds, cetaceans, and marine turtles.

Aquaculture planning and biodiversity (A3.7):

The Operational Programme includes plans for aquaculture development, aiming to increase aquaculture production from 6 800 to 10 000 tonnes in 2010 and 15 000 tonnes in 2013. Environmental and biodiversity issues are not among the main objectives of the aquaculture interventions, but it does mention the need for localisation of aquaculture facilities to take into account ecosystem conservation issues, as well as the use of production methods that are compatible with protection and improvement of the environment.

4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU.

Biodiversity spending under Cohesion and structural funds:

Expenditures foreseen by Portugal for Biodiversity & nature protection under the Cohesion and structural funds, for the period 2007-2013, amount to EUR 47 000 000. Other relevant areas where Cohesion and structural funds will be allocated are Promotion of Natural Assets (EUR 120 000 000) and Natural Heritage (EUR 48 000 000).

5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes.

Strategies to reduce impacts from invasive alien species (A5.1.2):

No questionnaire response was received from the Member State. However, according to an IEEP study carried out in 2006, Portugal has adopted legislation addressing invasive alien species (IAS), including issues such introduction and control/eradication. Regulations are in place controlling imports and dissemination of new exotic fauna into Madeira. Sale, cultivation, possession or detention of certain named species is prohibited. The Decree Law No 565/99 lists IAS that are of concern as potential introductions.

Portuguese legislation also foresees the development of a national action plan for IAS where control or eradication efforts are necessary. This plan is yet to be elaborated. Although no national strategy on IAS has been developed, the national biodiversity strategy addresses the issue. It is unclear whether a national/subnational data centre or database on IAS has been created.

Biosafety measures to reduce impacts from alien genotypes (A5.1.2 & 5.1.3):

Besides having ratified the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, Portugal has adopted/implemented relevant EU Regulations and Directives including Regulation 1946/2003 on transboundary movements, which implements the provisions of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety into EU law.

Directive 2001/18/EC on the Deliberate Release of Genetically Modified Organisms into the Environment has been incorporated into Portuguese law by Decree No. 72/2003, of 10th April, which regulates the deliberate release and placing on the market of genetically modified organisms (GMOs).

Portugal is one of the few Member States that has adopted relevant legislation on coexistence, regulating the coexistence of genetically modified crops with conventional and organic.

B. POLICY AREA 2: THE EU AND GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY

6. To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services.

In 2001, Portugal prepared a Strategy for National Conservation of Nature and Biodiversity. The Third National Report to the CBD was prepared in 2007. So far, Portugal has submitted one thematic report - on Protected Areas. The annual budget of the Institute for the Conservation of Nature (the governmental body responsible for nature conservation and biodiversity policies as well as the management of Protected Areas) is about EUR 20 000 000. Information on the level of direct financial contributions to developing countries for biodiversity conservation purposes is not available. Portugal has paid their contributions to CBD, Ramsar, CMS, AEW, World Heritage Convention and the UNEP Environment Fund.

7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance.

Funds allocated for biodiversity projects and programmes in developing countries (A7.1.3 & 7.1.6):

The Portuguese Institute for Development Support (IPAD) was created in 2003 as the central planning, supervisory and co-ordinating body for Portuguese aid. As part of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, IPAD coordinates Portugal's aid programme.

Portugal focuses its aid on a handful of very poor countries, with a high proportion of bilateral official development assistance going to sub-Saharan Africa. A relative high priority is given to allocations to governance-related projects. Also education absorbs a major share of technical co-operation in the form of support for student costs and scholarships.

Annual spending on biodiversity-related bilateral aid in 2006 was EUR 190 000, which amounted to 0.16 % of the total bilateral aid budget.

Integration of biodiversity considerations into development programmes and projects impacts on biodiversity (Action B7.2.2 & 7.2.5):

Due to time and language constraints on this study, no readily available information could be found on this subject. The extent to which biodiversity considerations are taken into account

in external projects and programmes is therefore unknown.

8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services.

According to the number of CITES certificates, Portugal has a comparably high level of trade in CITES species. The number of import documents issued in 2005 was 1370 and 1173 in 2006. No denied permit applications were reported. 58 seizures were reported in 2005 and 71 in 2006. National capacity was built through hiring of more staff, development of implementation tools and improvement of national networks. Advice/guidance, technical assistance and training were provided to the enforcement authorities, traders and NGOs. Also, advice/guidance was provided to the public. Portugal paid their annual contribution to the CITES Trust Funds.

C. POLICY AREA 3: BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

9. To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change.

Progress on Kyoto targets (C9.1.1):

Portugal has a Kyoto target of restricting its foreseen growth in greenhouse gas emissions to no more than 27 % over the 2008-2012 period compared to base-year levels. In 2005 emissions had increased by 40.4 % compared to base-levels. The rate of increase in emissions is projected to stabilise, but with existing policies and measures 2010 emissions are expected to be 44.3 % above base-levels and thus slightly above the Kyoto target. However, with additional policies and measures and the use of Kyoto mechanisms and carbon sinks, then projects indicate that equivalent emissions could be only 23.1 % above base-levels.

Adaptation measures to increase biodiversity resilience to climate change (C9.4.1 & 9.4.3):

An Iberian Project on Climate Change and Biodiversity is under develop, for the assessment of the vulnerability of vertebrate to climate change

The project “Climate Change in Portugal: Scenarios, Impacts, and Adaptation Measures – SIAM”, has assessed climate change impacts and vulnerability in Portugal. This study used future climate change scenarios to assess impacts on several socio-economic sectors and biophysics systems: water resources, coastal zones, energy, forests and biodiversity, fisheries, agriculture and human health and well-being.

D. POLICY AREA 4: THE KNOWLEDGE BASE

10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally.

National research programmes (D10.1):

The action plan “MarBIS – Natura 2000 (Marine Biodiversity Information System)” aims to promote integration of existing data on the natural values of the marine environment on the national biodiversity policy. No information was available regarding whether there is a dedicated forum to ensure that biodiversity outcomes are reflected in biodiversity policy development and implementation.

E. THE FOUR KEY SUPPORTING MEASURES

1. Ensuring adequate financing

Overall use of Community funds for biodiversity:

RDP 2000-2006

The total public cost of this programme is EUR 1 829.921 million, including an EU contribution of EUR 1 372 146 000 million from the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund, Guarantee Section (EAGGF/Guarantee). Biodiversity-related activities under this RDP are covered under Priority 2 (Less Favoured Areas) and 3 (Agri-environment measures).

Priority	Public Funding (EUR)	EU Funding (EUR)
Less Favoured Areas	473 727 000 000	355 295 000 000
Agri-environment measures	814 982 000 000	611 236 000 000

While LFA payments could be considered a biodiversity-related activity, with the exception of “protecting genetic diversity” all other activities under Agri-environment measures do not seem to be targeted to biodiversity, although some benefits might result from them.

RDP 2000-2006 Madeira

This programme supplements the rural development measures already included in the regional development programme for Madeira (Objective 1 of the Structural Funds) which are also being funded by the EAGGF. Biodiversity-related activities under this RDP are covered under Priority 2 (Less Favoured Areas) and 3 (Agri-environment measures).

Priority	Public Funding(EUR)	EU Funding (EUR)
Less Favoured Areas	12 018 090	10 215 462
Agri-environment measures	10 751 133	8 063 348

RDP 2000-2006 Azores

Biodiversity-related activities under this RDP are covered under Priority 3 (Agri-environment measures). Unlike other RDPs, LFA payments are intended to offset farmers' lower earnings where they follow good agricultural practice and continue farming for at least five years, and therefore are not considered as “biodiversity-related”.

Priority	Public Funding (EUR)	EU Funding (EUR)
Agri-environment measures	49362 000	37 021 000

RDP 2007-2013

Biodiversity-related activities under this RDP are covered under Axis 2, which is attributed a total public funding of EUR 1 776 806 306, of which there is an EAFRD contribution of EUR 1 448 105 873. The main priorities under this axis are:

- support for the maintenance of activities in less favoured and mountain regions
- organic farming and integrated farming
- Integrated Territorial Interventions in 8 Natura 2000 areas and 1 World Heritage site; combining agro-environmental and forest measures
- Environmental valorisation of forestry areas

RDP 2007-2013 Madeira

Biodiversity-related activities under this RDP are covered under Axis 2, with a budget allocation of EUR 52 425 758 from the EAFRD (29.96 % of programme total) and EUR 61 677 362 of total public funding. The main priorities under this axis are:

- support for the maintenance of activities in less favoured areas,
- agri-environment payments,
- afforestation of agricultural land.

RDP 2007-2013 Azores

Biodiversity-related activities under this RDP are covered under Axis 2, with budget allocation of EUR 135 294 118 from Total public funding and EUR 115 000 000 from an EAFRD contribution. Main priorities under this axis are:

- support for the maintenance of activities in less favoured areas
- agri-environmental payments
- afforestation of agricultural land

2. Strengthening EU decision-making

Plans and follow-up to UN Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (E2.1):

No information was available regarding whether Portugal is planning or considering a follow-up to the MA.

Alignment of national biodiversity strategies with EU (E2.2):

Portugal's National Biodiversity and Nature Conservation Strategy (NBSAP) highlight the importance of cross-sectoral policy integration for biodiversity conservation.

Effective integration of Natura 2000, Rural development, river basin management and other territorial plans and programmes in support for biodiversity (E2.5):

In relation to cross-sectoral policy integration for biodiversity conservation, reference to territorial planning instruments, water resources through the National Water Plan (Plano Nacional da Água) and river basin plans (planos de bacia hidrográfica) and regional development are included.

3. Building partnerships

National partnerships for biodiversity including private sector involvement (E3.1):

The Portuguese Presidency chose a European Business and Biodiversity Initiative as one of its environmental priorities in 2007 — a project developed, at European level, in close cooperation with the European Commission and the IUCN Countdown 2010 Initiative. The national Business and Biodiversity Initiative has 34 private sector partnerships including stakeholders, landowners, companies, banks and non-governmental agencies. A high level Conference on Business and Biodiversity, held in Lisbon on 12 and 13 November 2007, brought together representatives from over 150 companies. This meeting of more than 400 leaders from business, governments, the European Union and NGOs signalled a major step in business commitment to biodiversity conservation. A number of important conclusions were reached: on the need to include biodiversity strategies in corporate strategies, on raising awareness among consumers, on offering information and expertise to business, and on assisting companies to shape their individual commitments to biodiversity. The European Commission is committed to implementing the “Message from Lisbon”, and to ensuring that the European Business and Biodiversity Initiative deliver measurable results.

4. Building public education, awareness and participation

National/Sub-national public awareness campaigns/initiatives (E4.1):

Portugal’s population scores highest amongst the EU Member States in terms of the number of people that make a personal effort to protect biodiversity (89 % of respondents). However, 56 % of respondents had never heard of biodiversity, although one third of people are well informed about biodiversity loss. Only a small percentage (16 %) had heard of the Natura 2000 network and knew what it means.

F. MONITORING

No information is available on national indicators in Portugal. There is only one biodiversity monitoring project currently underway in Portugal – the International Waterfowl Counts in Portugal, which started in 1976 and is carried out once annually.

DATA SOURCES

A1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species:

A.1.1, A.1.2 & A.1.4

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/barometer/index_en.htm

<http://dataservice.eea.europa.eu/atlas/viewdata/viewpub.asp?id=2639>

http://themes.eea.europa.eu/TMS/ISpecs/ISpecification20041007131611/guide_summary_public

<http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/>

http://www.icn.pt/sipnat/sip_zpe1.html

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm>

A.1.2

<http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/>

A.1.3

http://www.ramsar.org/cop7/cop7_nr_portugal.htm

<http://www.ebcc.info/wpimages/other/21-ReinoH.pdf>

A.1.3

<http://www.ebcc.info/pecbm-portugal.html>

http://www.spea.pt/index.php?op=censo_aves

A.1.3

http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/pt/pt-nr-03-en.doc#_Toc78202047

A2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside

A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8

Published National Rural Development Programmes (IEEP database 2008)

European Commission unpublished data (2008)

MS questionnaire

A2.1.11

Third National Report to the CBD

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/pt/pt-nr-03-en.pdf>

A2.1.4 & 2.1.10

Alliance Environment (2007). Evaluation of the application of cross compliance as foreseen under Regulation 1782/2003. Part I: Descriptive Report - 26/07/2007. Report to the European Commission.

A2.3.1

WFD Scoreboard http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/transp_rep/scoreboard_en.htm

A2.4.2 & 2.4.3

Portugal NEC Directive submission (22 Feb 2008)

<http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/pt/eu/nec>

NEC Directive National Programmes

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/nationalprogr_dir200181.htm

MS reporting to NEC Directive

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/implem_nec_directive.htm

A3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment

A3.1a

www.mdn.gov.pt/NR/rdonlyres/0DEDEDEC-BA6C-4D9D-9DF4-63D2871374CE/0/EstrNacMar.pdf

<http://www.mdn.gov.pt/mdn/pt/Mar/estrategia/>

www.emam.com.pt

www.apambiente.pt

http://www.emam.com.pt/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=58&Itemid=125

A.3.1.b

<http://www.rupprecht-consult.eu/download/Evaluation%20of%20ICZM%20in%20Europe%20---%20FINAL%20REPORT.pdf>

<http://www.maotdr.gov.pt/Admin/Files/Documents/GIZC.pdf>

A3.2

http://ec.europa.eu/water/water-bathing/report_2007.html

http://snirh.inag.pt/snirh/dados_sintese/portugues/docs/praias_hoje_princ.html

A3.3

[http://www.dgpa.min-](http://www.dgpa.min-agricultura.pt/ngt_server/attachfileu.jsp?look_parentBoui=352060&att_display=n&att_download=y)

[agricultura.pt/ngt_server/attachfileu.jsp?look_parentBoui=352060&att_display=n&att_download=y](http://www.dgpa.min-agricultura.pt/ngt_server/attachfileu.jsp?look_parentBoui=352060&att_display=n&att_download=y)

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/op/portugal_pt.pdf

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/press_corner/press_releases/2008/com08_04_en.htm

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/pt/pt-nr-03-en.pdf>

A3.4

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/op/portugal_pt.pdf

A3.5.a

A3.5.b

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/fleetstatistics/pop_evo.cfm?ctyCode=PRT

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/op/portugal_pt.pdf

A3.6

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/pt/pt-nr-03-en.pdf>

A3.7

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/op/portugal_pt.pdf

A4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU

A4.

Infoview Data (DG Regio)

LIFE+ 2007 Call for Proposals – DG Environment

A5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes

A5.1.2

Miller, C., Kettunen, M. & Shine, C. 2006. Scope options for EU action on invasive alien species (IAS) Final report for the European Commission. Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP), Brussels, Belgium.

A5.1.2 & 5.1.3

National Report on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

<http://www.cbd.int/biosafety/parties/reports.shtml?report=NR-CPB-01>

European Commission Report on the Implementation of National Measures on the Coexistence of Genetically Modified Crops with Conventional and Organic Farming

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/coexistence/index_en.htm

B6: To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services

B6

<http://www.cbd.int/convention/parties/contributions.shtml?tab=2&yr=2007>

<http://www.cbd.int/reports/search.shtml>

<http://www.cbd.int/countries/?country=pt>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/pt/pt-nr-03-en.pdf>

http://www.ramsar.org/res/key_res_ix_12_e.htm

http://www.cms.int/bodies/StC/32_stc_meeting/French/Doc_09_Fonds_Affectation_avec_Annexes.pdf

http://www.unep-aewa.org/meetings/en/stc_meetings/stc4docs/pdf/stc4_9_income_expenditures.pdf

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/31COM/documents/>

http://www.unep.org/rmu/en/Financing_of_UNEP/Environment_Fund/Table_2007/index.asp

B7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance

B7.1.3 & 7.1.6:

http://www.oecd.org/document/17/0,3343,en_2649_34603_33887057_1_1_1_1,00.html

http://www.ada.gov.at/up-media/2766_distribution_by_sectors.pdf

B8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services

B8

<http://www.cites.org/eng/resources/reports/biennial.shtml>

<http://www.cites.org/common/resources/reports/pab/05-06Portugal.pdf>

<http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/14/doc/E14-07-1.pdf>

C9: To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change

C9.1.1

EC (2007) Communication from the Commission. Progress towards achieving the Kyoto objectives.

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/climat/gge_progress.htm

C9.4.1 & 9.4.3

Third National Report to CBD (2007)

http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/pt/pt-nr-03-en.doc#_Toc78202034

Fourth National Communication On Climate Change to the UNFCCC (2006)

<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/natc/prtnc4.pdf>

D10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally

D10.1

E1. Ensuring adequate financing

E1

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rur/countries/pt/fiche_en.pdf

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rurdev/countries/pt/index_en.htm

E2. Strengthening EU decision-making

E2.1

E2.2

http://www.ifadap.min-agricultura.pt/ifadap/legislacao/docs/DRepublica/2001/resolucao_cm_152_2001.htm

E2.5

http://www.ifadap.min-agricultura.pt/ifadap/legislacao/docs/DRepublica/2001/resolucao_cm_152_2001.htm

E3. Building partnerships

E3.1

E4. Building public education, awareness and participation

E4.1

<http://portal.icnb.pt/ICNPortal/vPT2007/O+ICNB/Iniciativa+Business+and++Biodiversity/>

http://www.emam.com.pt/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=58&Itemid=125

http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/flash/fl_219_en.pdf

F1-4. Monitoring, evaluation and review

<http://eumon.ckff.si/>

http://eumon.ckff.si/monitoring/monitor_show_wp23-2.php?sid=638&mid=257

ROMANIA

Competent authority(ies) for nature & biodiversity:

Federal Environment Ministry

http://www.mmediu.ro/dep_mediu/biodiversitate.htm

Most recent national/subnational biodiversity strategy/action plan:

The National Strategy and Action Plan for the biological diversity conservation and sustainable use of its components in Romania:

<http://enrin.grida.no/biodiv/biodiv/nbsap/rostrat.htm>

Latest review of the implementation of biodiversity strategy/action plan:

Alignment with EU biodiversity plan:

Alignment with EU 2010 Biodiversity Indicators (SEBI 2010):

Key sources of official nature & biodiversity information used for evaluation:

- See data sources at end of this document

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS IN DELIVERY OF OBJECTIVES OF EU BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN

A. POLICY AREA 1: BIODIVERSITY IN THE EU

1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species.

Natura 2000 sites (terrestrial and marine) (A.1.1, A.1.2 & A.1.4)

	<i>Number of sites</i>	<i>Area (km²)</i>
Total SCIs/SACs (Habitats Directive)	273	32 833
SCIs/SACs with marine component (Habitats Directive)	6	1 353
Total SPAs (Birds Directive)	108	29 887
SPAs with marine component (Birds Directive)	1	1472

Number of SCIs and SACs - Natura 2000 Barometer – June 2008 (Source: European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity based on data supplied by Member State)

Romania was considered, in June 2008, to have achieved a level of sufficiency of a level of sufficiency of 81.8 % for site selection for species and habitat types under Habitats Directive, in its territory.

According to the EC LIFE Programme/Database, under the LIFE Nature programme, there was a total of 20 projects in Romania with an EC contribution of EUR 6 895 489, during the period 2000-2006. In the year 2007, according to the indicative national allocations, Romanian projects received EUR 5 236 000 from LIFE+ funds.

Conservation status assessment (A1.2)

Under the Habitats Directive Romania has five biogeographical regions (alpine, Black sea, continental, steppic, pannonian). The results of the first conservation status assessment for species and habitats of community interest will be prepared for next reporting phase, in 2013.

Red Data Books/Lists, National/Subnational Atlases, Action Plans (A1.3)

Romanian Red Lists are available for the following: Mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles, bats, butterflies, beetles, Quercus species and associations, Fagus associations and Bacterian flora. None were given as in preparation. National/subnational atlases are available for mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles, fish, dragonflies, butterflies, beetles and mosses. *Ex-situ* conservation is referred to in the NBSAP as submitted to the CBD Secretariat.

Common bird monitoring (A1.4)

Common bird monitoring is carried out through Monitorizarea Păsărilor Comune. The results are available online. Trend indicators could not be found.

Information could not be found on the completeness of Natura 2000 designations ecological connectivity tools, number of Natura 2000 sites with management plans in place or in development, spatial data for sites, Article 17 conservation status assessments or species action plans.

2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside.

Rural Development Programmes (A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8):

According to information supplied by the Romanian authorities, only 9.7 % of the total EAFRD funding (including co-financing) is allocated to agri-environment measures within the Romanian 2007-13 RDP. This is the lowest proportion of any Member State and is in contrast to the large areas of Natura sites and HNV farmland and forest habitat in the country. Furthermore, the country has decided to defer RDP Natura payments until 2010 (due to its limited capacity to establish management provisions and agreements with owners).

The RDP agri-environment measures are primarily focussed on maintaining HNV grasslands, which will include many Natura sites. However, the measures are not targeted to Natura sites. The measures also include some pilot schemes for habitats of some selected birds of particularly high conservation importance in Romania (*Crex Crex*, *Lanius minor*, *Falco vespertinus*).

The vast majority of Axis 2 funding will be used to support farming in less-favoured areas. As in other countries this may help maintain traditional farming practices associated with HNV habitats in some areas and thereby provide biodiversity benefits. However, the measures are not targeted to HNV or Natura sites and do not include restrictions on intensification actions etc which could be damaging to biodiversity.

Agricultural genetic diversity (A2.1.11):

Romania has national genetic conservation targets in accordance with corresponding CBD goals and has a range of legislation and other measures to maintain genetic diversity. For example, the conservation of genetic diversity of forest species is a goal of the Forest Code Law 26/1996 and in the Law 161/2004 on the production, commerce and use of reproductive forestry materials. The conservation of genetic diversity of forest species is also included in the strategy for sustainable development of Romanian forestry.

There are also measures to conserve traditional breeds of sheep and cattle.

Agricultural cross-compliance measures (A2.1.4 & 2.1.10):

Romania includes a GAEC requirement for the retention of landscape features amongst its cross-compliance requirements. Such features include terraces and trees. [No information is readily available on other GAEC measures, but a translation of the measures is being prepared. This section will then be completed]

Afforestation / deforestation policies and biodiversity (A2.1.5):

No information was provided by the Member State in the MTR questionnaire. According to Romania, there was insufficient time to consult relevant authorities for information. Due to language limitations no other readily available information could be found on the subject.

Soil protection and biodiversity (A2.2.1):

No information was provided by the Member State in the MTR questionnaire. According to

Romania, there was insufficient time to consult relevant authorities for information. Due to language limitations no other readily available information could be found on the subject.

Measures to improve the ecological status of freshwaters (A2.3.1):

Romania has completed all the legal transposition and the implementation elements of the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC (WFD) which have deadlines during 2004, 2005 and 2007. These include the production of a River Basin District Report and River Basin Analysis report and Monitoring Network Report.

Measures to reduce air pollution impacts on biodiversity (A2.4.2 & 2.4.3):

Romania's emissions of ammonia, nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide, and volatile organic compounds were all below NEC Directive ceilings in 2006 and it is projected that they will remain below these levels in 2010.

3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment.

Good marine ecological status (A3.1a):

Romania does not have a national marine strategy, but the Environmental Protection Law, (no. 137/1995) and the Water Law, (no. 8/1974) are the key pieces of legislation regarding the marine environment. The Water Law's objectives include the conservation, development and protection of water resources as well as the ensuring of a free water flow; protection against pollution and modification of the characteristics of water resources, their banks, beds or basins; restoration of surface and groundwater quality; and conservation and protection of aquatic ecosystems. Responsibility for the sustainable use and conservation of marine living resources lies with the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

Romania is also Contracting Party to the Protocol on Black Sea Biodiversity and Landscape Conservation (previously Protocol on Black Sea Biodiversity and Landscape Protection) ("the Protocol") of the Bucharest Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea against Pollution, and as such has responsibilities under the Strategic Action Plan for the Black Sea Biodiversity and Landscape Conservation Protocol (BSBLCP-SAP). One of the main objectives of the BSBLCP-SAP is "to halt losses of currently known threatened species and destruction of their habitats by 2010 arising from human activities in the BSBLCP area and to prevent appearance of new threatened species by human activities".

Integrated coastal zone management (ICZM) (A.3.1.b):

The "Evaluation of ICZM in Europe" report from 2006 indicated that since 2002, Romania has taken the first steps toward implementing the EC Recommendation. The National ICZM Law (Emergency Ordinance 202/2002 - modified as Law 280/2003) has been subject to important changes (has been enhanced, shaped according to the EC recommendations, and proposals were made to make it more functional) and is currently waiting for debate and approval in the Romanian Parliament, together with the Outline Draft Strategy for the Romanian coast. In addition, the National Institute for Marine Research and Development has established a Coastal Zone National Committee (CZNC) and has implemented a number of projects that incorporate aspects of ICZM.

Pollution: Bathing water quality (A3.2)

The National Marine Research Institute carries out marine environmental and pollution monitoring in the Black Sea. This includes biodiversity aspects. Bathing water quality assessments for 2007 show that 28.6 % of sites reached the mandatory standards and only 2.9 % reached the guide values. These figures are very low and Romania has a long way to go in tackling bathing water quality.

Ecosystem approaches in Fisheries management measures (A3.3):

The Romanian National Institute for Marine Research and Development hosts the Black Sea Regional Activity Centre for Environmental Aspects of Fisheries and other Marine Living resources Management (RAC FOMLRM), created in 1994. Part of the activities involves promoting ecosystem-based fisheries management approach and FAO Code of Conduct provisions. It is not clear whether Romania has a national fisheries management plan which incorporates the ecosystem approach.

Community and National Financing under European Fisheries Funds (EFF) (A3.4):

The Romanian Operational Programme was approved by the Commission in January 2008. The total eligible public expenditure of the programme is EUR 307,618,942, with EU assistance through the European Fisheries Fund (EFF) amounting to EUR 230,714,207. EFF Funding for Priority Axis 1 amounted to 4.3 % of the total EFF Contribution. Axis 2 amounted to 45.5 % of the total EFF Contribution and Axis 3 amounted to 13 % of the total EFF contribution. Two of the five axes include environmentally-friendly measures, specifically Axis 1 for adaptation of the fleet, which includes provision for cessation of fishing activities and more environmentally-friendly gears, and Axis 2, which includes environmental measures for aquaculture, such as promoting practices with low environmental impact or organic farming.

Restoration programmes for diadromous species (A3.5.a):

Romania is a contracting party of the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPRD). The ICPDR supports (but has not yet adopted) the Action Plan for the Recovery, Protection and Conservation of Endangered Surgeons in the Danube River Basin. Relating to this, in April 2006, Romania banned sturgeon fishing for the next ten years. In the new Order regarding the sturgeons preserving (No. 262/330/2006), the trade of wild sturgeons captured on Romanian territory is forbidden. This Order was published in the Official Publication of the Romanian Government, No. 385 / 4 May 2006.

There is no information on specific management plans for other diadromous species in Romania.

Fishing Capacity-Decommissioning (3.5.b):

The Operational Programme provides for permanent and temporary cessation of fishing activities for Black Sea fleets. They aim for a 20 % reduction of tonnage and a 15 % reduction of power by 2010.

Action plans and conservation status for marine species and habitats (A3.6):

The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for the Convention on Biological Diversity states that, according to the Bern Convention ratified by Romania, and to the recommendations issued by the Council of Europe, specific plans and regulations shall be developed in Romania for the protection of bird species including *Pelecanus crispus* (breeds near coastal areas). It is not clear whether there are action plans for other coastal or marine

species in Romania.

The Integrated Monitoring Programme for the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve has three purposes, including: provision of information for the scientific community, administration and politics, as a result of the research activity in physics, biology and social sciences; support for systematic exchanges of scientific information; support for the integrated monitoring of the biosphere reserves, especially concerning the global changes, biological diversity, ecosystems management, human impact and sustainable development. In addition, species-specific 'Monitoring of Dalmatian Pelican' (*Pelecanus crispus*) is undertaken in Romania by BirdLife and the Romanian Ornithological Society.

Aquaculture planning and biodiversity (A3.7):

Romania's Operational Programme for Fisheries takes environmental considerations into account in its plans for aquaculture development, specifically the promotion of practices with low environmental impact or organic farming.

4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU.

Biodiversity spending under Cohesion and structural funds:

Expenditures foreseen by Romania for Biodiversity & nature protection under the Operational Program Environment, for the period 2007-2013, amount to EUR 172 000 000 (215 000 000 with national co-financing). Other relevant areas where Cohesion and structural funds will be allocated are Promotion of Natural Assets (EUR 64 000 000) and Natural Heritage (EUR 116 000 000).

5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes.

Strategies to reduce impacts from invasive alien species (A5.1.2):

Romania does not have a coherent strategy for dealing with IAS or comprehensive IAS legislation. However, there are some laws that include articles referring to IAS e.g. Law 192/19.04.2001, which forbid the introduction of fish species in rivers, and Order 322/16.03.2000, which regulates the import of wild animal and plant species.

In addition there are two national projects, which aim to develop control programmes and publish a list of alien species in Romania.

Biosafety measures to reduce impacts from alien genotypes (A5.1.2 & 5.1.3):

Relevant EU Regulations and Directives have been adopted/ implemented in the framework of the country's accession to the European Union, including Regulation 1946/2003 on transboundary movements, which implements the provisions of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety into EU law. Emergency Governmental Ordinance No 43/2007 on the deliberate release and placing on the market of the genetically modified organisms is one of the principal legal acts, transposing Directive 2001/18/EC.

B. POLICY AREA 2: THE EU AND GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY

6. To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Romania's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan are dated from 1996. The Third National Report to the CBD was transmitted in 2005. Thematic reports have been prepared on alien species and mountain ecosystems. Romania has allocated substantial funding for national biodiversity, including co-financing for GEF projects, and biodiversity research. A Fund for the Environment was created, using the taxes for pollution and the exploitation of biological resources by economic agents, with more than 10 % allocated to biodiversity conservation. The contributions to CBD, Ramsar, CMS, AEW, World Heritage Convention and the UNEP Environment Funds were paid as pledged.

7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance.

Funds allocated for biodiversity projects and programmes in developing countries (B7.1.3) and Members State's Overseas Countries and Territories (B7.1.6):

Due to language limitations no readily available information could be found on spending by Romania on ODA for biodiversity related projects. However, it is unlikely that significant biodiversity-related bilateral aid is provided by Romania due to its own current development and EU accession requirements.

8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services.

No information on the CITES permits for 2005-06 are available as no biennial report to CITES for that period was submitted. The figures for 2003-04 from the previous biennial report indicate low figures for import permits but higher numbers for export permits. There is no information on permit applications denied or on seizures for the 2003-04 reporting period. For the 2003-04 period, national capacity building activities focused on technical equipment as well as advice and assistance to the Management and the Scientific Authority. Romania paid its contribution to the CITES Trust Funds.

C. POLICY AREA 3: BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

9. To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change.

Progress on Kyoto targets (C9.1.1):

Under the Kyoto Protocol Romania is required to reduce its greenhouse gas emission by 8 % compared to the 1989 base level. By 2005 emissions had declined by 45.6 % mainly due to the effects of economic transition. It is projected that Romania will meet its Kyoto commitments even with strong economic development, with emissions in 2010 expected to be 31.9 % below base levels.

Adaptation measures to increase biodiversity resilience to climate change (C9.4.1 & 9.4.3):

From information provided in its Third National Report to CBD, there appears to be no overall strategy for assisting biodiversity adaptation to climate change, nor any significant biodiversity adaptation projects or studies. Although some afforestation projects are underway (including 'Afforestation of degraded agricultural land in Romania' financed by the Prototype

CarbonFund-World Bank and the National Forest Administration – Romsilva), it is not clear if these will provide any significant biodiversity adaptation benefits.

D. POLICY AREA 4: THE KNOWLEDGE BASE

10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally.

National research programmes (D10.1):

Currently there are no national or sub-national programmes supporting biodiversity research. The national research strategy is developed by the National Authority for Scientific Research (*Autoritatea Nationala pentru Cercetare Stiintifica*, ANCS). There is no information on whether there is a dedicated forum to ensure that biodiversity outcomes are reflected in policy development and implementation.

E. THE FOUR KEY SUPPORTING MEASURES

1. Ensuring adequate financing

Overall use of Community funds for biodiversity:

Agri-environment and other land management schemes

The Romanian Rural Development Programme for the period 2007-2013 covers biodiversity related activities under axis 2, which will have a total public cost of EUR 2 293 413 375, of which the EAFRD finances EUR 1 880 98 967 or 82 % of the total cost.

Fisheries

The Romanian Operational Programme was approved by the Commission in January 2008. The total eligible public expenditure of the programme is EUR 307 618 942, with EU assistance through the European Fisheries Fund (EFF) amounting to EUR 230 714 207. EFF Funding for Priority Axis 1 amounted to 4.3 % of the total EFF Contribution. Axis 2 amounted to 45.5 % of the total EFF Contribution and Axis 3 amounted to 13 % of the total EFF contribution. Two of the five axes include environmentally-friendly measures, specifically Axis 1 for adaptation of the fleet, which includes provision for cessation of fishing activities and more environmentally-friendly gears, and Axis 2, which includes environmental measures for aquaculture, such as promoting practices with low environmental impact or organic farming.

2. Strengthening EU decision-making

Plans and follow-up to UN Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (E2.1):

Romania is applying for a GEF 4 project for the implementation of the Clearing House Mechanism in Romania as part of their responsibilities under the Convention on Biological Diversity. A new biodiversity strategy for Romania is expected to be developed through this project, and would include the possibility of implementing follow-up to the MA.

Although nothing has yet been developed at national level, some independent studies are already ongoing, for example such as a case study in Romania for the Integrated Sustainability Assessment (ISA) of the SERI project.

Alignment of national biodiversity strategies with EU (E2.2):

The National Strategy and Action Plan for Biological Diversity Conservation has been established. The strategy is one of the principal elements of the Environmental Strategy for Romania. This Strategy covers biodiversity protection and sustainable use and protected areas management guidelines. There was no reference to integration of this plan into wider decision making. According to the CBD report on the status of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans, Romania's strategy is currently under revision. It is not clear if it will incorporate the 2010 target.

Effective integration of Natura 2000, Rural development, river basin management and other territorial plans and programmes in support for biodiversity (E2.5):

Romania is in the 'designation phase' with regards to Natura 2000.

The National Forestry Plan and National Forestry Program both incorporate the global target of conserving species diversity. The National Strategy and Action Plan for Biological Diversity Conservation mentions the need for it to be integrated with local sectoral plans and local sustainable development. A number of programmes are under implementation for the integrated management of the Danube river basin, for its protection and sustainable use. Local authorities are responsible for land-use planning but (the 1996 Strategy states) they have no capacity and qualified staff for incorporating biodiversity/nature conservation into their policies. The 41 Environmental Protection Agencies (EPAs) offices (County MWFEP offices) have legal responsibility for environmental monitoring and nature conservation.

3. Building partnerships

National partnerships for biodiversity including private sector involvement (E3.1):

Romania has not yet developed any national partnerships for biodiversity, guidelines for sectors or award schemes that promote business engagement with biodiversity. This is clearly an area where there is scope for development and good practice examples from other Member States could be useful in supporting Romania develop such initiatives.

4. Building public education, awareness and participation

National/Sub-national public awareness campaigns/initiatives (E4.1):

There is a low awareness of biodiversity issues in Romania, with 56 % of people surveyed had never heard of the term 'biodiversity'. Only 18 % knew what the term meant. There is an even lower awareness of the Natura 2000 network (10 %) although this is to be expected given their recent accession to the European Union. Despite this, 71 % of respondents felt they made personal efforts to protect biodiversity.

F. MONITORING

At the time of submission of the third national report to the CBD in November 2005, the development of a national biodiversity indicator framework in Romania was underway but a number of indicators already existed. Those indicators addressed a range of species and habitats, in particular forests, as well as protected areas, nitrogen deposition (in relation to forests), invasive species, and climate change (again in relation to forests). No indicators were

available regarding ecosystem integrity, goods and services; funding for biodiversity; access and benefit-sharing; and public awareness.

Several monitoring programmes are conducted in Romania. They refer to soils and forests, inland waters, and various species (NATURA 2000 species, game species, and migratory birds).

DATA SOURCES:

A1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species:

<http://enrin.grida.no/biodiv/biodiv/nbsap/rostrat.htm>

<http://monitoring.sor.ro/>

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/countries/index.htm>

A2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside

A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8

Published National Rural Development Programmes (IEEP database 2008)

European Commission unpublished data (2008)

A2.1.11

Third National Report to the CBD

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/ro/ro-nr-03-en.doc>

A2.3.1

WFD Scoreboard http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/transp_rep/scoreboard_en.htm

A2.4.2 & 2.4.3

Romania NEC Directive submission (27 Dec 2007)

<http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/ro/eu/nec/envr3omkw>

MS reporting to NEC Directive

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/implem_nec_directive.htm

A3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment

A3.1a

<http://faolex.fao.org/docs/texts/rom13302E.doc>

<http://faolex.fao.org/docs/texts/rom13258E.doc>

<http://www.blacksea-commission.org/bsap.htm>

A3.1b

<http://www.rmri.ro/ICZM/iczmEN.html>

http://www.rupprecht-consult.eu/iczm/iczm_national_reporting_bulgaria.htm

A3.2

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-bathing/report2008/en_summary.pdf

http://www.rmri.ro/RMRI/RaportStareaMediului/RaportStareaMediului_2007.pdf

A3.3

<http://www.blacksea-commission.org/Ac/AC-Fomlr.htm>

A3.4

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/op/romania_en.pdf

A3.5a

http://www.maap.ro/pages/piscicultura/SEA_Env_Report_Fishery_En.pdf

http://www.panda.org/about_wwf/where_we_work/europe/where/bulgaria/news/index.cfm?uNewsID=72960

A3.5b

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/op/romania_en.pdf

A3.6

<http://enrin.grida.no/biodiv/biodiv/nbsap/rostrat.htm>

<http://www.dbra.ro/en/monitoring.php>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/ro/ro-nr-03-en.doc>

http://www.birdlife.org/action/science/species/species_action_plans/europe/esap_list.html

A3.7

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/op/romania_en.pdf

A4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU

A4.

Infoview Data (DG Regio)

A5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes

A5.1.2

Source: MS questionnaire

Miller, C., Kettunen, M. & Shine, C. 2006. Scope options for EU action on invasive alien species (IAS) Final report for the European Commission. Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP), Brussels, Belgium.

A5.1.2 & 5.1.3

National Report on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

<http://www.cbd.int/biosafety/parties/reports.shtml?report=NR-CPB-01>

B6: To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services

<http://www.cbd.int/reports/search.shtml>

<http://www.cbd.int/countries/?country=ro>

<http://enrin.grida.no/biodiv/biodiv/nbsap/rostrat.htm>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/ro/ro-nr-03-en.pdf>

<http://www.cbd.int/convention/parties/contributions.shtml?tab=2&yr=2007>

http://www.ramsar.org/res/key_res_ix_12_e.htm

http://www.cms.int/bodies/StC/32_stc_meeting/French/Doc_09_Fonds_Affectation_avec_Annexes.pdf

http://www.unep-aewa.org/meetings/en/stc_meetings/stc4docs/pdf/stc4_9_income_expenditures.pdf

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/31COM/documents/>

http://www.unep.org/rmu/en/Financing_of_UNEP/Environment_Fund/Table_2007/index.asp

B8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services

<http://www.cites.org/eng/resources/reports/biennial.shtml>

<http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/14/doc/E14-07-1.pdf>

C9: To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change

C9.1.1

EC (2007) Communication from the Commission. Progress towards achieving the Kyoto objectives.

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/climat/gge_progress.htm

C9.4.1 & 9.4.3

Third National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/ro/ro-nr-03-en.doc>

D10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally

A10.1

MS Questionnaire

http://www.mct.ro/ancs_web/index.php?action=view&idcat=26

E1. Ensuring adequate financing

E1

MS questionnaire

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/countries/documents/romania_en_oct06.pdf

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/08/103&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

E2. Strengthening EU decision-making

E2.1

MS Questionnaire

http://www.seri.at/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=604&Itemid=142

E2.2

http://www.undp.org/bpsp/nbsap_links/NBSAP_Romania.htm

E2.5

http://www.undp.org/bpsp/nbsap_links/NBSAP_Romania.htm

E3. Building partnerships

E3.1

MS Questionnaire

E4. Building public education, awareness and participation

E4.1

http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/index_en.htm

F1-4. Monitoring, evaluation and review

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/ro/ro-nr-03-en.pdf>

<http://eumon.ckff.si/>

SLOVAKIA

Competent authority(ies) for nature & biodiversity:

Slovak Environmental Agency: <http://www.sazp.sk/indexe.html>

State Nature Conservancy <http://www.soprs.sk/>

Most recent national/subnational biodiversity strategy/action plan:

National Biodiversity Strategy of Slovakia, 1997: <http://www.cbd.int/countries/?country=sk>

Latest review of the implementation of biodiversity strategy/action plan:

Third National Report, 2005: <http://www.cbd.int/countries/?country=sk>

Alignment with EU biodiversity plan:

Alignment with EU 2010 Biodiversity Indicators (SEBI 2010):

Key sources of official nature & biodiversity information used for evaluation:

- Slovakia National Biodiversity Clearinghouse Mechanism: <http://www.fns.uniba.sk/zp/biod/>
- Slovak Environmental Agency: <http://www.sazp.sk/indexe.html>
- Natura 2000: <http://www.soprs.sk/natura/index1.php?p=4&lang=en>
- Convention on Biological Diversity Country Profile and National Report: <http://www.cbd.int/countries/?country=sk>
- EU Operational Programme for Fisheries Press Release: <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/07/612&format=HTML&aged=1&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>
- Ministry of Agriculture: <http://www.land.gov.sk/en/index.php?navID=1>
- Ministry of Environment: http://www.enviro.gov.sk/servlets/page?c_id=5300&lang_id=2

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS IN DELIVERY OF OBJECTIVES OF EU BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN

A. POLICY AREA 1: BIODIVERSITY IN THE EU

1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species.

Natura 2000 sites (terrestrial) (A.1.1, A.1.2. & A.1.4)

	<i>Number of sites</i>	<i>Area (km²)</i>
Total SCIs/SACs (Habitats)	382	5 739

Directive)		
SCIs/SACs with marine component (Habitats Directive)	N/A	N/A
Total SPAs (Birds Directive)	38	1 226
SPAs with marine component (Birds Directive)	N/A	N/A

Number of SCIs and SACs - Natura 2000 Barometer – June 2008 (Source: European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity based on data supplied by Member State)

Slovakia was considered in June 2008 to have achieved a level of sufficiency of 72.3 % for site selection for species and habitat types under Habitats Directive, in its territory. No information was found in relation to management plans for Natura 2000 sites in Slovakia.

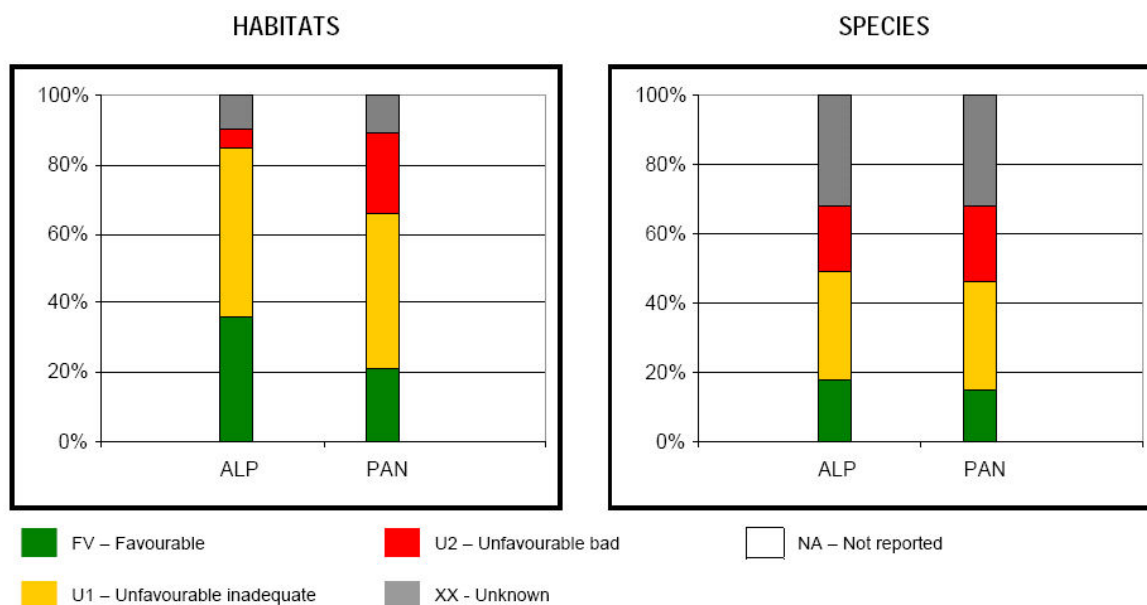
According to the EC LIFE Programme/Database, under the LIFE Nature programme, there was a total of 8 projects in Slovakia with an EC contribution of EUR 4 841 300, during the period 2000-2006. In the year 2007, according to the indicative national allocations, Slovakian projects received EUR 2 857 000 from LIFE+ funds.

Interactive maps for Natura 2000 sites for Slovakia are available from the Internet.

Little information was found on connectivity of habitat activities for Slovakia but it was noted that there has been some activity related to transboundary sites such as the Ramsar wetland area in the Upper Tisza Region in 1997.

Conservation status assessment (A.1.2)

Under the Habitats Directive Slovakia has two biogeographical regions (alpine, pannonian). The results of the first conservation status assessment for species and habitats of community interest are as follows:



Region / Conclusion	HABITATS					SPECIES				
	FV	U1	U2	XX	NA	FV	U1	U2	XX	NA
Alpine	36	49	5	10		18	31	19	32	
Pannonian	21	45	23	11		15	31	22	32	
Member State	29	47	13	11		16	31	20	33	

*The conservation status categories: FV = favourable, U1 = unfavourable-inadequate, U2 = unfavourable-bad, XX = unknown, NA = no evaluation given by MS

Overall assessment of conservation status by biogeographical region (Analysis by the European Topic centre on Biological Diversity based on data supplied by Member State)

Red Data Books/Lists, National/Subnational Atlases, Action Plans (A.1.3)

Slovakia has Red Data Books for: spiders (1999), non vascular plants (1999), endangered and rare plant and animal species (1999), amphibians and reptiles (1998), birds (1998, 1988), mammals (1997), hazard taxa of fauna (1996), dragonflies (1996), Algae, Fungi, Lichens, and Mosses (1995), and invertebrates (1992). An atlas is also planned for migrating birds of the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

No information was available on Action Plans developed under the Habitats and Bird Directives.

Common bird monitoring (A.1.3)

Slovakia has a common bird monitoring programme, which monitors dispersed bird species and breeding bird populations. The data collected from this monitoring programme are not used to develop a national level indicator.

Ex-situ conservation (A.1.3)

Zoological and botanical gardens, arboreta and gene banks represent typical *ex-situ* conservation facilities in Slovakia. Slovakia also uses seed orchards and clonal groves, generative reproduction plantations and forest seed banks.

2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside.

Rural Development Programmes (A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8):

According to information supplied by the Slovakian authorities, the Axis 2 budget of the RDP accounts for 50.0 % of EAFRD spending (EUR 315 200 000). A substantial proportion of the Axis 2 allocation is dedicated to natural handicap payments to farmers in mountain areas (16.1 %) and other areas (10.99 %). However, some 13.6 % of the EAFRD budget is allocated to agri-environment measures (more biodiversity oriented AES are focused on protection of biotopes of semi-natural and natural grasslands and protection of selected bird species biotopes). There is also a small allocation for Natura 2000 measures on agricultural land together with measures evolved from Water Framework Directive (0.14 % of the EAFRD budget), with a target coverage of 4 000 ha on Natura sites. SK confirmed that compensation on other agricultural land not covered by RDP or outside of LPIS will be covered from other resources (like national resources, article 61 of Act No. 543/2002) as is explained in the RDP, and that these areas will be protected sufficiently.

Biodiversity conservation measures in forests receive rather little support, with only 0.3 % of the EAFRD budget allocated to Natura 2000 forest payments (with a target coverage of 30000 ha on Natura sites). In addition 1.0 % of the RDP budget is allocated for forest environment measures (focused on conservation of favourable status of forest biotopes and protection of selected bird species biotopes).

Agricultural genetic diversity (A2.1.11):

The long-term monitoring of the status of components of agricultural biodiversity is ensured by Act No. 215/2001 on Conservation of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. It includes a commitment to contribute to the conservation of agricultural genetic resources. Its provisions are reflected in the National Programme for the Conservation of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. Furthermore, gene banks for the conservation of genetic material of cultivated species and microorganisms exist. Research projects are carried out with regard to monitoring, inventory, propagation, evaluation, recording, cataloguing, preservation and use of plant genetic resources of cultural, less known, neglected and unusual plant species.

The conservation of genetic diversity of Slovakian domestic animals includes both *in situ* and *ex situ* protection measures. Certain traditional and endangered animal breeds are supported with incentives to a limited extent. Similarly, genetic material of these breeds is conserved for long-term purposes. Monitoring of breed populations is undertaken and a national database exists.

Agricultural cross-compliance measures (A2.1.4 & 2.1.10):

Slovakia has four GAEC Minimum Level of Maintenance measures in its cross-compliance regulations. These appear to primarily focus on maintaining land in good agricultural condition, through the control of unwanted vegetation (by grazing or mowing and /or mulching) on permanent pastures and uncultivated arable land and by conservation of landscape elements. These measures may help to alleviate land abandonment in some areas, but are unlikely to provide significant protection for biodiversity.

Afforestation / deforestation policies and biodiversity (A2.1.5):

Afforestation was supported both from the RDP 2004-2006 and Operational Programme for

Agriculture and Rural Development. Within the new RDP only 0.19 % of the EAFRD allocation has been committed to the first afforestation of agricultural land.

Soil protection and biodiversity (A2.2.1):

Soil protection is covered by the GAEC through maintaining the minimum soil cover, crop rotation and application of suitable machinery; through RDP some measures are going beyond the good agricultural and environmental conditions, which might help to decrease soil erosion on certain areas, but are unlikely to provide significant protection for biodiversity.

Measures to improve the ecological status of freshwaters (A2.3.1):

According to the European Commission's WFD Scoreboard, Slovakia has completed the legal transposition of the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC (WFD) and met all its other requirements that have deadlines during 2004, 2005 and 2007. These include the production of a River Basin District Report, River Basin Analysis Report and a Monitoring Network Report.

Measures to reduce air pollution impacts on biodiversity (A2.4.2 & 2.4.3):

In 2006, Slovakia already met the targets set by the NEC Directive regarding all relevant air emissions. According to the country, under the current development of the economy and relevant sectors, it will be able to maintain emissions within its national ceilings, although increases in nitrogen oxides and non-methane volatile organic compounds are expected by 2010. RDP was used only minimally towards air emissions reduction.

3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment.

Good marine ecological status (A3.1.a):

Not applicable.

Integrated coastal zone management (ICZM) (A.3.1.b):

Not applicable.

Pollution: Bathing water quality (A3.2)

Not assessed.

Ecosystem approaches in Fisheries management measures (A3.3):

Slovakia does not have a national fisheries management plan as such. There is an Operational Programme document for 2007-2013 for fisheries and a Fisheries Act (no. 139/2002) It is unclear whether they incorporate the ecosystem approach. The Report on the Slovak Republic's Progress in its Integration into the European Union September 2001 – May 2002 explains that the Fisheries Act contains a section on the Environment which deals with, among other things, the quality of water suitable for different species of fish.

Community and National Financing under European Fisheries Funds (EFF) (A3.4):

The European Commission approved the Operational Programme for the Slovakian Fisheries Industry for the period 2007-2013. The total eligible public expenditure of the programme amounts to EUR 18 922 750, with EU assistance through the EFF amounting to EUR 13 688

528. EUR 12 681 459 of the EFF assistance will be allocated to the Convergence regions of the Slovak Republic (the regions of Trnava, Nitra, Trenčín, Banská Bystrica, Prešov and Košice) and EUR 1 007 069 to the non-Convergence regions (Bratislava region). A majority of the EFF funds (76.5 %) are allocated for Axis 2 'Aquaculture, inland fishing, processing and marketing of fishery and aquaculture products' while a further 18.5 % are allocated towards Axis 3 'Measures of Common Interest'. The remaining funds are allocated to Axis 5 'Technical Assistance'. It is unclear whether the Operational Programme incorporates environmentally-friendly fisheries.

Restoration programmes for diadromous species (A3.5.a):

An international Action Plan for the Recovery, Protection and Conservation of Endangered Sturgeons in the Danube River Basin was adopted unanimously at the meeting of the Bern Convention, the pan-European nature conservation convention of which Slovakia is a contracting party. There was no information on whether this commitment has led to a national management plan or action plan for sturgeon.

Fishing Capacity-Decommissioning (3.5.b):

Not applicable.

Action plans and conservation status for marine species and habitats (A3.6):

Not applicable.

Aquaculture planning and biodiversity (A3.7):

The Slovakia Operational Programme for Fisheries 2007-2013 was approved by the European Commission. It was unclear whether this document incorporates environmentally-friendly aquaculture development.

4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU.

Biodiversity spending under Cohesion and structural funds:

Expenditures foreseen by Slovakia for Biodiversity & nature protection, under the Cohesion and structural funds, for the period 2007-2013, amount to EUR 50 000 000. Other relevant areas where Cohesion and structural funds will be allocated are Promotion of Natural Assets (EUR 40 000 000) and Natural Heritage (EUR 8 000 000).

5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes.

Strategies to reduce impacts from invasive alien species (A5.1.2):

No questionnaire response was received from the Member State. However, according to an IEEP study carried out in 2006, Slovakia has adopted legislation addressing invasive alien species (IAS), including issues such as trade/import and export, introduction as well as control/eradication. The import of seven listed invasive plants is prohibited. Regulations also deal with trade in IAS, but their implementation remains unclear. The Act on Nature and Landscape Protection addresses the introduction of IAS, and a compulsory order for the eradication of seven plant species is in place.

Although no overall strategy on IAS seems to have been developed, the national biodiversity

strategy includes related objectives. It is unclear whether a national database on IAS has been created.

Biosafety measures to reduce impacts from alien genotypes (A5.1.2 & 5.1.3):

Besides having ratified the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, Slovakia has adopted/implemented relevant EU Regulations and Directives including Regulation 1946/2003 on transboundary movements, which implements the provisions of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety into EU law.

In the Slovak Republic the main Act dealing with the issue is the Act on Use of Genetic Technologies and Genetically Modified Organisms (No. 151/2002 Coll., amended 1 April, 2002, in force 8 August 2005). Furthermore, the country is in the process of drafting legislation regarding the coexistence of genetically modified crops with conventional and organic farming.

B. POLICY AREA 2: THE EU AND GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY

6. To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services.

The National Biodiversity Strategy of Slovakia was prepared in 1997. In 2005, the Third National Report to the CBD was submitted. The following thematic report has been provided- Alien Invasive Species. Slovakia paid their contributions to CBD, Ramsar, CMS, AEW, World Heritage Convention and the UNEP Environment Fund.

7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance.

Funds allocated for biodiversity projects and programmes in developing countries (B7.1.3) and Members State's Overseas Countries and Territories (B7.1.6):

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has established the Agency for International Development Cooperation (Slovak Aid) to coordinate official development assistance. The country's development assistance goals focus on reducing poverty and hunger, promoting sustainable social, economic and environmental development, ensuring global peace and security, promoting universal access to education, improving the quality of basic healthcare as well as promoting economic cooperation.

The level of spending on biodiversity related development projects is unknown.

Integration of biodiversity considerations into development programmes and projects impacts on biodiversity (Action B7.2.2 & 7.2.5):

No readily available information could be found on this subject. The extent to which biodiversity considerations are taken into account in external projects and programmes is therefore unknown.

8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services.

According to the number of CITES certificates, Slovakia enjoys a low level of trade in CITES species. 31 and 40 trading documents were issued in 2005 and 2006 respectively. No denied permit applications were reported. 28 seizures took place in 2005-06 as compared to 83 in 2003-04. Advice/guidance was provided to the Management Authority, the Scientific Authority and the public. Training and technical assistance was provided to the enforcement authorities. Slovakia paid their annual contribution to the CITES Trust Funds.

C. POLICY AREA 3: BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

9. To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change.

Progress on Kyoto targets (C9.1.1):

Slovakia has a Kyoto target of reducing emissions for the period 2008-2012 to 8.0 % below base-line levels. In 2005 greenhouse gas emissions in Slovakia were 33.6 % below their base year level, so the country is currently well on track to meet its Kyoto targets. Although greenhouse gas emissions are expected to rise, projections suggest that they will be 20.2 % below base-line levels in 2010.

Adaptation measures to increase biodiversity resilience to climate change (C9.4.1 & 9.4.3):

There is no indication in its UNFCCC report that Slovakia has a climate change adaptation strategy. Although there is some consideration of impacts and adaptation needs for agriculture and forestry, biodiversity issues are not addressed. Little information is provided on climate change in its third report to CBD. More recent information is not readily available, and therefore it is uncertain to what extent biodiversity adaptation measures are currently being considered.

D. POLICY AREA 4: THE KNOWLEDGE BASE

10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally.

National research programmes (D10.1):

The Third National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity (2005) indicates that in Slovakia, biodiversity conservation activities are mostly financed from public sources. Principal Nature Conservation Agencies receive full or partial contributions from the state budget.

In 2004, the Slovak Environmental Fund was established through the Act No. 587/2004. The Fund is managed through the Ministry of the Environment. The funds can be provided to eligible recipients in the form of grants or credits. Eligible areas of support include actions supporting implementation of the State Environmental Policy (including conservation of biodiversity), research and surveys aiming at improving of the state of the Environment, and environmental education and training.

The Report to the CBD also shows that Slovakia promotes research in biodiversity to a 'limited extent.' Programmes being supported are in the fields of Forestry (i.e. Improvement

of Forest Inventory, Forest Genetic Resources, etc.) and Agro-biodiversity (i.e. monitoring, inventorying, and evaluating plant genetic resources).

One of the strategic directions of the Slovakia Biodiversity Strategy is to ‘develop a long-term comprehensive national biodiversity research program.’

Slovakia’s National Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) home page was established within the Slovak Agricultural University in Nitra (also designated the CHM focal point), according to the Report to the CBD. However, the CHM is not operational due to the lack operational concept and absence of formal support.

E. THE FOUR KEY SUPPORTING MEASURES

1. Ensuring adequate financing

Overall use of Community funds for biodiversity:

OP Environment 2007-2013

Major allocation for biodiversity and in particular for management and protection of Natura 2000 sites is reserved in the OP Environment managed by the Slovakian Ministry of Environment. The dedicated priority axis no. 5 is supported by EUR 50 756 935 from the ERDF.

Its operational objectives are divided into 3 parts:

1. Ensuring favourable status of habitats and species via elaboration and implementation of management plans of protected areas including Natura 2000 sites and conservation programmes for critically endangered fauna and flora species and areas including monitoring of species and habitats.
2. Improvement of nature and landscape conservation infrastructure by constructing and developing nature and landscape conservation facilities including introduction of monitoring systems in order to comply with national and international commitments.
3. Improvement of public information and environmental awareness, including improvement of cooperation and communication with stakeholder groups.

RDP 2004-2006

The EAGGF contribution under the RDP is about EUR 397 100 000. Biodiversity-related activities are covered under “Priority 2: Protection and improvement of rural environment” which includes payments to less favoured areas (LFAs) and areas with environmental restrictions (33.9 % of the total EAGGF contribution), agri-environment (11.5 %) and afforestation of agricultural land (0.6 %). Furthermore, environmental protection belongs to the base objectives of each measure of the RDP.

RDP 2007-2013

With a total public funding of EUR 1 242 076 174 including an EAFRD contribution of EUR 984 709 039, Axis 2 of the RDP for this period includes a minor allocation for the biodiversity-related activities. They include enhancing biodiversity in rural areas and agriculture and forestry systems of high natural value; maintaining and enhancing the quality of agricultural and forest soil, and mitigation of the impacts of climatic changes. No data was found on specific funding to biodiversity-related activities alone.

2. Strengthening EU decision-making

Plans and follow-up to UN Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (E2.1):

There is no information available on whether Slovakia has any plans for a follow-up to the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment.

Alignment of national biodiversity strategies with EU (E2.2):

The Slovakia Biodiversity Strategy (1997) includes strategic directions to ‘review existing concepts, strategies, plans and policies, with priority to those adopted before the Convention (of Biological Diversity) entered into force and amend them accordingly; replace all applicable documentation where amendments would be insufficient to achieve compatibility between biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of biological resources; determine gaps in the national legislation with respect to the implementation of the Convention; support the development of a new legislation and governmental regulations to promoting meeting the obligations under the Convention; and strengthen the application of existing legislative tools in supporting of biodiversity conservation and the sustainable use of its components.’ The implementation of these plans will integrate biodiversity into wider decision making.

There is an Action Plan to implement the Biodiversity Strategy for the years 1998-2010; however, it is not clear whether it has been created/updated in light of the EC Communication ‘Halting the Loss of Biodiversity by 2010 and beyond’.

Effective integration of Natura 2000, Rural development, river basin management and other territorial plans and programmes in support for biodiversity (E2.5):

One of the ‘strategically important’ fields identified in the Slovakia Rural Development Programme for 2007-2013 is the restoration of the natural potential of the countryside and enhancement of biodiversity by implementation of the set farming systems. Priority Axis 2 of the Programme contains measures for improving the environment and the countryside—for example, support for special methods of management of agricultural activities in defined NATURA 2000 areas.

NATURA 2000 areas defined according to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC are declared in compliance with rules of the Act No. 543/2002 Coll. ‘on the protection of the nature and the landscape in Slovakia.’ The Government of the Slovak Republic (SR) approved a national list of 38 locations of Protected Bird Areas and a national list of 382 locations of Areas of European Interest. In terms of the mentioned SR legislation, agricultural activities are restricted in individual areas in compliance with acts of the SR and levels of territorial protection concerned.

By its resolution no. 46/2004, the Government of the Slovak Republic adopted the Strategy for the implementation of the Water Framework Directive in the SR. Within this strategy, the Government approved a time schedule for performance of individual tasks. The preparing of river basin area management plans is to be done by 22 December 2009.

In order to achieve good water status in the water bodies of the Danube region by 2015 and to ensure a sufficient supply of clean water for future generations, the Contracting Parties to the Danube River Protection Convention—including Slovakia—nominated the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River as the co-ordination body for the development of a comprehensive management plan for the entire Danube river basin. The management plan aims to create a programme of measures to ensure that environmental objectives are met on time. A draft of the management plan is due in 2008 and a final version

is planned for 2009.

In Third National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity (2005), the concept of the Environment Monitoring System in Slovakia is described, as adopted by the Resolution of the Government of SR No. 449/19922. The national environment monitoring system is divided according to the monitored component of the environment into sectoral monitoring systems (SMS). From the biodiversity point of view, two of them are of major importance: BIOTA and FORESTS.

In 2001 the Government of the Slovak Republic approved set of indicators for the assessment of status and trends of biodiversity. It is not clear whether they are being applied in practice yet. The monitoring under BIOTA SMS will be divided into three sub-systems: monitoring of plants, monitoring of animals and monitoring of non-forests habitats.

3. Building partnerships

National partnerships for biodiversity including private sector involvement (E3.1):

As part of the Rural Development Programme 2007-2013, Slovakia will provide support to towards developing partnership for biodiversity and the Natura 2000 network in the agricultural and forestry sectors.

For example, support will be provided to farmers in order to overcome disadvantages such as restrictions on using chemical agents and fertilizer, construction of buildings for farm animals and grazing and mowing of meadows in areas within the 4th and 5th Level of Protection under Natura 2000. Support for special methods of management of agricultural activities in defined NATURA 2000 areas will contribute to sustainable development with objective to protect the natural environment and landscape, mainly biodiversity and high nature value areas.

In addition, the Rural Development Programme provides funds for agri-environmental support aimed at integrating agricultural and environmental policies with the goals of developing organic farming in an agricultural country, protection of basic components of environment, mitigation of climate changes, and conservation of biodiversity, natural and cultural heritage.

Forest-environmental support through the Rural Development Programme will assist specific forest management methods aimed at sustaining and enhancing biodiversity, maintaining original forests, mitigating climate changes and protecting water resources. Proposed activities Support will be granted the reimbursement of income foregone and additional costs resulting from voluntary adopted commitments to private owners of forests and its associations.

Support of the special methods for forest activities management is oriented particularly into the NATURA 2000 areas with the aim to protect environment and land, in particular biodiversity and high nature value areas. This measure is worked out in compliance with 'The Forestry National Program of Slovakia'.

4. Building public education, awareness and participation

National/Sub-national public awareness campaigns/initiatives (E4.1):

Based on the ECNC analysis of the Flash Eurobarometer Report, 73 % of respondents from Slovakia had never heard of the term 'biodiversity'. Of those who had heard of it, only 6 % knew what it meant. A total of 27 % of Slovak respondents felt that they were either 'well

informed' or 'very well informed' about biodiversity loss. Respondents were equally uniformed about the Natura 2000 network—73 % of Slovak respondents had never heard of it. Of those who had heard of it, only 5 % knew what it meant. Despite not knowing what the term meant, 83 % of Slovak respondents felt that they made personal efforts to protect biodiversity.

The Third National Report for the Convention on Biological Diversity describes a number of initiatives to raise awareness about biodiversity in Slovakia. Administrative units (Administrations of National Parks, Protected Landscape Areas and Regional Offices for Nature and Landscape Conservation) of the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic and the Slovak Environmental Agency support environmental education aimed to biological diversity on the local, regional levels through the Regional Plan for Public and Schools.

Within area of Slovak National Parks and Protected Landscape Areas there are established educational trails with information panels, and informational centres for tourists and the public. There is a School of Natural Protection in Varín as a part of Malá Fatra National Park Administration. Its purpose is education of pupils, public and training of professional staff. Also, there are the centres of the environmental education established within the Slovak Environmental Agency.

In general, the available strategy document on environmental education in Slovakia is outdated (approved in 1987).

The limited promotion of communication about biodiversity at community level is achieved through meetings with stakeholders within NATURA 2000. Professional staff members of Slovak protected areas also work closely with local communities. Communication in environmental matters does not appear to be a high priority for the current government.

In addition, there have been a number of information documents published about Natura 2000 by the ŠOP SR (all prepared in cooperation with NGOs and almost all funded from the external sources outside the national budget).

F. MONITORING

No information is available on national indicators in Slovakia. Only two biodiversity monitoring projects are currently underway in Slovakia and they are both species focussed - Monitoring of species (animals and plants) and Monitoring of *Parnassius apollo* in the Pieniny National Park in Slovakia.

DATA SOURCES

A1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species:

A.1.1, A.1.2. & A.1.4

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/barometer/index_en.htm

http://themes.eea.europa.eu/IMS/ISpecs/ISpecification20041007131611/guide_summary_plus_public

<http://atlas.sazp.sk/vtacieuzemia/>

<http://atlas.sazp.sk/euvyz/>

<http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/>

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm>

http://www.ramsar.org/archives/archives_bulletin000405.htm#sgf

A.1.2

<http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/>

A.1.3

http://biodiversity.eionet.europa.eu/activities/products/redbooks/rb_at_national_alpha/slovakia

http://www.euring.org/meetings/general_assemblies/strasbourg_2005/Prague05.pdf

A.1.3

<http://www.ebcc.info/pecbm-slovakia.html>

<http://www.birdlife.sk/index.stm>

A.1.3

http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/sk/sk-nr-03-en.doc#_Toc34101597

A2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside

A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8

Published National Rural Development Programmes (IEEP database 2008)

European Commission unpublished data (2008)

MS questionnaire

A2.1.11

Third National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/sk/sk-nr-03-en.pdf>

A2.1.4 & 2.1.10

Alliance Environment (2007). Evaluation of the application of cross compliance as foreseen under Regulation 1782/2003. Part I: Descriptive Report - 26/07/2007. Report to the European Commission.

A2.3.1

WFD Scoreboard http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/transp_rep/scoreboard_en.htm

A2.4.2 & 2.4.3

Slovakia NEC Directive submission (17 Dec 2007)

<http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/sk/eu/nec>

NEC Directive National Programmes

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/nationalprogr_dir200181.htm

MS reporting to NEC Directive http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/implem_nec_directive.htm

A3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment

A3.3

http://www.tajchy.sk/doc/Zakon_o_rybarstve.pdf

http://www.government.gov.sk/eu/dokumenty/sprava_o_pripravenosti_01_02_en.doc

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/07/612&format=HTML&aged=1&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

A3.4

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/op/slovakia_sk_01.pdf

A3.5.a

http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/conventions/Bern/T-PVS/Meeting27_en.pdf

http://assets.panda.org/downloads/stoer_broschuere_mail.pdf

A3.7

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/op/slovakia_sk_01.pdf

A4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU

A4.

Infoview Data (DG Regio)

LIFE+ 2007 Call for Proposals – DG Environment

A5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes

A5.1.2

Miller, C., Kettunen, M. & Shine, C. 2006. Scope options for EU action on invasive alien species (IAS) Final report for the European Commission. Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP), Brussels, Belgium.

A5.1.2 & 5.1.3

National Report on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

<http://www.cbd.int/biosafety/parties/reports.shtml?report=NR-CPB-01>

European Commission Report on the Implementation of National Measures on the Coexistence of Genetically Modified Crops with Conventional and Organic Farming

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/coexistence/index_en.htm

B6: To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services

<http://www.cbd.int/reports/search.shtml>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/sk/sk-nbsap-01-p1-en.pdf>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/sk/sk-nr-03-en.pdf>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/sk/sk-nr-ais-en.pdf>

<http://www.cbd.int/convention/parties/contributions.shtml?tab=2&yr=2007>

http://www.ramsar.org/res/key_res_ix_12_e.htm

http://www.cms.int/bodies/StC/32_stc_meeting/French/Doc_09_Fonds_Affectation_avec_Annexes.pdf

http://www.unep-aewa.org/meetings/en/stc_meetings/stc4docs/pdf/stc4_9_income_expenditures.pdf

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/31COM/documents/>

http://www.unep.org/rmu/en/Financing_of_UNEP/Environment_Fund/Table_2007/index.asp

B7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance

B7.1.3 & 7.1.6:

<http://www.slovakaid.mfa.sk/en/index.php/article/articleview/95/1/1>

B8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services

B8

<http://www.cites.org/eng/resources/reports/biennial.shtml>

<http://www.cites.org/common/resources/reports/pab/05-06Slovakia.pdf>

<http://www.cites.org/common/resources/reports/pab/03-04Slovakia.pdf>

<http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/14/doc/E14-07-1.pdf>

C9: To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change

Third National Report to CBD (2005)

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/sk/sk-nr-03-en.doc>

Fourth National Communication on Climate Change to the UNFCCC (2005)

<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/natc/slkn4.pdf>

D10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally

D10.1

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/sk/sk-nr-03-en.pdf>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/sk/sk-nbsap-01-p3-en.pdf>

E1. Ensuring adequate financing

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rur/countries/sk/index_en.htm

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rurdev/countries/sk/index_en.htm

E2. Strengthening EU decision-making

E2.2

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/sk/sk-nbsap-01-p3-en.pdf>

<http://www.seps.sk/zp/daphne/bio/akcny.htm>

E2.5

<http://www.land.gov.sk/en/index.php?navID=1&id=19>

http://www.icpdr.org/icpdr-pages/river_basin_management.htm

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/sk/sk-nr-03-en.pdf>

E3. Building partnerships

E3.1

<http://www.land.gov.sk/en/index.php?navID=1&id=19>

E4. Building public education, awareness and participation

E4.1

http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/flash/fl_219_en.pdf

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/sk/sk-nr-03-en.pdf>

<http://www.sopsr.sk/natura/index1.php?p=9&lang=en>

F1-4. Monitoring, evaluation and review

<http://eumon.ckff.si/>

SLOVENIA

Competent authority(ies) for nature & biodiversity:

Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning (<http://www.mop.gov.si/en/>)

Environmental Agency of the Republic of Slovenia (<http://www.arso.gov.si/en/>)

Nature Institute of Slovenia (<http://www.zrsvn.si/en/default.asp>)

Most recent national/subnational biodiversity strategy/action plan:

Biodiversity Conservation Strategy of Slovenia
(<http://www.mop.gov.si/fileadmin/mop.gov.si/pageuploads/publikacije/drugo/biotska.pdf>)

Latest review of the implementation of biodiversity strategy/action plan:**Alignment with EU biodiversity plan:**

Natura 2000 Site Management Operational Programme 2007-2013
(http://www.natura2000.gov.si/uploads/tx_library/NATURA_2000-ANG-01.pdf)

Alignment with EU 2010 Biodiversity Indicators (SEBI 2010):**Key sources of official nature & biodiversity information used for evaluation:**

- Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning (<http://www.mop.gov.si/en/>)
- Natura 2000 Slovenia (<http://www.natura2000.gov.si/?L=1>)
- UNEP Mediterranean Action Plan
(<http://www.unepmap.org/index.php?module=content2&catid=001001002>)
- Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia (<http://www.zzrs.si/index.php/en/Inland-Waters/Planning/>)
- Convention on Biological Diversity Slovenia Country Profile and Third National Report
(<http://www.cbd.int/countries/?country=si>)
- Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas, Mediterranean (<http://www.rac-spa.org/>)

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS IN DELIVERY OF OBJECTIVES OF EU BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN

A. POLICY AREA 1: BIODIVERSITY IN THE EU

1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species.

Natura 2000 sites (terrestrial and marine) (A.1.1, A.1.2 & A.1.4)

	<i>Number of sites</i>	<i>Area (km²)</i>
Total SCIs/SACs (Habitats Directive)	259	6 360
SCIs/SACs with marine component (Habitats Directive)	3	0.2
Total SPAs (Birds Directive)	27	4 656
SPAs with marine component (Birds Directive)	1	3

Number of SCIs and SACs - Natura 2000 Barometer – June 2008 (Source: European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity based on data supplied by Member State)

Slovenia was considered in June 2008 to have achieved a level of sufficiency of 72.6 % for site selection for species and habitat types under Habitats Directive, in its territory. The Slovenian authority has stated that no management exist or are in preparation for Natura 2000 sites. However, maps are available illustrating the location of Natura 2000 sites in Slovenia.

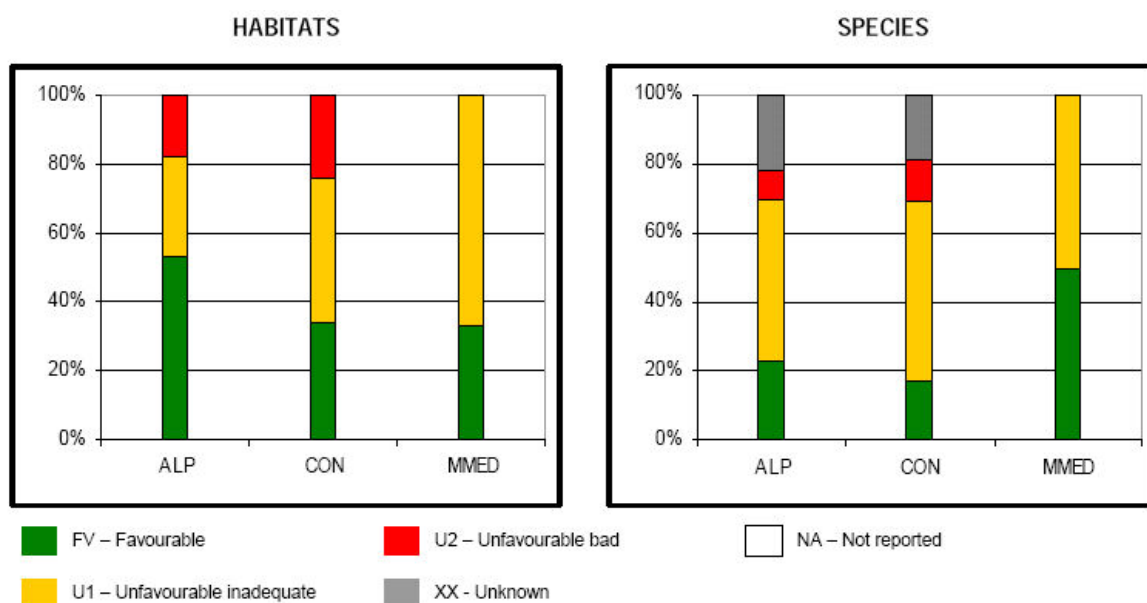
According to the EC LIFE Programme/Database, under the LIFE Nature programme, there was a total of 11 projects in Slovenia with an EC contribution of EUR 6 186 335, during the period 2000-2006. In the year 2007, according to the indicative national allocations, Slovenian projects received was allocated EUR 4 029 000 from LIFE+ funds.

Slovenia has a general approach in preserving existing corridors mostly through the maintenance of ecological important areas, which are in many cases serving as supporting areas (including corridors, transition areas and stepping stones) of the existing system of the protected areas and/or the Natura 2000 sites. Special attention is given to corridors in the impact assessment process according to Art. 6(3).

Efforts on restoration of damaged corridors are not in the main priority area. There is some co-operation with agricultural sector to take special care on ecological structures (e.g. hedges) in agricultural areas. In process there are some special rules for regulating commasation in agriculture. Some results in integrity of sites can be achieved through the implementation of the Agri-environmental measures and good agricultural practise as well as forest and water management.

Conservation status assessment (A.1.2)

Under the Habitats Directive Slovenia has two biogeographical regions (alpine, continental). The results of the first conservation status assessment for species and habitats of community are as follows:



Region / Conclusion	HABITATS					SPECIES				
	FV	U1	U2	XX	NA	FV	U1	U2	XX	NA
Alpine	53	29	18			23	47	8	22	
Continental	34	42	24			17	52	12	19	
Marine Mediterranean	33	67				50	50			
Member State	44	36	20			20	50	10	20	

*The conservation status categories: FV = favourable, U1 = unfavourable-inadequate, U2 = unfavourable-bad, XX = unknown, NA = no evaluation given by MS

Overall assessment of conservation status by biogeographical region (Analysis by the European Topic centre on Biological Diversity based on data supplied by Member State)

Red Data Books/Lists, National/Subnational Atlases, Action Plans (A.1.3)

The rules for inclusion of endangered plant and animals species in the Red List for Slovenia were published in 2002. A revised list is planned in the National Environmental Action Programme for period 2005-2012 (adopted by the Government in 2006) to be finished by 2008, but this target will not be met in the foreseen time.

Atlas have been produced for Slovenia for mammals (1991), birds (1994, new edition 2009), fish (1990), chiroptera (2005 and new edition in preparation), dragonflies (1997), butterflies (1996), Pterydophyta & Spermatophyta (2001), vascular plants (2007) and fungi (2005).

Action plans have been produced for the brown bear and marble trout.

Common bird monitoring (A.1.3)

Slovenia has in place a monitoring programme for common birds focused on agricultural landscape, *Slovenski monitoring pogostih ptic kmetijske krajine*. An indicator is produced using this information.

2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside.

Rural Development Programmes (A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8):

According to information supplied by the Slovenian authorities, the environment/land management budget (Axis 2) of the Rural Development Programme (RDP) accounts for about 50.7 % of EAFRD allocations (including national co-financing). Agri-environment payments receive the largest allocation of Axis 2 funds, amounting to some EUR 305 250 000, which is 26.3 % of the national EAFRD budget. Mountain Less Favoured Areas payments account for the majority of the remaining Axis 2 expenditure (20.4 % of EAFRD and associated national co-financing) and may help to avoid abandonment of some traditional farming practices in some Natura sites and other areas with high natural value farmland.

Agri-environment measures include support for mountain pastures, meadow orchards, conservation of special grassland habitats, grassland habitats for butterflies, and bird conservation on extensive wet meadows in Natura 2000 sites.

No funding is provided under the Natura 2000 measures. However, uptake agri-environment targets include 60 000 ha of Natura 2000 sites and another 365 000 ha in the wider environment. National funding is also available to support management of Natura 2000 sites where required.

Agricultural genetic diversity (A2.1.11):

In its National Biodiversity Conservation Strategy, Slovenia has included targets covering general objectives on the conservation of genetic resources. Gene banks for agricultural plants and livestock have also been established at a national level. A programme on the conservation of biological diversity regarding livestock and breeding has been initiated.

Agricultural cross-compliance measures (A2.1.4 & 2.1.10):

Slovenia has designated a few Agricultural and Environmental Conditions (GAEC) Minimum Level of Maintenance measures that may have implications for biodiversity conservation. The standards contain a requirement for agricultural (arable) land to be cultivated at least once a year. There are also a couple of standards relating to natural regenerating land cover: a) the proportion of naturally regenerating land on a holding shall not increase, and b) newly acquired land that is overgrown shall be cleared within a two year period.

Presumably these standards are intended to prevent land abandonment and scrub encroachment. However, whilst such measures may make a positive contribution to biodiversity associated with traditional agricultural systems in areas where land abandonment is a possibility, it is less clear whether a lack of naturally regenerating habitats will result in biodiversity benefits more broadly. There are no standards relating to the retention of landscape features.

Afforestation / deforestation policies and biodiversity (A2.1.5):

No national/subnational strategy ensuring the assessment of biodiversity with regard to afforestation and deforestation exists. Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is used as a planning tool for afforestation and deforestation operations, which are generally regulated by legislation.

The use of alien species is prohibited as well as clear cutting. Felling of stands and other procedures are defined by forest plans, which take nature conservation concerns into account.

Soil protection and biodiversity (A2.2.1):

Risks to soil biodiversity are taken into account in SEA and EIA processes. However, at the moment, no official methodology for the identification of risks to soil biodiversity loss and for the evaluation of identified risks (acceptability criteria) exists. The approach used is left to the choice of experts responsible for environmental assessments.

Measures to improve the ecological status of freshwaters (A2.3.1):

Slovenia has completed all the legal transposition and the implementation elements of the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC (WFD) which have deadlines during 2004, 2005 and 2007. These include the production of a River Basin District Report and River Basin Analysis report and Monitoring Network Report.

Measures to reduce air pollution impacts on biodiversity (A2.4.2 & 2.4.3):

Data for 2006 indicate that Slovenia has met its NECD ceilings targets for sulphur dioxide and ammonia emissions. Figures for nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds slightly exceeded targets, and a further increase in NOx emissions is expected by 2010.

The 2006 National Programme Report under the NEC Directive could not be further analysed due to language barriers.

3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment.

Good marine ecological status (A3.1.a):

Slovenia is a contracting party to the Barcelona Convention and therefore has responsibilities under the Mediterranean Action Plan and the Strategic Action Plan for Protection of Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean Region (SAP BIO). According to the Barcelona Convention, the Contracting Parties shall, individually or jointly, take all appropriate measures to protect and preserve biological diversity, rare or fragile ecosystems, as well as species of wild fauna and flora which are rare, depleted, threatened or endangered and their habitats, in the area to which this Convention applies. One step Slovenia has taken towards fulfilling their obligations is the National Action Plan for Slovenia for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources. This document incorporates biodiversity and environmental issues.

According to the National Summary report on Article 17, 33 % of Slovenia's marine environments have a 'favourable' status and 67 % have an 'unfavourable-inadequate' status.

Integrated coastal zone management (ICZM) (A.3.1.b):

Integrated Coastal Zone Management is currently carried out in Slovenia, not under a formal ICZM strategy, but through equivalent programmes: the Regional Development Programme and the Coastal Area Management Programme. In Slovenia a major impulse for ICZM was given by the coastal area management project (CAMP) starting in 2004 and part of the CAMP projects supported by the Mediterranean Action Programme (MAP). The most important legal instruments are Water Framework Directive, the Adriatic tri-lateral cooperation between Italy-Slovenia-Croatia and the Barcelona Convention. Within that legal context, the main focus of the project is to use spatial planning as a tool for sustainable coastal development, but several projects from different sectoral angles are brought together to inform an overarching spatial development vision for the Slovenian coast. The vision is complemented by guidelines

and a programme of measures to ensure the implementation. Most prominent instruments for implementation are spatial planning, at all levels, SEA, voluntary agreements and the use of Cohesion funding.

Pollution: Bathing water quality (A3.2)

The average bathing water quality in coastal areas has decreased in the past year. A total of 68.4 % of the bathing waters met minimum standards in the 2007 bathing season—down from 100 % in 2006. A total of 68.4 % of the coastal bathing areas complied with the guide values—down from 84.2 % in 2006. A total of six bathing waters were non-compliant and two were banned throughout the 2007 season.

Ecosystem approaches in Fisheries management measures (A3.3):

Slovenia is in the process of developing/approving the National Strategic Plan for Fisheries Development in the Republic of Slovenia 2007-2013, the Operational Programme for Fisheries Development in the Republic of Slovenia 2007-2013 and the Management Plan for Fisheries in Waters under the Jurisdiction of the RS. These strategies are of importance for the development of the fisheries sector in Slovenia. They will enable Slovenia to follow the goals of the Common Fisheries Policy – for Slovenia, most important of these are reaching a balance between the fishing effort and the available fisheries resources, fostering the socio-economic development of the coastal fisheries areas, promoting the development of sustainable and environment-friendly aquaculture, as well as increasing awareness among consumers of the benefits of fish as food. The National Strategic Plan and the Operational Programme will enable Slovenia to draw funds from the European Fisheries Fund in order to reach these goals, and the Management Plan for Fisheries will allow for the protection of marine resources in Slovenian territorial waters. In the field of sustainable management of inland fisheries and game, the RS will grant new concessions for management to hunters' associations and fishing societies on the basis of new legislation. It is not clear if these fisheries plans will specifically incorporate the ecosystem approach.

Community and National Financing under European Fisheries Funds (EFF) (A3.4):

The Operational Programme for Fisheries Development in the Republic of Slovenia 2007-2013 has not yet been approved by the EU. The predicted utilisation of funding under priority axes 1 and 2 was 10 % of funds to Axis 1 and 26 % of funds to Axis 2. Allocation to particular nature and biodiversity related activities could not be foreseen, since the funding has not yet been allocated to specific measures.

The allocation of funding by years is expected to change; because the European Commission will issue a new decision for those Member States whose Operational Programmes were not approved by the Commission in 2007.

Restoration programmes for diadromous species (A3.5.a):

The National Fish Management program of Slovenia mainly defines the long term aims in fisheries, their objectives, tasks and measures, and the required public financial resources. The prescribed plans, which are made for 12 fishing areas, are required expert groundwork for comprehensive fisheries management of individual fishing areas and a reflection of specific ecosystem qualities of each area. The plans of fishing areas are the basis for the preparation of fish-breeding plans for each individual fishing territories, which number 67 in total. There is no indication on whether these plans include provisions for management of diadromous species.

The Convention of Biological Diversity country profile for Slovenia indicates that the protection of autochthonous inland water fish species is addressed in management procedures and a five-year action plan is in preparation. Specific programmes on repopulation of certain threatened fish species are being prepared. However, it is not clear what species this includes.

Fishing Capacity-Decommissioning (3.5.b):

The Operational Programme for Fisheries Development in the Republic of Slovenia 2007-2013 has not yet been approved, so we are unable to determine if plans for a national decommissioning scheme are included. The number of vessels has stayed constant for the period from 2004 to 2006, although the total power has decreased slightly (1.4 %) over that same time.

Action plans and conservation status for marine species and habitats (A3.6):

As a party to the Barcelona Convention, Slovenia has adopted the Action Plan for the Conservation of Mediterranean Turtles, within the context of the Mediterranean Action Plan. The objectives of this Action Plan are: (1) the protection, conservation and, where possible, enhancing of the populations of marine turtles in the Mediterranean; (2) the appropriate protection, conservation and management of the marine turtle habitats including nesting, feeding, and wintering areas and migration routes; (3) improvement of the scientific knowledge by research and monitoring.

In addition, five other regional Action Plans have been adopted within the MAP context. These directly concern species conservation for the most threatened and most emblematic species in the Mediterranean. Species included are: monk seal, cetaceans (especially bottlenose dolphin), waterfowl such as Audouin's gull, cartilaginous fishes like the great white shark and the saw-shark and marine plants i.e. macrophytes and plant assemblages seen as natural monuments, like *Posidonia* barrier reefs.

The Action Plans adopted in the MAP context described above all include an objective relating to the elaboration and setting up monitoring programmes and monitoring networks for the species in question. For example, Slovenia is a partner in a marine turtle tagging programme in the Adriatic.

Slovenia is participating in the ISMO - Information System about the Marine Environment in the Gulf of Trieste. The project provides for comprehensive monitoring and provision of information and data to the expert community and the general public about the ecological and oceanographic condition of the Gulf of Trieste.

According to the Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Biological Diversity (SAP BIO) in the Mediterranean Region, Slovenia has implemented an action plan for sensitive ecosystems-*Posidonia oceanica* meadow, including monitoring based on the GIS methodology for *Posidonia*.

Aquaculture planning and biodiversity (A3.7):

The Operational Programme for Fisheries Development in the Republic of Slovenia 2007-2013 has not yet been approved by the EU, so we are unable to determine if it contains plans for aquaculture take account of biodiversity.

4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU.

Expenditures foreseen by Slovenia for Biodiversity & nature protection, under the Cohesion and structural funds, for the period 2007-2013, amount to EUR 50 000 000. Other relevant areas where Cohesion and structural funds will be allocated are Promotion of Natural Assets (EUR 40 000 000) Natural Heritage (EUR 8 000 000).

5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes.

Strategies to reduce impacts from invasive alien species (A5.1.2):

Several regulations and acts consider the issue of alien invasive species (IAS), but no overall dedicated legislation exists. The Nature Conservation Act regulates the administrative supervision of intentional introductions of alien species into Slovenian territory. Its provisions generally refer to issues such as introduction, reintroduction, repopulation and captive breeding of non-native species, and protection rules. Further legislation addressing IAS includes the Forestry Act, the Act on Freshwater Fisheries, Regulation on Fishing Species in Inland Waters, and the Act on Plant Health. Trade issues are also covered by relevant regulations.

A national strategy on IAS is foreseen to be developed in the framework of the National Environmental Action Plan by 2008-2010.

Biosafety measures to reduce impacts from alien genotypes (A5.1.2 & 5.1.3):

As an EU Member State Slovenia has transposed the EC legislation on genetically modified organisms (GMOs) into national legislation through domestic legal instruments, thus complying with the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. EU Directive 2001/18/EC on the deliberate release into the environment of genetically modified organisms is mainly covered by the Management of Genetically Modified Organisms Act (MGMOs Act OJ RS No. 23/2005). The Act regulates the handling of GMOs and determines measures for prevention and decrease of possible harmful effects on the environment, especially with regards to the preservation of biodiversity, and people's health.

B. POLICY AREA 2: THE EU AND GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY

6. To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Slovenia adopted its Biodiversity Conservation Strategy in 2002 and submitted the Third National Report to the CBD in 2005. Thematic reports were submitted on mountain ecosystems, and protected areas.

The Third National Report to the CBD lists the budget allocations for the implementation of the CBD for 2001-2005. The largest allocations in 2005 refer to the following areas: Basic and applicative research; Slovene agri-environmental programme; Management of and activities in protected areas; PHARE-CFCU cross-border programme with Austria; Nature conservation institute; Membership dues and contributions to international organisations; Co-financing PHARE – CBC Slovenia/Austria; Gene banks (MKGP). The report points that since

it is not feasible to allocate the exact amount of money used for CBD under the budget lines, the total amount would be difficult to provide.

As a country with an economy in transition, Slovenia has not provided financial resources to developing countries. The country has paid its annual contributions to CBD, Ramsar, CMS, AEWA, World Heritage Convention and the UNEP Environment Fund.

7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance.

Funds allocated for biodiversity projects and programmes in developing countries (B7.1.3) and Members State's Overseas Countries and Territories (B7.1.6):

In 2006, Slovenia allocated EUR 35 000 000 to official development assistance (ODA). Bilaterally, Slovenia allocates the majority of its funds to Western Balkan and Eastern European countries. It has signed bilateral development cooperation agreements with Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, Moldova, Serbia and Albania. Agreements with Montenegro and Ukraine are being drafted. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs channels bilateral development cooperation through non-governmental organisations and organisations founded by the Slovenian government. Slovenia is active in assisting victims of armed conflicts in the region, in the area of de-mining, capacity building in the area of public finance, training and educating entrepreneurs and assistance to countries in drawing closer to the European Union.

The actual annual spending on biodiversity-related bilateral aid remains unclear.

Integration of biodiversity considerations into development programmes and projects impacts on biodiversity (Action B7.2.2 & 7.2.5):

No readily available information could be found on this topic in the time available.

8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Slovenia reports a low level of trade in CITES species, with the figures for permits issued for import, export and re-export all below 100. No information is provided for intra-EU trade permits. In 2005/06, one application for a permit was denied. The number of seizures was 45 in 2005 and 30 in 2006; they are in the same order of magnitude as the respective figures for 2003 and 2004. National capacity building focused on the improvement of national networks, purchase of technical equipment and computerisation. Advice/guidance as well as training was provided to the Management and Scientific Authorities, the enforcement authorities, and the public. No assistance was provided to developing countries (but to other south-eastern European countries). Slovenia paid the annual contribution to the CITES Trust Funds.

C. POLICY AREA 3: BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

9. To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change.

Progress on Kyoto targets (C9.1.1):

Slovenia's target under the Kyoto Protocol is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 8 % in the period 2008-2012 compared to 1986 levels. In 2005 emissions were 0.4 % above the 1986 level and recent projections indicate that with existing measures greenhouse gas emissions are likely to exceed the Kyoto target by 3.5 %. However, the country could achieve a reduction of 12.7 % in emissions with planned additional policies and measures and the use of Kyoto

measures and carbon sinks.

Adaptation measures to increase biodiversity resilience to climate change (C9.4.1 & 9.4.3):

According to Slovenia's third national report to the CBD, it does not have targets to increase the resilience of biodiversity to climate change (in accordance with CBD targets). Nor has it been able to take actions to facilitate biodiversity adaptation or carry out relevant research. Actions on climate change adaptation are constrained by limited resources.

D. POLICY AREA 4: THE KNOWLEDGE BASE

10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally.

National research programmes (D10.1):

It is not clear on whether there is a current dedicated national or sub-national programme supporting biodiversity research in Slovenia. Slovenia has a dedicated national forum in the Slovenian National Bioplatform (SNB), based on the European Platform of Biodiversity Research Strategy. The aims of EPBRS are to promote discussion of EU biodiversity research strategies and priorities, exchange of information on national biodiversity activities and the dissemination of current best practices and information regarding the scientific understanding of biodiversity conservation. EPBRS is a network of scientists and policy makers that work in different fields of Biodiversity and aims at improving the effectiveness and relevance of European biodiversity research, fulfilling functions that provide significant components of a European Research Area. The main objectives of the Slovenian National Bioplatform are activities dealing with the preparation of the national strategy for biodiversity research, preparation of interdisciplinary research programmes and definition of priority tasks, integration with other national bioplatforms and the European platform, identification of positive and negative aspects of development, incorporation of Slovenian research into international programmes, and a series of other activities associated with these aims.

E. THE FOUR KEY SUPPORTING MEASURES

1. Ensuring adequate financing

Overall use of Community funds for biodiversity:

Agri-environment and other land management schemes

For the programming period 2004-2006, Slovenia submitted two development programmes:

- Single Programming Document (SPD) and
- Rural Development Plan (RDP).

The priorities in the SPD include restructuring of agriculture, forestry and fisheries. With the RDP, Slovenia aims to mitigate the differences in farm profitability in less-favoured areas that result from natural conditions, to improve the unfavourable age structure of farmers, and to provide to a sufficient extent for the farming of agricultural land in conformity with the principles of Good Farming Practice.

Overview of financial support for rural development

Programme	Public Expenditures (EUR)	EU Contribution (EUR)
RDP (Guarantee)	353 100 000	281 600 000
SPD Objective 1 (Guidance)	47 100 000	23 600 000
Total	400 200 000	305 200 000

Amongst the biodiversity-related activities under both development programmes, 37.3 % of total EAGGF planned expenditure was allocated to less favoured areas and areas with environmental restrictions, while Agri-environment activities were allocated 28.6 % of total EAGGF planned expenditure.

RDP 2007 – 2013

The estimated allocations to nature and biodiversity spending, under this RDP, amount to EUR 208 000 000, or 10 % of the overall agri budget. This includes all LFA payments, all-agri environment payments for grassland areas and meadow orchards areas, new single payments for grasslands and funding from I., III. and IV. axis of the RDP 2007-2013 available for Natura 2000.

European Fisheries Fund

The respondent was only able to provide information for the foreseen utilisation of funding under priority axes 1 and 2. However, since the funding has not yet been allocated to specific measures, specific allocation to particular nature and biodiversity related activities could not be specified. Within the priority axis 3, no nature and biodiversity related activities are foreseen.

Funding under Axis 1 was estimated at EUR 2 885 367 (or 10 % of overall EFF budget), for activities such as: improvements of selectivity, for reducing the impact of fishing on non-commercial species; changes to the material of parts of fishing gear; and use of technological innovations such as more selective fishing techniques.

Funding under Axis 2 was estimated at EUR 8 079 036 (or 28 % of overall EFF budget) for activities such as: implementation of aquaculture methods substantially reducing negative impact or enhancing positive effects on the environment; support for traditional aquaculture activities important for preserving and developing both the economic and social fabric and the environment; support for the purchase of equipment aiming at protecting the farms from wild predators; promote forms of aquaculture comprising protection and enhancement of the environment, natural resources, genetic diversity, and management of the landscape and traditional features of aquaculture zones; organic aquaculture; and sustainable aquaculture compatible with specific environmental constraints resulting from the designation of NATURA 2000 areas.

It must be taken into account that the allocation of funding by years is expected to change, because the European Commission will issue a new decision for those Member States whose Operational Programmes were not approved by the Commission in 2007.

2. Strengthening EU decision-making

Plans and follow-up to UN Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (E2.1):

No information was provided on plans to follow up the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment.

Alignment of national biodiversity strategies with EU (E2.2):

Slovenia published a Biodiversity Conservation Strategy in 2002 to incorporate objectives of the Convention of Biological Diversity into a national framework. The Strategy defines 10-year objectives for activities with a significant impact on the sustainable use of the components of biological diversity and sustainable development. It complements other national strategies, primarily the Strategy for the Economic Development of Slovenia and the National Environmental Action Programme. The participation of other ministries in sustainable development has taken on more concrete forms on the basis of this strategy. Its implementation creates closer co-operation between the key ministries in the implementation measures for the conservation of biological diversity.

EU bodies adopted the European Commission's communication entitled *Halting the Loss of Biodiversity by 2010 – and Beyond* (EU BAP), including the Council of the European Union, which adopted the mentioned report on 18 December 2006. In its decisions, the EU Council recommended to Member States to implement the action plan that forms part of the report. The Natura 2000 Site Management Operational Programme 2007-2013 for Slovenia includes actions from the EU BAP and provides the basis for its implementation in the Republic of Slovenia.

Effective integration of Natura 2000, Rural development, river basin management and other territorial plans and programmes in support for biodiversity (E2.5):

The Natura 2000 Site Management Operational Programme 2007-2013 for Slovenia includes actions from the EU Biodiversity Action Plan and provides the basis for its implementation in the Republic of Slovenia.

The Slovenian Spatial Planning Strategy, published in 2004, includes several environmentally-friendly objectives, including three relating to biodiversity: To encourage the conservation of biodiversity, natural values and natural processes as the essential components of a high-quality natural environment; to ensure appropriate integration of biodiversity and natural values in natural resources and spatial management; and to establish a network of special conservation areas and protected areas. Biodiversity is taken into account in the Strategy's sections on rural development, enhancing natural and cultural landscapes, human settlements, public infrastructures and more.

The Biodiversity Conservation Strategy published in 2002 contains objectives and measures for incorporating consideration of impacts on biodiversity into sectors such as agriculture, forestry and water management.

Slovenia published a list of environmental indicators in 2003 and updated it in 2005. Some indicators are related to biodiversity, including: endangered species, genetic diversity of agricultural plants and domestic animals, land use change, high nature value farmlands, population size of selected bird species, designation nature protection areas, and deforestation.

3. Building partnerships

National partnerships for biodiversity including private sector involvement (E3.1):

There are a couple of examples of co-operation between business and nature conservation activities in Slovenia. One is a telephone company working with the landscape park Secoveljske soline and another is an oil company working for loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*) conservation.

According to the Third National Report to the Convention of Biological Diversity, Slovenia has developed incentives for maintaining and establishing habitats of outstanding importance for species of conservation interest within the agriculture sector.

4. Building public education, awareness and participation

National/Sub-national public awareness campaigns/initiatives (E4.1):

According to the ECNC report on Flash Eurobarometer, the 49 % of respondents from Slovenia had never heard of the term 'biodiversity'. Of those who had heard of biodiversity, 25 % knew what it meant. Slovenian respondents who felt either 'well informed' or 'very well informed' about biodiversity loss totalled 44 % of those surveyed. Just over half of the respondents from Slovenia (53 %) had never heard of the Natura 2000 network. Of those who had heard of it, 20 % knew what it was. Slovenia had the second-highest value for number percentage of respondents who felt that they made personal efforts to protect biodiversity with 89 %.

The Biodiversity Strategy for Slovenia outlines several directions to take in order to raise public awareness about biodiversity. These include planning programmes for informing and educating the public about conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and organising campaigns within multiple sectors to increase awareness of biodiversity related issues.

In 2004, awareness on Natura 2000 on national level was regarded to be low. Thus the Ministry decided to launch a campaign on national level and to further strengthen the capacities of the communicators. The project started in September 2006 by a consortium led by Pristop and lasted till October 2007. The strategy included: public relations (media relations, training for communicators, events); advertising (advertisements for prize competition); web activities and organizational proposals for communication on national level.

F. MONITORING

A project "Indicators and monitoring of biodiversity in Slovenia" identifying possible indicators was finished in 2003, the report published, and the use of the proposed indicators is being considered. The report, available only in Slovenian, also synthesizes the results and proposes a systematic monitoring of components of biodiversity at national level and preparation of a long term monitoring programme. A publication in 2002 provides a set of environmental indicators. No more recent information on indicators is available.

A range of monitoring schemes is being conducted in Slovenia, including the Slovenian Forest Inventory and specific species monitoring. The latter includes monitoring of spermatophyta (60 forest species), freshwater fishes, birds (25 breeding species, such as Capercaillie *Tetrao urogallus*; key bird species at SPAs; Farmland Bird Index; International Waterbird Census), three species of mammals, amphibians and bats in the Alpine and Adriatic region, target bat species populations, and beetles (*Carabus variolosus*, *Lucanus cervus*).

DATA SOURCES

A1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species:

A.1.1, A.1.2 & A.1.4

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/barometer/index_en.htm)

<http://dataservice.eea.europa.eu/atlas/viewdata/viewpub.asp?id=2639>

http://themes.eea.europa.eu/IMS/ISpecs/ISpecification20041007131611/guide_summary_plus_public

<http://www.natura2000.gov.si/index.php?id=150&L=1>

http://www.natura2000.gov.si/fileadmin/user_upload/ang_vsebine/karta_pspa_1_.pdf

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/ecosystems/docs/adaptation_fragmentation_guidelines.pdf

A.1.3

MA Questionnaire

http://www.uradni-list.si/priloge/RS_-2002-082-04055-OB~P003-0000.PDF

<http://www.uradni-list.si/1/objava.jsp?urlid=20062&stevilka=3>

A.1.3

<http://www.ebcc.info/pecbm-slovenia.html>

A2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside

A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8

Published National Rural Development Programmes (IEEP database 2008)

European Commission unpublished data (2008)

MS questionnaire

A2.1.11

Third National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity (2005)

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/si/si-nr-03-en.pdf>

A2.1.4 & 2.1.10

Alliance Environment (2007). Evaluation of the application of cross compliance as foreseen under Regulation 1782/2003. Part I: Descriptive Report - 26/07/2007. Report to the European Commission.

A2.1.5 A2.2.1:

MS Questionnaire

A2.3.1

WFD Scoreboard http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/transp_rep/scoreboard_en.htm

A2.4.2 & 2.4.3

Slovenia NEC Directive submission (20 Mar 2008)

<http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/si/eu/colqba8sg/nec>

NEC Directive National Programmes

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/nationalprogr_dir200181.htm

MS reporting to NEC Directive

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/implem_nec_directive.htm

A3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment

A3.1a:

http://www.gpa.unep.org/documents/npa_slovenia_english.pdf

<http://www.unepmap.org/index.php?module=content2&catid=001001002>

<http://sapbio.rac-spa.org/sapbioeng.pdf>

SEBI 12 Article 17 Report

A3.1b:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/iczm/pdf/minutes_7thmeeting.pdf

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/iczm/pdf/evaluation_iczm_report.pdf

A3.2:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-bathing/summary_report_2008.html

A3.3:

<http://www.vlada.si/?gr1=min&gr2=minMkp&gr3=&gr4=&id=&lng=eng>

A3.4:

MS Questionnaire

<http://www.vlada.si/?gr1=min&gr2=minMkp&gr3=&gr4=&id=&lng=eng>

A3.5a:

http://www.zzrs.si/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=44&Itemid=108

<http://www.cbd.int/countries/profile.shtml?country=si#status>

A3.5b:

MS Questionnaire

<http://www.vlada.si/?gr1=min&gr2=minMkp&gr3=&gr4=&id=&lng=eng>

A3.6:

<http://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/mul38126.pdf>

http://www.rac-spa.org/carasp.php?id_page=49

http://www.rac-spa.org/carasp.php?id_page=49

http://ismo.mbss.org/index.php?option=com_frontpage&Itemid=1&lang=en

<http://mahpm.hpm.hr/turtles/adrires.htm>

http://www.rac-spa.org/telechargement/NFP/WG.308_inf05 %20Turtle %20AP %20evaluation_ENG.pdf

<http://sapbio.rac-spa.org/sapbioeng.pdf>

A3.7:

MS Questionnaire

<http://www.vlada.si/?gr1=min&gr2=minMkp&gr3=&gr4=&id=&lng=eng>

A4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU

Infoview Data (DG Regio)

LIFE+ 2007 Call for Proposals – DG Environment

LIFE expenditure 2000-2006 – DG Environment

A5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes

A5.1.2

MS questionnaire

Miller, C., Kettunen, M. & Shine, C. 2006. Scope options for EU action on invasive alien species (IAS) Final report for the European Commission. Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP), Brussels, Belgium.

A5.1.2 & 5.1.3

National Report on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

<http://www.cbd.int/biosafety/parties/reports.shtml?report=NR-CPB-01>

European Commission Report on the Implementation of National Measures on the Coexistence of Genetically Modified Crops with Conventional and Organic Farming

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/coexistence/index_en.htm

National legislation and information

<http://www.biotechnology-gmo.gov.si/eng/index.html>

B6: To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services

B.6

<http://www.cbd.int/countries/?country=si>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/si/si-nr-03-en.pdf>

<http://www.cbd.int/convention/parties/contributions.shtml?tab=2&yr=2007>

http://www.ramsar.org/res/key_res_ix_12_e.htm

http://www.cms.int/bodies/StC/32_stc_meeting/French/Doc_09_Fonds_Affectation_avec_Annexes.pdf

http://www.unep-aewa.org/meetings/en/stc_meetings/stc4docs/pdf/stc4_9_income_expenditures.pdf

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/31COM/documents/>

http://www.unep.org/rmu/en/Financing_of_UNEP/Environment_Fund/Table_2007/index.asp

B7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance

B7.1.3 & 7.1.6:

http://www.mzz.gov.si/en/foreign_policy/international_development_cooperation_of_slovenia/

B8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services

B.8

<http://www.cites.org/eng/resources/reports/biennial.shtml>

<http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/14/doc/E14-07-1.pdf>

C9: To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change

C9.1.1

EC (2007) Communication from the Commission. Progress towards achieving the Kyoto objectives.

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/climat/gge_progress.htm

C9.4.1 & 9.4.3

Third National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity (2005)

http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/si/si-nr-03-en.doc#_Toc120679944

Fourth National Communication On Climate Change to the UNFCCC (2006)

<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/natc/svnnc4.pdf>

D10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally

D10.1:

<http://www.rtd.si/eng/era/aktivnost/snb/>

E1. Ensuring adequate financing

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rur/countries/sl/slovenia_en.pdf

MS questionnaire

E2. Strengthening EU decision-making

E2.1:

MS Questionnaire

E2.2:

<http://www.mop.gov.si/fileadmin/mop.gov.si/pageuploads/publikacije/drugo/biotska.pdf>

http://www.natura2000.gov.si/uploads/tx_library/NATURA_2000-ANG-01.pdf

E2.5:

http://www.natura2000.gov.si/uploads/tx_library/NATURA_2000-ANG-01.pdf

http://www.mop.gov.si/fileadmin/mop.gov.si/pageuploads/publikacije/drugo/en/sprs_eng.pdf

<http://www.mop.gov.si/fileadmin/mop.gov.si/pageuploads/publikacije/drugo/biotska.pdf>

http://kazalci.arso.gov.si/kazalci/index_html?lang=1

E3. Building partnerships

E3.1:

MS Questionnaire

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/si/si-nr-03-en.pdf>

E4.1:

http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/index_en.htm

<http://www.mop.gov.si/fileadmin/mop.gov.si/pageuploads/publikacije/drugo/biotska.pdf>

<http://www.natura2000.gov.si/index.php?id=153&L=1>

E4. Building public education, awareness and participation

F1-4. Monitoring, evaluation and review

F

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/si/si-nr-03-en.pdf>

<http://eumon.ckff.si/>

SPAIN

Competent authority(ies) for nature & biodiversity:

The Ministry of Environment, Rural and Marine Affairs: <http://www.marm.es>; <http://www.mma.es/portal/secciones/biodiversidad/>

Most recent national/subnational biodiversity strategy/action plan:

Spanish Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity (1999)

http://www.mma.es/secciones/biodiversidad/banco_datos/info_disponible/pdf/0_ingles_Intro.pdf

Some Regions have also adopted their own strategies¹.

Latest review of the implementation of biodiversity strategy/action plan:

Spanish Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity (1999) is currently under revision. The Third Annual Report to the CBD reviewed its implementation: <http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/es/es-nr-03-es.pdf>

Alignment with EU biodiversity plan:

Currently in progress.

Alignment with EU 2010 Biodiversity Indicators (SEBI 2010):

Currently in progress.

Key sources of official nature & biodiversity information used for evaluation:

- The Ministry of Environment, Rural and Marine Affairs: <http://www.marm.es>
- Convention on Biological Diversity Country Profile and National Report: <http://www.cbd.int/countries/?country=es>

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS IN DELIVERY OF OBJECTIVES OF EU BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN

A. POLICY AREA 1: BIODIVERSITY IN THE EU

1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species.

Natura 2000 sites (terrestrial and marine) (A.1.1, A.1.2 & A.1.4)

	<i>Number of sites</i>	<i>Area (km²)</i>
Total SCIs/SACs (Habitats Directive)	1 434	123 716

¹ Estrategia Navarra para la Conservación y el Uso Sostenible de la Diversidad Biológica; Estrategia de Biodiversidad 2008-2015 (País Vasco); Estrategia Regional para la Conservación y Uso Sostenible de la Diversidad Biológica (Murcia), etc.

SCIs/SACs with marine component (Habitats Directive)	94	5 548
Total SPAs (Birds Directive)	565	97 266
SPAs with marine component (Birds Directive)	23	634

Number of SCIs and SACs - Natura 2000 Barometer – June 2008 (Source: European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity based on data supplied by Member State)

Spain was considered in June 2008 to have achieved a level of sufficiency of 95.8 % for site selection for species and habitat types under Habitats Directive, in its territory. The Spanish authority stated that 249 management plans have been completed and a further 67 management plans are in preparation for Natura 2000 sites.

According to the EC LIFE Programme/Database, under the LIFE Nature programme, there was a total of 61 projects in Spain with an EC contribution of EUR 60 462 498, during the period 2000-2006. In the year 2007, according to the indicative national allocations, Spanish projects received EUR 20 028 000 from LIFE+ funds.

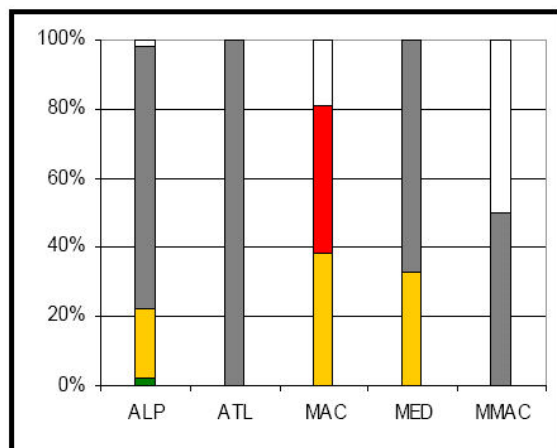
A country level map of Natura 2000 sites is available for downloading, as are the longitudes and latitudes for each site.

Habitat connectivity is an important element of territorial planning. In general, the current planning practises do not just aim at preserving individual non-building areas and protected area networks but rather proactively seek to manage the open areas in Spain in a more uniform and comprehensive manner.

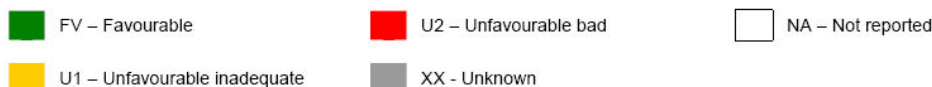
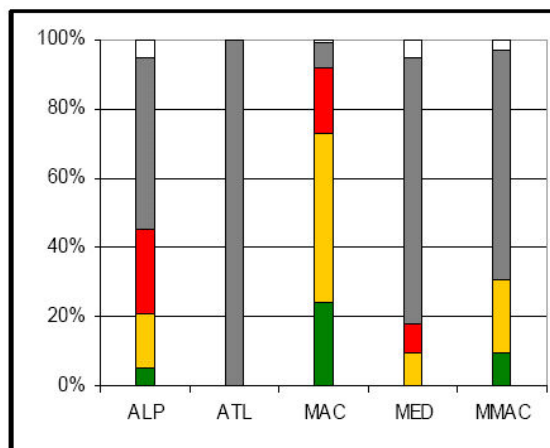
Conservation status assessment (A.1.2)

Under the Habitats Directive Spain has four biogeographical regions (alpine, atlantic, macronesian, Mediterranean). The result of the first conservation status assessment for species and habitats is incomplete, and it is important to indicate that assessment was done according to unknown or not reported status of habitats and species. From the total number of 237 reports for Annex I habitats expected from Spain approximately 25 % were not submitted, and from the total number of 358 reports for Annex II species, approximately 40 % were not submitted. In addition, reporting was done at very late stage and not through ReportNet, however conservation status assessment for species and habitats of community interest is as follows:

HABITATS



SPECIES



Region / Conclusion	HABITATS					SPECIES				
	FV	U1	U2	XX	NA	FV	U1	U2	XX	NA
Alpine	2	20		76	2	5	16	24	50	5
Atlantic				100					100	
Macaronesian		38	43		19	24	49	19	7	1
Mediterranean		33		67			10	8	77	5
Marine Macaronesian				50	50	10	21		66	3
Member State	1	24	11	57	7	12	28	16	41	3

*The conservation status categories: FV = favourable, U1 = unfavourable-inadequate, U2 = unfavourable-bad, XX = unknown, NA = no evaluation given by MS

Overall assessment of conservation status by biogeographical region (Analysis by the European Topic centre on Biological Diversity based on data supplied by Member State)

Red Data Books/Lists, National/Subnational Atlases, Action Plans (A.1.3)

Spain has Red Data lists for: mammals (2007), birds (2005), amphibians (2002), reptiles (2002), fish (2002), dragonflies (2006), butterflies (2006), beetles (2006) and vascular plants (2007). The information is usually taken into consideration when drafting plans, programmes or other environmental measures. Regional governments have their own catalogues and legislation, which applies to Red Data Lists.

Spain has produced atlases for mammals (2002, updated 2007), birds (2003), amphibians (2002), reptiles (2002), fish (2001), vascular plants (2003, updated in 2007) and habitat loss (2003).

Since 1999, Spain has adopted 15 National Strategies for Threatened Species², and more than 105 Action plans have been adopted by the Regional Governments.

Common bird monitoring (A.1.3)

² Lince ibérico (1999), Oso pardo cantábrico (1999), Quebrantahuesos (2000), Águila imperial (2001), Urogallo cantábrico (2004), Lobo (2005), Malvasía (2005), Urogallo pirenaico (2005), Visón europeo (2005), Pardela balear (2005), Oso pardo pirenaico (2006), Focha moruna (2007), Margaritona (2007), Mejillón cebra (2007), Lince ibérico (2) (2008) and Lapa ferruginea (2008)

Spain has a common bird monitoring programme, which consists of a breeding bird survey and breeding nocturnal bird survey. The most recent results are available from Escandell, V. (2006) Breeding Bird Survey in Spain. Report 1996-2005. SEO/BirdLife, Madrid. This data collected from the common bird monitoring programme does not contribute to a national level indicator.

Ex-situ conservation (A.1.3)

Ex-situ conservation activities are carried out by a significant number of institutions such as the Royal Botanic Garden, University of Valencia and Jardín Botánico Atlántico de Gijón (JBA), Gijón.

2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside.

Rural Development Programmes (A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8):

According to information supplied by the Spanish authorities, Spain has a series of regional RDPs, with a combined total EAFRD budget of some EUR 4 834 000 000 (based on 10 RDPs approved by 3 March 2008). Of the total EAFRD budget, 37.3 % has been allocated to Axis 2 measures. In many regions agri-environment measures have the largest allocation of the Axis 2 budget, but there are also substantial allocations for payments to farmers in areas with handicaps, for afforestation schemes and for restoring forestry potential. Therefore, overall only 14.7 % of the EAFRD is allocated for agri-environment measures and only 2.0 % for Natura 2000 measures in agricultural habitats (in just 2 regions).

No allocations are made for Natura 2000 payments in forests, but a small budget is available for forest environment measures (1.74 % of EAFRD budget). There is also some indirect support for forests under the non-productive investment measures.

Agricultural genetic diversity (A2.1.11):

According to Spain's Third National Report to CBD strategies, programs and plans are in place to support the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity. Actions include subprograms of research work on genetic resources as part of the National Plan of research and development. There is also an agenda for the conservation and utilization of plant genetic resources, which includes a four-year plan of action, a National Network of germplasm banks, a Commission on Plant Genetic Resources and a national focal point on plant genetic resources (Centro de Recursos Fitogenéticos del INIA).

Agricultural cross-compliance measures (A2.1.4 & 2.1.10):

Spain has included a number of GAEC Minimum Level of Maintenance measures¹ in its cross-compliance regulations. Some of these focus on maintaining land in good agricultural condition, e.g. control of unwanted vegetation and maintenance of olive groves in good condition. However, there are also measures to protect permanent pastures from over- and under-grazing (with minimum stocking densities of 0.1 LU/ha, subject to regional variations) and from burning and ploughing. Farmers must also seek authorisation for irrigation from aquifers and cannot use unauthorised pesticides and fertilisers in waterlogged areas.

There are, however, no measures to maintain landscape features.

Afforestation / deforestation policies and biodiversity (A2.1.5):

The Spanish Forestry Plan (adopted in 2002) is a key document governing Spanish forestry

activities.

Planning tools such as EIA, GIS and guidance documents are used for plans, programmes and projects regarding afforestation activities. Regional Governments are allowed to decide on the minimum area where an EIA needs to be carried out.

Deforestation activities, modification of forest land use (including afforested farmland) is generally prohibited, unless a project is for public purposes (highways and railways), however no strategy and planning tools are developed/applied so far. Private forest owners require Administrative authorisation, which is decided on a case by case basis. Furthermore, the Forest Act states that the burnt forest areas must remain in forest land use for at least 30 years.

Most of the regions have developed a regional forestry plan.

Soil protection and biodiversity (A2.2.1):

Soil biodiversity loss is evaluated through periodic monitoring soil loss due to water erosion.

Spain has also identified geographical risk areas for soil degradation affecting biodiversity and established a national inventory on soil erosion. Furthermore, national research is undertaken to help identify risk areas, including projects such as LUCDEME, the RESEL network and development of soil erosion indicators.

According to the country, risks to soil biodiversity loss are taken into account in the elaboration of relevant plans, programmes and strategies. This includes, for example, Spain's Programme Against Desertification.

Measures to improve the ecological status of freshwaters (A2.3.1):

According to the European Commission's WFD Scoreboard, Spain has completed the legal transposition and most other requirements under the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC (WFD) that have deadlines during 2004, 2005 and 2007. These include the production of a River Basin Analysis Report and a Monitoring Network Report. However, its River Basin Districts Report (Article 3 report) only partially fulfils WFD requirements.

Measures to reduce air pollution impacts on biodiversity (A2.4.2 & 2.4.3):

In 2006, Spain by far exceeded its 2010 NEC Directive emission ceilings for nitrogen oxides and sulphur oxides. Ammonia emissions were slightly above target levels. Non-methane volatile organic compounds (NMVOC) were only about 50 % of ceiling levels. Projections suggest that emissions of sulphur oxides will fall below ceiling levels, but nitrogen oxides, ammonia and NMVOCs will exceed NEC Directive ceilings in 2010. Ammonia emissions will only exceed targets by a small amount, but nitrogen oxide emissions will exceed their ceiling level by 43 % and NMVOCs by 27 %.

3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment.

Good marine ecological status (A3.1a):

Spain does not have a national marine strategy, but marine and coastal considerations are widely discussed in the 1999 National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan. In the context of the Marine Strategy Directive, Spain will develop a National Marine Strategy including good environmental status objectives. In 2004 a Division for the Protection of Marine Ecosystems was established (by the Ministry of Environment) with the aim to promote and coordinate plans and programmes for marine and coastal environmental protection as well as the

implementation of the Regional Seas international conventions (OSPAR, London and Barcelona Conventions) as well as work on integrated coastal zone management. According to the draft Corine Land Cover report in 2000, 13.1 % of the Spanish coast is completely urbanized. This percentage increases to 34 % on the Mediterranean coast, with these figures growing rapidly over time. The Third National Report to the CBD in 2006 also notes that there is a significant depletion of fishery resources with various fishing techniques, such as trawling, having negative effects on the seabed and associated biodiversity and habitats. According to the Article 17 National Summary for Spain, 50 % of marine habitats had an 'unknown' status and the remaining 50 % were not reported, so assessment of ecological status is not possible so far.

Integrated coastal zone management (ICZM) (A.3.1.b):

The Spanish Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) and stocktaking report, bearing the title *Gestión Integrada de las Zonas Costeras en España* (Integrated Coastal Zone Management in Spain), was submitted officially to the European Commission by the General Directorate of Coasts, Ministry of Environment, Spain, on 28 March 2006. Spain is one of the first European countries with a finalised national strategy and a clear target year for its implementation (2008). Some actions have already emanated from the national strategy in 2006, a full implementation is targeted for 2008. There are some substantial activities that are funded and are to start already in 2006: a) EUR 35 000 000 for buying built-up land on the coast for protection and restoration of the coast and b) some EUR 6 000 000 to start the Director's Plan for Sustainability.

Pollution: Bathing water quality (A3.2)

According to the Water Bathing Report for the 2007 season, bathing water quality in coastal areas remained very high (99.1 %), a slight increase (+0.2 %) compared with the previous bathing season. The number of bathing areas complying with the more stringent guide values of the Directive decreased slightly from 92.7 % to 88.7 % (- 4 percentage points). In 2007 bathing only had to be prohibited at one site during the summer.

Ecosystem approaches in Fisheries management measures (A3.3):

The Spanish National Strategic Plan for Fisheries was adopted in June 2007 and includes an ecosystem approach recognising the dual goal of enhancing returns to fisheries and improving their sustainability, as well as reducing their impact on the ecosystem. Out of the 10 actions outlined as priority at least 5 can be considered to be adopting an ecosystem approach: 1) The management and adaptation of the fishing fleet and in particular the adaptation of the effort and fishing capacity, promoting environmentally friendly fishing methods in line with the sustainable development of fishing activities, 2) Sustainable development of the aquaculture sector, 3) Sustainable development of the processing and marketing of fishery and aquaculture products, 4) Sustainable development of fisheries areas, including the criteria for defining priority target areas and 7) The protection and improvement of the aquatic environment related to the fishing industry. The development of marine reserves and artificial reefs, and when appropriate restocking fish populations are considered priority objectives. Other measures include reducing fishing impacts on non-target species and reducing discards as well as investing in research (such as sea bed mapping and innovating sustainable fishing gear) in order to reduce fisheries impacts on the environment.

Community and National Financing under European Fisheries Funds (EFF) (A3.4):

The total eligible public expenditure of the programme is EUR 2 088300 000, with EU

assistance through the EFF amounting to EUR 1 131 900 000, of which EUR 945 700 000 will be granted to convergence regions and EUR 186 200 000 to non-convergence regions. Axis 1 accounts for 35.6 % (EUR 403 067 965) of the total allocated funds and have several objectives with environmentally friendly measures including training courses on environmental issues and reducing fishing effort and capacity through compensation to fishermen. Axis 2 accounts for 30.4 % (EUR 344 241 334) and includes a high mention of the environment including promoting environmental sustainability, improving practices, production techniques and the introduction of environmental management systems. Axis 3 accounts for 27.8 % (EUR 316 510 945) includes an objective dedicated to the protection and enhancement of marine biodiversity which includes the establishment of marine reserves, artificial reefs and the protection, the restoration and the development of aquatic resources, as well as monitoring programmes.

The targeted use of opportunities under European Fisheries Funds (EFF) for nature and biodiversity is divided as follows: 11.05 % (EUR 125 022 806) for Axis 1 (with 9.25 % for investments in board fishing vessels and selectivity and 1.80 % for small-scale coastal fishing), 13.26 % (EUR 150 082 731) for Axis 2 (with 13.24 % for productive investments in aquaculture and aqua-environmental measures and 0.01 % for inland fishing) and 10.22 % for Axis 3 (EUR 115 662 429) (which includes 2.97 % for measures intended to protect and develop aquatic fauna and flora and 7.25 % for pilot projects).

Restoration programmes for diadromous species (A3.5.a):

Although not included as a priority in the NSP or the OP, actions concerning the rehabilitation of inland waters, spawning grounds and migration routes for migratory species, may receive funding under Axis 3 of the OP only if no funds are allocated for these measures through the Autonomous Regions.

Fishing Capacity-Decommissioning (3.5.b):

The number of vessels in the Spanish fleet decreased from 17 322 in 1999 to 13 367 in 2006. During the same period, tonnage was reduced from 531 606 tons to 480 209 tons and power declined from 1 382 805 kW to 1 093 755 kW.

According to the annual report from the Commission in 2007, the Spanish fleet has been affected by effort reduction measures for deep-sea species and for southern hake and nephrops. Management plans have also been adopted at national level for the Mediterranean, Gulf of Cadiz and Canaries waters. Spain continued to use public funds to reduce fleet capacity; slightly over 11 000 GT was scrapped during 2006.

Action plans and conservation status for marine species and habitats (A3.6):

Spain is a Party to Barcelona Convention and cooperates with other Mediterranean Member States through the Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of the Mediterranean Biodiversity, which includes thematic action plans for marine turtles, cetaceans, the monk seal, cartilaginous fish, seabirds, marine vegetation, coralligenous and other calcarean bioconcretions, and introduction of species and invasive species. Specific actions by Spain include identifying marine turtle and cetacean migratory patterns and establishing a network of stranding observers and rescue centres along the Mediterranean coasts of Spain, with a view to harmonizing rescue methodologies and establishing a common database on stranded and rescued turtles in the Mediterranean. Spain is also a Party to the OSPAR Convention and cooperates in the establishment of protection measures for habitats and species included “Initial OSPAR List of Endangered and/or Declining Species and Habitats”, for example,

Lophelia pertusa, *Zostera* and *Cymodocea* meadows.

The following species are included in the Spanish Catalogue of Threatened Species: mammals (*Monachus monachus*), turtles (*Dermochelys coriacea*, *Caretta caretta*, *Chelonia mydas* and *Eretmochelys imbricate*) and cetaceans (*Eubalaena glacialis*, *Megaptera novaengliae*, *Globicephala macrorhynchus*, *Balaenoptera physalus*, *Balaenoptera musculus*, *Balaenoptera borealis*, *Balaenoptera acutorostrata*, *Physeter macrocephalus*, *Tursiops truncatus*, *Delphinus delphis*, *Phocoena phocoena*, *Kogia breviceps*, *Grampus griseus*, *Globicephala melas*, *Stenella coeruleoalba*, *Orcinus orca*), fish (*Acipenser sturio*, *Petromyzon marinus*), invertebrates (*Asterina pancerii*, *Astroides calycularis*, *Centrostephanus longispinus*, *Charonia lampas lampas*, *Chilomycterus atringa*, *Dendropoma petraeum*, *Panolirus echinatus*, *Patella candei candei*, *Patella ferruginea*, *Pinna nobilis*) and flora (*Zostera nolti*).

The National Strategic Plan for Fisheries (2007-2013) mentions that scientific studies are currently being conducted and invested in, in order to assess populations of vulnerable species subject to fisheries by-catch (birds, turtles and cetaceans).

The Regional Governments have established their own networks of Recovery Centres for Endangered Species and since 1994 several Centres specialised in marine endangered species have been in operation. Many of them focus on rehabilitating copies of endangered marine species (sea turtles, whales and seals), as well as awareness raising and environmental education campaigns on the biology and conservation of these species.

A project was funded in 2007 in the region of Murcia to monitor biological conditions of European Storm-Petrel and Cory's Shearwater to create or improve breeding sites. The Ministry of Environment and the Biodiversity Foundation are financing the preparation of specific studies (in collaboration with WWF-ADENA, OCEANA etc) in order to identify and propose marine areas of high interest for conservation and protection. In 2005, a Strategy for the conservation of the Balearic shearwater (Manx Shearwater) was adopted and in 2008 a Strategy for the Conservation of *Patella ferruginea* has been adopted. LIFE project LIFE02 NATE/8610 focuses on Conservation of Cetaceans and Sea Turtles in Murcia and Andalusia.

Aquaculture planning and biodiversity (A3.7):

The Operational programme recognises that there are currently a number of environmental challenges associated with aquaculture development. It therefore describes a number of environmental measures including investments to promote environmentally friendly practices, as well as managing the landscape and traditional characteristics of aquaculture zones.

4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU.

Biodiversity spending under Cohesion and structural funds:

Expenditures foreseen by Spain for Biodiversity & nature protection under the Cohesion and structural funds for the period 2007-2013 amount to EUR 682 000 000. Other relevant areas where Cohesion and structural funds will be allocated are Promotion of Natural Assets (EUR 68 000 000) and Natural Heritage (EUR 63 000 000).

5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes.

Strategies to reduce impacts from invasive alien species (A5.1.2):

Spain has several regulations in place that address invasive alien species (IAS) with regard to

issues such as trade, import and export, introduction and control/eradication. Law 42/2007 on Natural Heritage and Biodiversity has a specific chapter devoted to IAS. The import of game species also requires authorisation. In addition, some phytosanitary requirements apply to imports into the Canary Islands. Statutory measures are in place for eradication and control of some species. The country also plans to develop an IAS inventory, and strategies for control and eradication will be implemented for listed species. Furthermore, the country has published an atlas on invasive alien plant species.

There is also the publication from the Ministry of Environment on diagnosis, prevention and management of IAS (2006)

Biosafety measures to reduce impacts from alien genotypes (A5.1.2 & 5.1.3):

Besides having ratified the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, Spain has adopted/ implemented relevant EU Regulations and Directives including Regulation 1946/2003 on transboundary movements, which implements the provisions of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety into EU law. The main legislation on GMOs is Law 9/2003 which addresses the confined use, deliberate release and commercialisation of genetically modified organisms.

In 2002, a first draft on a Royal law on coexistence was presented, regulating the coexistence of genetically modified crops with conventional and organic farming. However, it remains unclear whether it has been already adopted.

B. POLICY AREA 2: THE EU AND GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY

6. To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Spain released its National Strategy on Biological Diversity in 1999. The Third National Report to the CBD was prepared in 2006. Spain provided thematic reports on the Global Taxonomic Initiative, Mountain Ecosystems, Protected Areas and Technology Transfer and Cooperation to the CBD. No information was available on the level of direct financial contributions to national biodiversity conservation activities and the level of direct financial contributions to developing countries for biodiversity conservation purposes. Spain has paid substantial contributions to CBD, Ramsar, CMS, AEW, World Heritage Convention and the UNEP Environment Fund.

7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance.

Funds allocated for biodiversity projects and programmes in developing countries (B7.1.3) and Members State's Overseas Countries and Territories (B7.1.6):

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation (MAEC) and its Agency for International Development (AECI) are the main implementers of bilateral aid in Spain. Spain has a strong development engagement with Latin America due to its historical, cultural and language ties. But sub-Saharan Africa has become a new priority for Spanish development cooperation, and aid to the region is set to increase significantly. The new focus on sub Saharan Africa reflects a reinforced focus on poverty reduction.

Annual spending on biodiversity-related bilateral aid in 2006 was EUR 33 430 000, which amounted to 1.92 % of the total bilateral aid budget.

Integration of biodiversity considerations into development programmes and projects impacts

on biodiversity (Action B7.2.2 & 7.2.5):

Integration of biodiversity consideration into other policy sectors is one of the main objectives of Law 42/2007 (Article 2 e)

Likewise, according to the Member State, Spain has developed extensive environmental assessment legislation at national and regional level in order to assure that biodiversity considerations are taken into account in drafting programmes, plans and projects. Monitoring systems are also implemented to ensure that projects, plans and programmes are carried out in accordance with environmental requirements adopted in the Declaration of Impact Assessment.

8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services.

According to the number of CITES certificates, Spain has a comparably high level of trade in CITES species. The number of import documents issued in 2005 was 4719 and in 2006 the number decreased to 4449. 20 and 21 permit applications were denied in 2005 and 2006 respectively. 1053 seizures were reported in 2003/04 and in 2005/06, 1241 seizures were reported, an increase of 141. Advice/guidance and training were provided to the Management Authority. Training was provided to the enforcement authorities. Spain paid their annual contribution to the CITES Trust Funds.

C. POLICY AREA 3: BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

9. To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change.

Progress on Kyoto targets (C9.1.1):

Spain has a Kyoto target of restricting its growth in greenhouse gas emissions over the 2008-2012 period to 15 % above base-levels. However, emissions have already increased by 52.3 % between the base year and 2005. Although emissions are projected to fall slightly reaching 42.3 % above base-levels, this is still far above the country's Kyoto target. Furthermore, even taking into account all additional policy measures, and use of Kyoto mechanisms and carbon sinks, Spain is projected to miss its Kyoto emissions target by 14.2 %.

Adaptation measures to increase biodiversity resilience to climate change (C9.4.1 & 9.4.3):

A preliminary assessment of potential climate change impacts in Spain has been published, entitled "*Evaluación Preliminar General de los Impactos en España por Efecto del Cambio Climático*" (MIMAM 2005), which considers biodiversity issues. On the basis of this and extensive consultations, a national adaptation plan, "*Plan Nacional de Adaptación al Cambio Climático*" (PNACC), has been developed. The main objective of the PNACC is to integrate climate change adaptation measures into the planning and management of ecological systems and socio-economic sectors. The PNACC identifies some necessary ecosystem and sectoral actions, which address biodiversity needs amongst others. In addition impact assessments are being carried out to identify further adaptation options for forests, agriculture, mountains, coastal zones and marine ecosystems etc.

As part of the PNACC an evaluation is being carried out of habitat and taxa most vulnerable to climate change in Spain.

D. POLICY AREA 4: THE KNOWLEDGE BASE

10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally.

The “Plan Nacional de Investigación Científica, Desarrollo e Innovación Tecnológica 2008-2011” includes aspects related to biodiversity and climate change. The main research institution is the “Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas” that includes the Doñana Biological Station and Royal Botanical Garden. Currently, the Spanish Ministry of Environment is working on the following topics:

- Biodiversity National Inventory
- Taxonomy Inventory
- Iberian Fauna Project
- Iberian Flora Project
- Iberian Mycology Flora Project
- Nesting Birds Monitoring Programme

Future plans and projects include:

- Amphibian and Reptile Monitoring Project
- Ichthiofauna Monitoring Project
- Natural Heritage and Biodiversity National Plan and Strategy

An important role will also be played by the State Council for natural Heritage and Biodiversity. The Council has been established for public participation, and the overall objective is to provide information on biodiversity policy.

E. THE FOUR KEY SUPPORTING MEASURES

1. Ensuring adequate financing

Overall use of Community funds for biodiversity:

RDP 2000-2006

Biodiversity-related activities can be found amongst the Agri-environment measures; these seek to encourage agricultural producers to adopt production methods which are more environmentally-friendly.

Measure	EAGGF 2000–2006 (EUR)	% of total (EUR)
Agri-environment measures	852 180 000	9 490 000

In addition to the horizontal RDP, each autonomous community has elaborated a regional programme. In the regional programmes, the measures are applied in the way that best suits the specific conditions in the territory. The autonomous communities of Navarre and the Basque Country have their own tax and legal system which allows them to finance this group

of measures with their own financial resources and integrate them in their respective programmes for rural development.

RDP 2000-2006 (Non-Objective 1 regions (Guarantee section): Aragon, the Balearic Islands, Catalonia, Madrid, La Rioja, Navarre and the Basque Country)

The only activity found to be slightly related to biodiversity is the Assessment of Agricultural Hydraulic Resources. However, a further review shows that all activities are focused on water saving, in which case biodiversity benefits would be incidental.

RDP 2000-2006 Aragon

Biodiversity-related activities under this RDP are covered in Priority 3: Protecting the Natural Environment. The financial allocations for these activities (including non biodiversity related activities) amount to:

Measure	Total Public Expenditure (EUR)	EC contribution (EUR)
Protection of the environment (agriculture, forestry, spatial planning), improvement in animal welfare	52 902 000	26 451 000

RDP 2000-2006 Balearic Islands

Biodiversity-related activities under this RDP are covered in Priority 4: Harnessing and Protecting Natural Resources. This priority covers various woodland management schemes designed to prevent forest fires, soil erosion and deterioration, to protect water resources and to preserve biodiversity and the rural landscape. The financial allocations for these activities (including non biodiversity related activities) amount to:

Priority	Total Public Expenditure (EUR)	EC contribution (EUR)
Natural Resources	9 727 000	4 377 000

RDP 2000-2006 Catalonia

Biodiversity-related activities under this RDP are covered in Priority 7: Preserving and Enhancing the Environment. This priority covers Agri-environmental measures and various environmental-protection measures (preservation of natural habitats and hydrological schemes aimed at protecting the soil and combating erosion). The financial allocations for these activities (including non biodiversity related activities) amount to:

Measure	Total Public Expenditure (EUR)	EC contribution (EUR)
Environment	8 850 000	4 430 000

RDP 2000-2006 Rioja

Biodiversity-related activities under this RDP are covered in Priority 4: Environment and Natural Resources. This priority covers a number of integrated measures to help develop the management of forestry resources and protection of natural spaces and increase the area under tree cover. The financial allocations for these activities (including non biodiversity related activities) amount to:

Measure	Total Public Expenditure(EUR)	EC contribution (EUR)
Environment & Natural Resources	29 930 000	13 239 000

RDP 2000-2006 Madrid

Biodiversity-related activities under this RDP are covered in Priority 4: Forestry and Natural Resources. This priority covers a series of measures that will focus in particular on encouraging management of natural resources/landscape and of waste, soil melioration, reforestation, protecting forests from fires, animal welfare and education on environmental issues. The financial allocations for these activities (including non biodiversity related activities) amount to:

Priority	Total Public Expenditure (EUR)	EC contribution (EUR)
Forestry & Natural Resources	47 515 000	19 006 000

RDP 2000-2006 Navarre

Biodiversity-related activities under this RDP are covered in Priority 5: Forestry, the Natural Environment and the Countryside. This priority concerns firstly forest conservation and improvement through sustainable forestry management. This will involve support for planned improvements and technical forestry-management plans, as well as measures for plant health, reforestation, infrastructure, preventive forestry, etc. Secondly, around 20 protected areas will be developed through various activities. The financial allocations for these activities (including non biodiversity related activities) amount to:

Priority	Total Public Expenditure (EUR)	EC contribution (EUR)
Forestry, Natural Environment & Countryside	36 892 000	18 446 000

RDP 2000-2006 Basque country

Biodiversity-related activities under this RDP are covered in Measure 6: Agri-Environment. This measure concerns premiums for farmers undertaking to carry out actions such as: extensive grazing of pasture land, use of compost, conservation of local animal breeds, organic production, stewardship of the countryside, combating soil erosion and abandonment of mountain pastures, care of features which are important to biodiversity and local fauna

habitats in cultivated areas. The financial allocations for these activities (including non biodiversity related activities) amount to:

Measure	Total Public Expenditure (EUR)	EC contribution (EUR)
Agri-environment	30 549 000	15 274 000

RDP 2007-2013

Due to its structure, Spain implements rural development policy through rural development programmes (RDP) established at regional level by the Autonomous Communities. Spain has submitted a national framework containing common elements of these regional programmes, one of which is Natura 2000 in the forest environment. Unfortunately, it was not possible to find information on financial allocations to biodiversity activities.

According to the MS reply to the questionnaire, the estimated allocation to nature and biodiversity spending under the RDP for the period 2007-2013 is EUR 595 000 000, of which EUR 177 millions are allocated to Natura 2000 management.

2. Strengthening EU decision-making

Plans and follow-up to UN Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (E2.1):

No information was available on whether there are plans for a Millennium Assessment follow-up.

Alignment of national biodiversity strategies with EU (E2.2):

Spain developed a National Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity (EEDB) in 1999 in response to the Convention on Biological Diversity (1992). This is currently under revision. According to Law 42/2007 a Biodiversity and Natural Heritage National Strategic Plan has to be elaborated in two years time. This strategy will focus on biodiversity conservation and restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and marine natural resources, amongst other things.

As a result, Spain is currently in the process of revising its biodiversity strategy in light of the 2010 goals and new Law. Provisions of the revised strategy are incorporated in the Law on Natural heritage and Biodiversity, which has replaced the existing Law 4/1989 on the Conservation of Natural Spaces and Wild Flora and Fauna. The Ministry of Environment started to develop this Law in 2006, and in September 2007 was passing through the final parliamentary stages. Finally, in December 2007, it was adopted and published in the Official Gazette. Targets have also been developed to implement the European Natura 2000 Network recommendations. Initiatives to establish taxonomic inventories on terrestrial biodiversity began in 1998 and are ongoing. A next step will include the application of both EU biodiversity indicators and a body of specifically-developed indicators to monitoring the future trends of this biodiversity.

In April 2006 the Biodiversity Foundation, Ministry of Environment joined the "Countdown 2010" campaign. The Biodiversity Foundation is working in over 250 conservation projects and helping to disseminate this campaign across all public sectors.

Effective integration of Natura 2000, Rural development, river basin management and other

territorial plans and programmes in support for biodiversity (E2.5):

The autonomous regions have jurisdiction over land-use planning in Spain. However, the Ministry of Environment is responsible for the follow-up of international initiatives in this field, as well the adoption of basic environmental legislation and some competencies for environmental policies (particularly water, coastal issues and biodiversity) with territorial dimensions. A number of strategies have been developed in the last 2 years to integrate biodiversity into national planning approaches. For example, the National Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Forest Genetic Resources (adopted on the 11th May 2006) and the National Strategy for River Restoration in response to the Water Framework Directive. There are plans to develop EU biodiversity indicators and a body of specifically-developed indicators to monitor the future trends of biodiversity following the adoption of the Law on Natural heritage and Biodiversity in 2007.

3. Building partnerships

National partnerships for biodiversity including private sector involvement (E3.1):

Although there is not any specific national framework for promoting partnership between biodiversity protection and key sectors there are private and public initiatives that are involved on biodiversity protection and conservation. A few examples include the BBVA Foundation (Bank), the Foundation Territori i Paisatge Environment (Bank), Asociación Nacional de Empresarios Fabricantes de Áridos (Mining Industry), Repsol YPF (Oil, Fuel) and Fundación Patrimonio Natural de Castilla y León (Public Foundation). This Foundation has among its objective the promotion of partnership between the private sector and biodiversity through projects and programmes.

4. Building public education, awareness and participation

National/Sub-national public awareness campaigns/initiatives (E4.1):

According to the ECNC analysis of the Flash Eurobarometer Report, 38 % of Spanish respondents have never heard of the term 'biodiversity'. Of the remaining 62 % who had heard of the term, 28 % knew what it meant. A total of 32 % of respondents from Spain felt that they were either 'well informed' or 'very well informed' about biodiversity loss. There was much less awareness about the Natura 2000 network; 82 % of respondents from Spain had never heard of it. Of those who had heard of it, 4 % knew what it was. Overall, 79 % of Spanish respondents felt that they made personal contributions to protecting biodiversity.

The State Council for natural Heritage and Bio-diversity has been established for public participation, and the overall objective is to provide information on biodiversity policy. The National Centre for Environmental Education (CENEAM) aims to increase civil responsibility in relation to the environment, using environmental education. In addition, they produce an electronic newsletter, provide environmental education programs and environmental training programmes, organise permanent seminars, exhibitions, publications, and produce training materials and other resources that facilitate activity of professionals, students and the general public. A programme called "CENEAM en la escuela" is currently running (2008-2009) which is free and intended for primary, secondary schools. It includes activities such as visits to exhibitions, walks in the ecological surroundings and workshops a set of suggestions that each teacher can include in their programming.

F. MONITORING

Information on national biodiversity indicators in Spain is available through the “Observatorio de la Sostenibilidad” (Observatory of Sustainability) online.). The Observatory elaborates a yearly report on “Sustainability in Spain” Some of the key components of the report are climate change, the loss of biodiversity and desertification. Some of the biodiversity indicators used in the report are linked to protected areas, threatened species, biodiversity status, etc.

More than 35 biodiversity monitoring projects are currently underway in Spain. Many of these schemes are based on long-term ongoing monitoring programmes.

DATA SOURCES

A1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species:

A.1.1, A.1.2 & A.1.4

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/barometer/index_en.htm)

<http://dataservice.eea.europa.eu/atlas/viewdata/viewpub.asp?id=2639>

http://themes.eea.europa.eu/IMS/ISpecs/ISpecification20041007131611/guide_summary_plus_public

[http://www.mma.es/secciones/biodiversidad/rednatura2000/rednatura_espana/pdf/mapa_liczepas\[1\].pdf](http://www.mma.es/secciones/biodiversidad/rednatura2000/rednatura_espana/pdf/mapa_liczepas[1].pdf)

http://www.mma.es/portal/secciones/biodiversidad/rednatura2000/rednatura_espana/

<http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/>)

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm>

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/ecosystems/docs/adaptation_fragmentation_guidelines.pdf

A.1.2

<http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/>)

A.1.3

MS Questionnaire

<http://www.mma.es>

www.mma.es/portal/secciones/biodiversidad/especies_amenazadas/estrategias_planes/

A.1.3

<http://www.ebcc.info/spain.html>

http://www.seo.org/programa_intro.cfm?idPrograma=3

A.1.3

http://www.plantaeuropa.org/pe-members-current_members.htm#Spain

A2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside

A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8

Published National Rural Development Programmes (IIEP database 2008)

European Commission unpublished data (2008)

MS questionnaire

A2.1.11

Third National Report to CBD (2005)

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/es/es-nr-03-es.pdf>

A2.1.4 & 2.1.10

Alliance Environment (2007). Evaluation of the application of cross compliance as foreseen under Regulation 1782/2003. Part I: Descriptive Report - 26/07/2007. Report to the European Commission.

A2.1.5

MS Questionnaire

A2.2.1

MS questionnaire

<http://www.mma.es/portal/secciones/biodiversidad/desertificacion/>

<http://www.mma.es/portal/secciones/biodiversidad/inventarios/ines/index.htm>

<http://www.mma.es/portal/secciones/biodiversidad/desertificacion/lucdeme/>

<http://www.mma.es/portal/secciones/biodiversidad/desertificacion/lucdeme/#5>

A2.3.1

WFD Scoreboard http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/transp_rep/scoreboard_en.htm

A2.4.2 & 2.4.3

Spain NEC Directive submission (13 Mar 2008)

<http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/es/eu/nec>

NEC Directive National Programmes

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/nationalprogr_dir200181.htm

MS reporting to NEC Directive http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/implement_nec_directive.htm

A3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment

A3.1a

<http://www.mma.es/portal/secciones/acm/>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/es/es-nr-03-es.pdf>

Article 17 National Summary-Spain

A3.1b

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/iczm/pdf/evaluation_iczm_report.pdf

A3.2

http://ec.europa.eu/water/water-bathing/report_2007.html

A3.3

http://www.mapa.es/pesca/pags/plan_estrategico_nacional/pdf/PEN_JUNIO_07_con_anexos.pdf<http://www.mapa.es>

A3.4 and A3.5a

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/op/spain_es_01.pdf

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/op/spain_es_02.pdf

A3.5b

<http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/fleetstatistics/index.cfm?lng=en>

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2007:0828:FIN:EN:DOC>

A3.6

<http://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/mul38126.pdf>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/es/es-nr-03-es.pdf>

http://www.mma.es/portal/secciones/biodiversidad/especies_amenazadas/catalogo_especies/vertebrados_aves/pdf/Listadhttp://www.mma.es/portal/secciones/biodiversidad/oficina_especies_migratorias/informes_oem/informe_1997.htm

[%20-
%20CONSERVACIÓN %20INFORMACIÓN %20Y %20ESTUDIO %20DE %20LOS %20CETÁCEOS](http://www.fundacion-biodiversidad.es/opencms/export/fundacion-biodiversidad/pages/estudios-y-proyectos/convocatoria-2007.htm#CIRCE)

A3.7

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/op/spain_es_01.pdf

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/op/spain_es_02.pdf

A4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU

Infoview Data (DG Regio)

LIFE+ 2007 Call for Proposals – DG Environment

A5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes

A5.1.2

MS questionnaire

Miller, C., Kettunen, M. & Shine, C. 2006. Scope options for EU action on invasive alien species (IAS) Final report for the European Commission. Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP), Brussels, Belgium.

A5.1.2 & 5.1.3

National Report on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

<http://www.cbd.int/biosafety/parties/reports.shtml?report=NR-CPB-01>

European Commission Report on the Implementation of National Measures on the Coexistence of Genetically Modified Crops with Conventional and Organic Farming

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/coexistence/index_en.htm

http://www.gmo-compass.org/eng/news/country_reports/

<http://www.mma.es/>

B6: To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services

B6

<http://www.cbd.int/reports/search.shtml>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/es/es-nbsap-01-p1-en.pdf>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/es/es-nbsap-01-p2-en.pdf>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/es/es-nr-03-es.pdf>

<http://www.cbd.int/convention/parties/contributions.shtml?tab=2&yr=2007>

http://www.ramsar.org/res/key_res_ix_12_e.htm

http://www.cms.int/bodies/StC/32_stc_meeting/French/Doc_09_Fonds_Affectation_avec_Annexes.pdf

http://www.unep-awa.org/meetings/en/stc_meetings/stc4docs/pdf/stc4_9_income_expenditures.pdf

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/31COM/documents/>

http://www.unep.org/rmu/en/Financing_of_UNEP/Environment_Fund/Table_2007/index.asp

B7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance

B7.1.3 & 7.1.6:

http://www.oecd.org/document/17/0,3343,en_2649_34603_33887057_1_1_1_1,00.html

http://www.ada.gv.at/up-media/2766_distribution_by_sectors.pdf

B8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services

B8

<http://www.cites.org/eng/resources/reports/biennial.shtml>

<http://www.cites.org/common/resources/reports/pab/05-06Spain.pdf>

<http://www.cites.org/common/resources/reports/pab/03-04Spain.pdf>

<http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/14/doc/E14-07-1.pdf>

C9: To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change

C9.1.1

EC (2007) Communication from the Commission. Progress towards achieving the Kyoto objectives.

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/climat/gge_progress.htm

C9.4.1 & 9.4.3

Third National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity (2006)

http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/es/es-nr-03-es.doc#_Toc93824808

Fourth National Communication On Climate Change to the UNFCCC (2006)

<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/natc/spanc4.pdf>

MIMAM

<http://www.mma.es/oecc/impactos2.htm>

D10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally

D10.1

MS Questionnaire

<http://www.csic.es/index.do>

<http://www.mma.es>

E1. Ensuring adequate financing

E1

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rur/countries/es/file2003_en.pdf

<http://www.mapa.es/desarrollo/pags/fondos/pdfpdr/phcap8.pdf>

http://www.mapa.es/desarrollo/pags/fondos/pdfpdr/phcaps9_10.pdf

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/07/432&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

E2. Strengthening EU decision-making

E2.2

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/nbsap/nbsapcbw-eur-01/official/nbsapcbw-eur-01-02-rev1-en.doc>

<http://www.fundacion-biodiversidad.es/opencms/export/fundacion-biodiversidad/pages/biodiver-espania/cuenta-atras-2010.htm>

E2.5

<http://www.restauracionderios.org/>

http://www.mma.es/portal/secciones/biodiversidad/montes_politica_forestal/recursos_geneticos_forestal/pdf/ecr_gf_11mayo_imprensa.pdf

http://www.mma.es/secciones/biodiversidad/montes_politica_forestal/estrategia_monte/pdf/sfs.pdf

E3. Building partnerships

E3.1

MS Questionnaire

http://www.repsolypf.com/es_en/casa_y_hogar/energia_en_casa/reportajes/medio_ambiente/default.aspx

http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/index_en.htm

E4. Building public education, awareness and participation

E4.1

http://www.mma.es/portal/secciones/formacion_educacion/ceneam01

F1-4. Monitoring, evaluation and review

<http://eumon.ckff.si/>

<http://www.sostenibilidad-es.org/Observatorio+Sostenibilidad/esp/acercade/>

SWEDEN

Competent authority(ies) for nature & biodiversity:

Ministry of the Environment: <http://www.sweden.gov.se/sb/d/2066>

Swedish Environmental Protection Agency: <http://www.naturvardsverket.se/sv/>

Most recent national/subnational biodiversity strategy/action plan:

Sweden's Environmental Quality Objectives (taken by Parliament November 2005, including several objectives of relevance for biodiversity)

Latest review of the implementation of biodiversity strategy/action plan:

Ongoing

Alignment with EU biodiversity plan:

Alignment with EU 2010 Biodiversity Indicators (SEBI 2010):

SEBI Indicators are used in ongoing review

Key sources of official nature & biodiversity information used for evaluation:

See data sources at end of this document

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS IN DELIVERY OF OBJECTIVES OF EU BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN

A. POLICY AREA 1: BIODIVERSITY IN THE EU

1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species.

Natura 2000 sites (terrestrial and marine) (A.1.1, A.1.2 & A.1.4)

	<i>Number of sites</i>	<i>Area (km²)</i>
Total SCIs/SACs (Habitats Directive)	3972	62 784
SCIs/SACs with marine component (Habitats Directive)	326	5 850
Total SPAs (Birds Directive)	530	28 872
SPAs with marine component (Birds Directive)	107	3 033

Number of SCIs and SACs - Natura 2000 Barometer – June 2008 (Source: European Topic

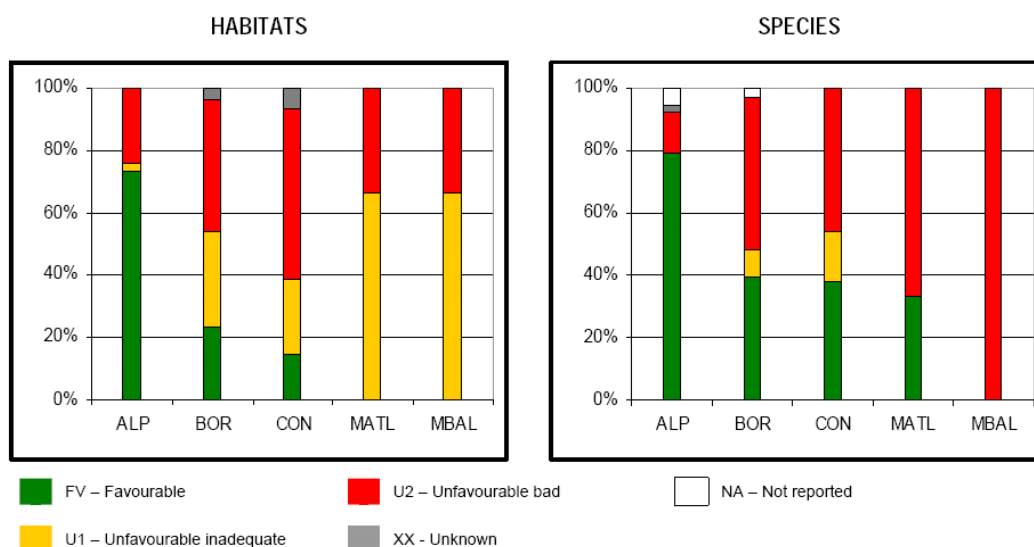
Centre on Biological Diversity based on data supplied by Member State)

Sweden was considered, by June 2008, to have achieved a level of sufficiency of 99 % for site selection for species and habitat types under Habitats Directive, in its territory. A total of 2 635 Natura 2000 sites have completed/agreed management plans with a further 671 in development.

According to the EC LIFE Programme/Database, under the LIFE Nature programme, there was a total of 11 projects in Sweden with an EC contribution of EUR 11 083 151, during the period 2000-2006. In the year 2007, according to the indicative national allocations, Swedish projects received EUR 7 685 000 from LIFE+ funds.

Conservation status assessment (A.1.2)

Under the Habitats Directive Sweden has three biogeographical regions (alpine, boreal, continental). The results of the first conservation status assessment for species and habitats of community interest are as follows:



Region / Conclusion	HABITATS					SPECIES				
	FV	U1	U2	XX	NA	FV	U1	U2	XX	NA
Alpine	73	3	24			79		14	2	6
Boreal	23	31	42	4		39	9	49		3
Continental	15	24	55	7		38	16	46		
Marine Atlantic		67	33			33		67		
Marine Baltic		67	33					100		
Member State	30	24	42	4		46	9	42	0.4	3

*The conservation status categories: FV = favourable, U1 = unfavourable-inadequate, U2 = unfavourable-bad, XX = unknown, NA = no evaluation given by MS

Overall assessment of conservation status by biogeographical region (Analysis by the European Topic centre on Biological Diversity based on data supplied by Member State)

Red Data Books/Lists, National/Subnational Atlases, Action Plans (A.1.3)

The Swedish Red List is updated every five years. The current Red List (2005) includes mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles, fish, wasps, butterflies and moths, beetles, flies, bugs, othopterans, neuroptera, megaloptera, raphidioptera, trichoptera, plecoptera, odonata, ephemeroptera, myriapods, spiders, harvestmen and pseudoscorpions, crustaceans,

echinoderms, brachiopods, molluscs, leeches and planarians, althozoans, vascular plants, algae, bryophytes, fungi and lichens. National/subnational atlases are available for mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles, fishes, dragonflies, butterflies, beetles, myriapods, vascular plants and mosses. Action plans are being developed for the most threatened species, agri-environment measures being developed to take into account red-listed species (as far as is possible, given the EU-framework), data being used in conservation planning (nature reserves, etc).

Ex-situ conservation is referred to in the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) as submitted to the CBD Secretariat.

Common bird monitoring (A.1.3)

Common bird monitoring is carried out annually by Lund University. The results and trend indicators are available online.

2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside.

Rural Development Programmes (A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8):

According to information supplied by the Swedish authorities, Sweden spends a relatively large proportion of its EAFRD budget on Axis 2 payments, all of which is through agri-environment measures. The allocated RDP 2007-2013 spending for agri-environment measures is some EUR 2 106 000 000³, which equates to 53.8 % of the EAFRD budget. It is anticipated that 80 % of the spending on these measures (for biodiversity and cultural heritage in semi-natural grazing lands, meadows and wetlands) will be within Natura 2000 sites.

There is a minor measure focused on preservation of biodiversity in the reindeer herding area. In addition to this, the Swedish RDP also includes some measures that are indirectly supporting the biodiversity of the agricultural landscapes. These indirect measures amount to EUR 27 000 000 per annum.

The Swedish RDP does not include any direct environmental measures for forests (although EUR 34 200 000 are allocated for non-productive investments). The main reason for this is that the forest resource is regarded as a national resource and owners are responsible for its environmental care. In the revised Swedish Forestry Act of 1994, production goals and conservation goals are both given equal importance.

Furthermore, according to national legislation forest owners are expected to contribute to the national goal of excluding 900 000 hectares of forest land of high conservation value from forest production during 1999 – 2010. There are also other means by which the state compensates forest owners for the protection of land of high conservation and cultural values.

Agricultural genetic diversity (A2.1.11):

A national programme for plant genetic resources (POM) is being implemented and a national programme for animal genetic resources is under development. POM is actively inventorying plants in traditional use, collecting samples, and documenting associated local knowledge. The Nordic Gene Bank has been charged with the ex situ conservation of the cultivated species. For livestock a management plan has been taken. There is also program for subsidies

³ Spending including public co-financing but excluding additional private & national contributions.

for keeping ancient breeds that are threatened with extinction.

Agricultural cross-compliance measures (A2.1.4 & 2.1.10):

Sweden has included within its cross-compliance regulations some Good Agricultural and Environmental Condition (GAEC) Minimum Level of Maintenance measures that may provide biodiversity conservation benefits. These include measures to protect permanent pastures and meadows from inadequate grazing or management. However, there do not appear to be measures to maintain stocking levels or to protection important features in the landscape.

Afforestation / deforestation policies and biodiversity (A2.1.5):

Afforestation and deforestation activities are regulated through SEA and EIAs where appropriate. However, afforestation levels in Sweden are low and this is not considered to be a threat to biodiversity. Some 60 % of the land area is already forest and reforestation is therefore more common. The national Forestry Act stipulates that all forestry activities must include general consideration of biodiversity values.

According to the Member State, deforestation (permanent or very long term loss of forest cover) only occurs as a result of urban settlements, infrastructure (such as roads, railways etc) and industrial activities. In those cases legal provisions apply to control and mitigate impacts.

Soil protection and biodiversity (A2.2.1):

Soil biodiversity loss has not been evaluated or indicators identified.

Measures to improve the ecological status of freshwaters (A2.3.1):

Sweden has completed all the legal transposition elements of the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC (WFD) which have deadlines during 2004, 2005 and 2007, although there are some implementation issues of the WFD to be assessed yet. These include the production of a River Basin District Report and River Basin Analysis report and Monitoring Network Report.

Measures to reduce air pollution impacts on biodiversity (A2.4.2 & 2.4.3):

By 2006 Sweden had met its 2010 EU Emissions Ceilings Directive targets for reducing emissions of sulphur dioxide, ammonia and volatile organic compounds. Emissions are also expected to remain below these targets levels in 2010. However, nitrogen dioxide emissions were above targets levels (148 Gg) in 2006 and are expected to be still slightly above these in 2010 (at 154 Gg).

3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment.

Good marine ecological status (A3.1a):

The EU Maritime Policy factsheet on Sweden states that ‘In 2005 Sweden adopted a National Strategy for the Marine Environment as part of the work with the Marine Strategy for the European Union. The main goal of this strategy is “A sea in balance, and living coastlines and archipelagos”. This Strategy incorporates the ecosystem approach.

Sweden is in the process of implementing an Action Plan for the Marine Environment. This Action Plan contains thirty proposed measures for improving the marine environment. A number of these relate to biodiversity issues, including: stopping invasion of alien species by boat;

protection of endangered species of deep-sea fish; limiting number of days that fishing is permitted; and reservation of some fishing for passive fishing gear.

Sweden is a contracting party of the OSPAR convention, and as such follows the Strategies drafted, including 'Biological Diversity and Ecosystems' with the objective to protect and conserve the ecosystems and the biological diversity of the maritime area which are, or could be, affected as a result of human activities, and to restore, where practicable, marine areas which have been adversely affected, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, including Annex V and Appendix 3.

Additionally, Sweden is a contracting party of the Helsinki Commission (HELCOM), and as such implements the Helsinki Convention. This includes stipulations that Contracting parties take appropriate legislative, administrative or other relevant measures to prevent and eliminate pollution in order to promote the ecological restoration of the Baltic Sea Area and the preservation of its ecological balance.

According to the Article 17 National Summary for Sweden, 67 % of the marine habitats (Atlantic and Baltic) under the EU Habitats Directive have an 'unfavourable-inadequate' status and the remaining 33 % have an 'unfavourable-bad' status.

Integrated coastal zone management (ICZM) (A.3.1.b):

A review of ICZM implementation in Europe in 2006 made the following conclusions for Sweden, based the national report submitted by the Ministry for Sustainable Development: 'No formal process to develop and implement ICZM in the country exists and no steps have been taken to establish ICZM in the country (from the perspective of the academic community and the general public). A possible exception could be consideration of the gradual introduction of the Water Framework Directive. The coastal governance of the country is very centralized giving only very limited room for regional and local initiatives that goes beyond the relatively strict national regulation. The existing "Planning and Building Act" governs all activities in coastal areas, and is the cornerstone for spatial planning processes, viewed as a kind of 'ICZM Act'. Rather strict and rigid central planning implemented through this Act hampers local initiatives to develop economic activities in coastal areas. From environmental standpoint large parts of the coastline is still in relatively pristine conditions. It is important to mention, that the traditional approach to coastal management and planning has been very successful from an environmental conservation standpoint. Hence the need to introduce the ICZM approach to planning may not be considered a priority in Sweden, at least not from an environmental point of view.'

Pollution: Bathing water quality (A3.2)

According to the Water Bathing Report for the 2007 season, 95.1 % of coastal waters in Sweden met minimum standards, down from 96.8 % in the 2006 season. The number of waters that met guideline standards in 2007 was 63.1 %, down from 81.4 % in 2006. Sixteen bathing areas were non-complying in the 2007 season, although none were banned throughout the season. The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (SNV) has the overall responsibility for the management of the National Monitoring Programme. The monitoring is performed by a number of institutions on a contractual basis. Environmental assessments of the marine environment, based mainly on the monitoring results from the National Programme, are performed every year by the three Marine Science Centres of Umeå, Stockholm and Gothenburg that cover the Gulf of Bothnia, the Baltic Proper and the Sound, the Kattegat and the Skagerrak, respectively. The assessments are made in co-operation with the SNV. Efforts are made to co-ordinate and integrate parts of the National Programme into the regional coastal programmes in order to obtain one Marine Monitoring Programme covering Swedish Territorial Waters.

Ecosystem approaches in Fisheries management measures (A3.3):

For Sweden, there is not a single national fisheries plan, but for a number of watercourses have ecosystem-based fisheries management plans. There is a national Fisheries Act whose objective is to promote the sustainable and responsible management of fisheries. In the National Strategy for Sustainable Development (2002), Sweden states that fisheries need to be put on a sustainable footing by applying the precautionary principle, adopting ecosystem approach and securing biological diversity.

Sweden has set up 15 environmental quality objectives that function as a benchmark in all environmental development, from municipal to international level. These objectives were adopted by Parliament and are to be met by 2020, the overall goal being to hand over an ecologically sustainable environment to the coming generation. The Swedish Board of Fisheries has been given three of these objectives to implement. These three are: "A balanced marine environment, flourishing coastal areas and archipelagos, "Flourishing lakes and streams," and "A magnificent mountain landscape."

Community and National Financing under European Fisheries Funds (EFF) (A3.4):

The European Fisheries Funds (EFF) contribution to Sweden for the 2007-2013 Operational Programme was distributed amongst the four axes. For Axis 1, 25 % of the total EFF contribution was distributed for the adaptation of the Community Fishing Fleet. Of this funding, 8.5 % was allocated to particular nature and biodiversity related activities. For Axis 2, 20 % of the total EFF contribution was distributed for aquaculture, inland fishing, processing and marketing of fishery and aquaculture products. Of this funding, 10 % was allocated to particular nature and biodiversity related activities. For Axis 3, 35 % of total EFF contribution was distributed for 'measures of common interest'. Of this funding, 17.5 % was allocated to particular nature and biodiversity related activities. These values were provided in the BAP Member State Questionnaire response. The Swedish Operational Programme 2007-2013 was only available in Swedish, so we were unable to identify specific environmentally-friendly aspects of the priority axes.

Restoration programmes for diadromous species (A3.5.a):

Salmon in Swedish Baltic waters were formerly managed under the IBSFC Salmon Action Plan (SAP) for the years 1997-2010. According to the European Commission, in 2007 the IBSFC ceased to exist. The Baltic Sea Regional Advisory Council (BSRAC) recently published recommendations for a renewal of the SAP to continue with the regional management of salmon stocks. One of the main objectives of the new action plan is 'Salmon stocks in the Baltic Sea and its rivers shall be managed and protected within safe biological limits and the genetic variability should be safeguarded.' Particular targets for salmon production are set in groups of salmon rivers.

Sweden is also a member of the Helsinki Commission. The Commission unanimously adopts Recommendations for the protection of the marine environment, which the governments of the Contracting Parties must act on in their respective national programmes and legislation. This includes Recommendations such as: HELCOM Recommendation (19/2) adopted in 1998 Protection and Improvement of Wild Salmon (*Salmo salar L.*) Populations in the Baltic Sea Area.

There is a restoration plan for eel in progress at the moment. The responsible authority is Fiskeriverket.

Fishing Capacity-Decommissioning (3.5.b):

Sweden's vessel decommissioning scheme was initiated in 1995. Between 1999 and 2006 the number of vessels in Sweden's fleet has been reduced from 2 073 to 1 572, a reduction of 24 %.

In the Operational Programme for the Swedish Fisheries Sector, Priority Axis 1 aims at adjusting the Swedish fishing fleet to the situation of the fish stocks, as well as improving the profitability of fishing companies.

Measures foreseen include support for the permanent and temporary cessation of fishing activities, and investments in modernisation on board vessels, including engine replacement to improve energy efficiency and introduce more selective fishing methods. Socio-economic measures will facilitate the entry of young fishers into the sector and will provide compensation for loss of jobs due to the permanent cessation of fishing activities of the fishing vessels concerned. Measures to improve training for fishermen and diversification into other areas than fisheries are also envisaged.

Action plans and conservation status for marine species and habitats (A3.6):

The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) is a national environmental authority under the Swedish Government and the Ministry of the Environment. Its mission is to coordinate and drive forward environmental work nationally and internationally. SEPA coordinates the implementation of the Convention on Biodiversity in Sweden, and is in particular responsible for the protection of habitats and species and for environmental monitoring and follow up.

Action plans are being developed for the most threatened species, agri-environment measures being developed to take into account red-listed species (as far as is possible, given the EU-framework), data being used in conservation planning (nature reserves etc).

SEPA also oversees the environmental monitoring programme for seas and coastal areas, which provides input for the description of large-scale human impacts, primarily from eutrophication and hazardous substances, and on biodiversity.

Sweden is a member of the Helsinki Commission. The Commission unanimously adopts Recommendations for the protection of the marine environment, which the governments of the Contracting Parties must act on in their respective national programmes and legislation. This includes the Recommendation 27-28/2: Conservation of seals in the Baltic Sea Area.

Aquaculture planning and biodiversity (A3.7):

There is an Operational Programme 2007-2013 document but it was unclear whether it contains plans for aquaculture development that take account of biodiversity.

4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU.

Biodiversity spending under Cohesion and structural funds:

There is no data available for expenditures foreseen by Sweden for Biodiversity & nature protection under the Cohesion and structural funds for the period 2007-2013. Other relevant areas where Cohesion and structural funds are foreseen include Promotion of Natural Assets (EUR 9 million) and Natural Heritage (EUR 7 million).

5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes.

Strategies to reduce impacts from invasive alien species (A5.1.2):

Sweden has IAS legislation covering trade issues and intentional introductions. However, no overarching IAS legislation is in place. Instead IAS issues are covered in many different laws and regulations. One relevant regulation is the Environmental Code. It refers to aspects such as the release of animal or plant species to the natural environment with regard to the protection of wild flora and fauna, and the regulation of imports and exports of animals and plants. Further laws and regulations covering IAS have been implemented in different areas, e.g., forestry, agriculture, fisheries.

No national/subnational database on IAS has been implemented, but Sweden is a participating country in the North European and Baltic Network on Invasive Alien Species (NOBANIS).

Biosafety measures to reduce impacts from alien genotypes (A5.1.2 & 5.1.3):

Sweden complies with the provisions provided by the European Union on GMOs. The EC legislation on biosafety is reflected in several Swedish Ordinances released in the framework of the Environmental Code. Chapter 13 of the Code deals with the use of genetically modified organisms. The Genetically Modified Organisms (Deliberate Release) Ordinance (SFS 2002:1086) allows justified measures to be taken in order to avoid negative impacts on human health and the environment, arising from deliberate release or placing on the market of genetically modified organisms, in accordance with the precautionary principle.

Sweden has not yet passed legislation on coexistence of genetically modified crops with conventional and organic farming, but preparations are underway.

B. POLICY AREA 2: THE EU AND GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY

6. To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services.

While there is no separate National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, biodiversity is included in the system of environmental quality objectives and targets, adopted by Parliament in 1998 and 2005 and currently being revised. The previous Biodiversity Action Plan dated from 1995. Sweden has submitted the Third National Report to CBD and the following thematic reports: Alien species, Forest Ecosystems, Voluntary Report on the Expanded Forest Biodiversity Work Programme, Global Taxonomy Initiative, and Protected Areas.

Information on a wide range of funding mechanisms for biodiversity in Sweden is available, but this information is not necessarily complete and it is therefore difficult to calculate the percentage of the GDP of funding for national biodiversity. The direct contribution to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use in developing countries through the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) amounts to some SEK 400 million annually, but there is substantial, unquantified additional funding that indirectly supports biodiversity through the management of natural resources.

Sweden is paying substantial annual contributions to CBD, Ramsar, CMS, AEW, World Heritage Convention and the UNEP Environment Fund.

7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance.

Funds allocated for biodiversity projects and programmes in developing countries (A7.1.3 & 7.1.6):

Total annual spending on biodiversity-related bilateral aid in 2006 was EUR 6 790 000, which

amounted to 0.35 % of the total bilateral aid budget.

The majority of Sweden's Official Development Assistance is channelled via the Swedish International Development Co-operation Agency (Sida). Its activities range over many areas including biological diversity. To promote the role of biodiversity considerations in development cooperation, Sida has, together with the Centre for Biodiversity, established an international programme for biodiversity - the Swedish International Biodiversity Programme - SwedBio. The annual budget for the SwedBio Collaborative Programme is about USD 2.5 million (SEK 20 million). Other major Swedish actors in the field of international development cooperation are the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the Export Credits Guarantee Board.

Integration of biodiversity considerations into development programmes and projects impacts on biodiversity (Action B7.2.2 & 7.2.5):

Sida considers that prior assessment of the environmental impacts of development is essential. Accordingly, practical environmental assessment guidelines were developed in 1991, to help administrators recognize environmental risks at an early stage in project planning. The guidelines are currently being revised, in order to reflect changes in the organisation and methodological development in the field of Environmental Impact Assessment during the last years.

Sida also requires that non-government organisations, consultants, and its other partners integrate environmental aspects into projects supported by Sida. Sida also prepares an environmental analysis for each programme country in order to better understand the environmental conditions and linkages to different sectors and issues in the different countries. However, the extent to which biodiversity considerations are integrated with assessments is unclear.

8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services.

According to the reported number of CITES certificates issued, Sweden's participation in the international trade of CITES species is very low. Accordingly, little activity on seizures of illegal specimens was reported. Internal capacity-building for CITES focused on the improvement of national networks. Information on financial support to developing countries for CITES implementation is not available, but Sweden paid a substantial contribution to the CITES Trust Funds.

C. POLICY AREA 3: BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

9. To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change.

Progress on Kyoto targets (C9.1.1):

Sweden appears to be on track to meet its 2010 Kyoto target (of limiting its baseline increase to 4 %), using only existing domestic policies and measures. Greenhouse gas emissions were at 67 million tonnes in 2005 or a 7.4 % decrease compared to baseline levels. Although emissions are projected to increase by 2010, these are still projected to be -3.4 % lower than baseline levels.

The government has announced that it will start a process of setting a new long-term target without committing to the 25 % target of decrease in emissions in 2020 compared to 1990

introduced by the former government.

Adaptation measures to increase biodiversity resilience to climate change (C9.4.1 & 9.4.3):

According to Sweden's third report to the CBD, no projects have been taken to facilitate biodiversity adaptation to climate change. No are any biodiversity adaptation projects listed for Sweden in the CBD adaptation case study database. The ongoing review of Sweden's environmental objectives includes proposals to amend this.

D. POLICY AREA 4: THE KNOWLEDGE BASE

10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally.

National research programmes (D10.1):

Sweden has a dedicated national programme to support biodiversity research with a view to a 2010 target, with a budget of approximately EUR 100 000 000, or 25 % of the overall environmental research budget. There are a range of more and less formal arrangements for the science-policy interface to ensure that biodiversity outcomes are reflected in policy development and implementation, including a dedicated governmental board of scientific experts, cooperative activities between policy-making agencies, universities and research funding bodies, dedicated research programmes administered by policy-making agencies, and consultations during policy-making which involve universities.

E. THE FOUR KEY SUPPORTING MEASURES

1. Ensuring adequate financing

Overall use of Community funds for biodiversity:

RDP 2000- 2006

Total public cost of the RDP 2000- 2006 was EUR 2 551 630 000, including an EU contribution of EUR 130 050 000 from the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund, Guarantee Section (EAGGF/Guarantee).

Biodiversity-related activities under this programme are covered in Priority 1, and include Compensatory payments in Less-Favoured Areas and forests. Financial allocations to this priority amount to EUR 1 648 040 000, of which EUR 722 070 000 originate from EU funds.

RDP 2007 – 2013

Biodiversity-related activities under this RDP are incorporated in axis 2 which has as priorities to preserve and develop an attractive landscape and living countryside, stimulate the adjustment to resource-efficient and sustainable production with reduced environmental impact in order to help achieve EU and national environmental objectives as effectively as possible. Allocations to this axis amount EUR 2 702 000 000 of which the EU contributes EUR 1 260 000 000.

Furthermore, the estimated allocation to nature and biodiversity spending from national/subnational budget is EUR 355 670 000/year (equal to approximately 64 % of the Agri Env. Programme). The total allocation to N2000 management is EUR 53 670 000 million/year, (equal to approximately 15 % of the Agri Env. Programme).

These amounts include the annual amount within the Swedish Rural Development Programme directly targeted to preservation of biodiversity in the agricultural landscape, plus a minor measure focused on preservation of biodiversity in the reindeer herding area. In addition to this, the Swedish Rural Development Programme also includes some measures that are indirectly supporting the biodiversity of the agricultural landscape, these indirect measures amount to EUR 27 000 000 / year.

Support to nature and biodiversity under forestry policy from the national/subnational budget is estimated at EUR 4 890 000 (or 0.9 % of overall Agriculture budget).

Fisheries

The total amount of money on Sweden's sustainable fisheries from EFF and national contributions are as follows:

Priority axis 1: measures for the adaptation of the Community fishing fleet: EUR 13 700 000 (25 % of overall EFF budget).

Priority Axis 2: Aquaculture, inland fishing, process & marketing of fisheries and aquaculture products: EUR 10 900 000 (20 % of overall EFF budget).

Priority Axis 3: Measures of common interest: EUR 19 100 000 (35 % of overall EFF budget).

2. Strengthening EU decision-making

Plans and follow-up to UN Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (E2.1):

Sweden does not currently have a programme to follow-up on the MA, but may set up such a mechanism by 2010. Whilst valuation and accounting mechanisms are not routinely used in the assessment of ecosystem services, they are used where appropriate and possible. A priority issue for Sweden is the development of tools for ecosystem assessment and valuation.

Alignment of national biodiversity strategies with EU (E2.2):

The 2008 CBD review Status of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans states that the biodiversity strategy and action plans from the 1990s have been, in several but not all parts, superseded by the system of sixteen environmental quality objectives, adopted by Government and Parliament. These objectives express the environmental quality that should be reached within a generation (ca 25 years from 1999). There is no single “Swedish NBSAP” contained in one document. Instead, biodiversity is included in the broad system of environmental quality objectives and targets, adopted at highest political level in Sweden. This also means that biodiversity is treated and worked with in an integrated fashion; both in the broad environmental process, and also into relevant sectors, in accordance with article 6 of CBD.

Since 2005, the 2010 target is incorporated within Sweden’s environmental quality objectives, as an interim target within the objective “a rich diversity of plant and animal life”. The Swedish parliament, when adopting the target, judged that it can be reached by means of the activities specified under the biodiversity-related environmental objectives, as well as the action strategy for sustainable management of natural resources. However, in its first review in 2006, the Swedish environmental objectives council expressed doubts concerning the sufficiency of these measures. The council also pointed out that many of the biological processes concerned are too slow for an improvement to be detectable during the specified time frame for the objective (i.e. 2020).

Effective integration of Natura 2000, Rural development, river basin management and other territorial plans and programmes in support for biodiversity (E2.5):

This Swedish system with environmental quality objectives and targets also includes three important strategies, where the “Strategy for the management of land, water and the built environment” is the one most important for biodiversity. After the adoption of the objective ‘A Rich Biodiversity’ in 2005, the Government has commissioned several governmental agencies (SEPA, but also other sectoral agencies) to carry out work in order to achieve the targets that have been set. Rural development, river basin management and other territorial plans have been incorporated.

With regards to indicators, Sweden’s Action Plan on Biodiversity states that a short-term research priority is the development of indicators on biodiversity, to enable efforts to be targeted on the most important sites.

3. Building partnerships

National partnerships for biodiversity including private sector involvement (E3.1):

Although there are no national initiatives for promoting formalised partnerships for biodiversity, forestry is a sector where there is strong involvement of private and public sectors for the protection and sustainable use of forest land. The ‘Greener Forest’ educational document shows how forest owners can voluntarily implement the Swedish forest policy on their property. Also, the ‘National Strategy for the legal protection of forest land’ is a guidance document aimed primarily at regional and local authorities to promote the protection of forest land, and can also be used by the private sector for voluntarily setting-aside areas for nature protection.

4. Building public education, awareness and participation

National/Sub-national public awareness campaigns/initiatives (E4.1):

According to the ECNC analysis of the Flash Eurobarometer Report, 72 % of Swedish respondents had heard of biodiversity, and 41 % knew what it meant. Whilst 70 % of people have heard of the Natura 2000 network, only 5 % actually know what it means. Overall, 65 % of people claim that they make personal efforts to protect biodiversity.

According to the Third National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Swedish government has presented its conservation policy in the white-paper “A Comprehensive Policy for Nature Conservation” (En samlad naturvårdspolitik, regeringens skrivelse 2001/02:173). The paper establishes the link between conservation and sustainable use, and elaborates on their implementation through the Environmental quality objectives. For the continued conservation work the government highlighted a number of issues, including: A strengthened dialogue with the citizens; the importance of local community participation, and of nature in urban areas; and the importance of research, education and information.

Another means of promoting awareness is the Swedish Right of Public Access (allemansträtten), a unique right to roam freely in the countryside which gives people the opportunity to enjoy nature in the broad landscape, rather than having to rely on nature reserves and national parks only.

F. MONITORING

The Swedish parliament has approved a set of environmental quality objectives, which comprise biodiversity and include targets, indicators and time frame. The indicators correspond well with the CBD framework and the EU headline indicators, with gaps apparent regarding the EU headline indicators on invasive species, impacts on biodiversity of climate change, funding for biodiversity, genetic resource related patents, and public awareness.

Many biodiversity monitoring programmes in Sweden have long been established, for example those focusing on specific species or the National Forest Inventory; other monitoring programmes have been established more recently. The programmes cover a wide range of biomes and species.

The National Inventory of Landscapes in Sweden (NILS) is a nation-wide environmental monitoring program that monitors the conditions and changes in the Swedish landscape and how these changes influence conditions for the biological diversity. The program started in 2003 and is the first Swedish inventory program that includes all types of terrestrial environments. Agricultural land as well as forests, wetlands, shores, alpine and populated environments are inventoried.

DATA SOURCES

A1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species:

<http://dataservice.eea.europa.eu/atlas/viewdata/viewpub.asp?id=2639>

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm>

http://themes.eea.europa.eu/IMS/IMS/ISpecs/ISpecification20041007131611/IAssessment117086782375/view_content

<http://www.artdata.slu.se/>

<http://www.artportalen.se/>

<http://www.biol.lu.se/zooekologi/birdmonitoring/indikatorer.htm>

<http://www.biol.lu.se/zooekologi/birdmonitoring/resultat.htm>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/se/se-nbsap-01-en.pdf>

<http://www.nationalnyckeln.se/english/index.asp>

<http://w3.vic-metria.nu/n2k/jsp/main.jsp>

A2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside

A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8:

Published National Rural Development Programmes (IEEP database 2008)

European Commission unpublished data (2008)

MS questionnaire

A2.1.11:

Third National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity (2005)

http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/se/se-nr-03-en.doc#_Toc78202108

MS questionnaire

A2.1.4 & 2.1.10:

Alliance Environment (2007). Evaluation of the application of cross compliance as foreseen under Regulation 1782/2003. Part

I: Descriptive Report - 26/07/2007. Report to the European Commission.

A2.1.5:

MS Questionnaire

A2.2.1

MS questionnaire

<http://www.naturvardsverket.se/en/In-English/Menu/State-of-the-environment/Environmental-monitoring/>

A2.3.1:

WFD Scoreboard http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-framework/transp_rep/scoreboard_en.htm

A2.4.2 & 2.4.3:

Sweden NEC Directive submission (28 Dec 2007)

<http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/se/eu/colp93lqa/envr3tnvg>

NEC Directive National Programmes

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/nationalprogr_dir200181.htm

MS reporting to NEC Directive

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/implem_nec_directive.htm

A3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment

A3.1a

<http://www.regeringen.se/content/1/c6/04/75/70/5a1276f5.pdf> (In Swedish)

<http://www.sweden.gov.se/content/1/c6/02/58/00/e07c2088.pdf>

http://www.naturvardsverket.se/en/In-English/Menu/Nature-conservation_and_wildlife_management/The-marine-environment/The-Swedish-Action-Plan-for-the-Marine-Environment/30-steps-for-a-better-marine-environment/

Article 17 National Summary-Sweden

A3.1b

http://www.rupprecht-consult.de/iczm/iczm_national_reporting_sweden.htm

<http://www.rupprecht-consult.de/iczmdownloads/Vad%20h%E4nder%20med%20kusten.pdf>

A3.2

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-bathing/summary_report_2008.html

<http://reports.eea.europa.eu/92-9167-001-4/en/page018.html>

A3.3

<http://faolex.fao.org/docs/texts/swe23367.doc>

<http://www.sweden.gov.se/content/1/c6/02/05/15/a64eb2d7.pdf>

A3.4

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/op/sweden_sv_01.pdf

A3.5a

<http://www.fiskeriverket.se/otherlanguages/inenglish/alsoanenvironmentalauthority.4.1490463310f1930632e80008629.html>

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/op/sweden_sv_01.pdf

<http://www.bsrac.org/archive/Dokumenter/Recommendations/2007/RecommendationSalmon010307.pdf>

http://www.bsrac.org/archive/Dokumenter/Recommendations/2007/Response%20Letter%20A%205290_Johansson.pdf

http://www.helcom.fi/Recommendations/en_GB/rec19_2/

<http://www.fiskeriverket.se>

A3.5b

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/press_corner/press_releases/2008/com08_06_en.htm#1

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/op/sweden_sv_01.pdf

A3.6

<http://www.fiskeriverket.se/>

<http://www.naturvardsverket.se/en/In-English/Menu/>

http://www.helcom.fi/Recommendations/en_GB/rec27-28_2/

<http://www.naturvardsverket.se/en/In-English/Menu/State-of-the-environment/Environmental-monitoring/Programme-areas/Seas-and-coastal-areas/>

A3.7

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/op/sweden_sv_01.pdf

A4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU

Infoview Data (DG Regio)

LIFE+ 2007 Call for Proposals – DG Environment

LIFE expenditure 2000-2006 – DG Environment

A5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes

A5.1.2

MS questionnaire

www.nobanis.org

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/se/se-nr-03-en.pdf>

A5.1.2 & 5.1.3

National Report on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

<http://www.cbd.int/biosafety/parties/reports.shtml?report=NR-CPB-01>

Biosafety Clearing House

<http://bch.cbd.int/>

European Commission Report on the Implementation of National Measures on the Coexistence of Genetically Modified Crops with Conventional and Organic Farming

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/coexistence/index_en.htm

National legislation

<http://www.gmo.nu/gmoenglish.4.778a5d1001f29869a7fff935.html>

B6: To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/se/se-nr-03-en.pdf>

<http://www.cbd.int/reports/thematic.shtml>

<http://www.cbd.int/convention/parties/contributions.shtml?tab=2&yr=2007>

http://www.ramsar.org/res/key_res_ix_12_e.htm

http://www.cms.int/bodies/StC/32_stc_meeting/French/Doc_09_Fonds_Affectation_avec_Annexes.pdf

http://www.unep-aewa.org/meetings/en/stc_meetings/stc4docs/pdf/stc4_9_income_expenditures.pdf

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/31COM/documents/>

http://www.unep.org/rmu/en/Financing_of_UNEP/Environment_Fund/Table_2007/index.asp

B7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance

B7.1.3 & 7.1.6:

http://www.sida.se/sida/jsp/sida.jsp?d=121&language=en_US

<http://www.swedbio.com/index.htm>

B7.2.2 & 7.2.5:

<http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/CIDAWEB/acdicida.nsf/En/REN-218131217-PEH>

B8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services

<http://www.cites.org/eng/resources/reports/biennial.shtml>

<http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/14/doc/E14-07-1.pdf>

C9: To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change

C9.1.1:

EC (2007) Communication from the Commission. Progress towards achieving the Kyoto objectives.
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/climat/gge_progress.htm

C9.4.1 & 9.4.3:

Third national CBD report

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/at/at-nr-03-en.doc>

CBD database of case studies on climate change adaptation options

<http://adaptation.cbd.int/options.shtml>

D10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally

D10.1

<http://www.biodiv.se/eng/finansiarer/>

E1. Ensuring adequate financing

MS Questionnaire

Final Report on Financing Natura 2000

EU's Financial Framework for the year 2007-2013

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rur/countries/sv/hori/fiche_en.pdf

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/07/210&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

E2. Strengthening EU decision-making

E2.1

MS Questionnaire

E2.2

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/se/se-nbsap-01-en.pdf>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/nbsap/nbsapcbw-eur-01/official/nbsapcbw-eur-01-02-rev1-en.doc>

E2.5

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/se/se-nbsap-01-en.pdf>

E3. Building partnerships

E3.1

MS Questionnaire

E4. Building public education, awareness and participation

E4.1

http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/index_en.htm

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/se/se-nr-03-en.doc>

F1-4. Monitoring, evaluation and review

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/se/se-nr-03-en.pdf>

<http://eumon.ckff.si/>

<http://miljomal.nu/english/indicators.php>

<http://nils.slu.se>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/se/se-nr-03-en.pdf>

<http://eumon.ckff.si/>

<http://miljomal.nu/english/indicators.php>

<http://nils.slu.se>

UNITED KINGDOM

Competent authority(ies) for nature & biodiversity:

Environment Agency (<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/>)

Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (<http://www.sepa.org.uk/>)

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (<http://www.defra.gov.uk/>)

[Commission](http://www.ruralcommunities.gov.uk) for Rural Communities (<http://www.ruralcommunities.gov.uk>)

Northern Ireland Environment and Heritage Service (<http://www.ehsni.gov.uk/default.asp>)

Countryside Commission for Wales (<http://www.ccw.gov.uk/>)

Scottish Natural Heritage (<http://www.snh.org.uk/>)

Natural England (<http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/>)

Joint Nature Conservation Committee (<http://www.jncc.gov.uk/>)

Forestry Commission (<http://www.forestry.gov.uk/>)

Scottish Executive (<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Home>)

Welsh Assembly Government (<http://wales.gov.uk/?lang=en>)

Department for Environment, Northern Ireland Government (<http://www.doeni.gov.uk/>)

Most recent national/subnational biodiversity strategy/action plan:

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/biodiversity/biostrat/index.htm>

- Working with the Grain of Nature (<http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/biodiversity/biostrat/biostrategy1to4.pdf>), is the Biodiversity Strategy for England.
- Scotland's Biodiversity – It's in Your Hands (<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/25954/0014583.pdf>), which is a strategy for the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity in Scotland.
- The Wales Environment Strategy Action Plan covers a broader whole environment scope (http://new.wales.gov.uk/docrepos/40382/4038231121/118554/Env_strat_rewrite/Action_Plan_e.pdf?lang=en).
- The Northern Ireland Biodiversity Strategy (<http://www.ehsni.gov.uk/nibs2002.pdf>).

Latest review of the implementation of biodiversity strategy/action plan:

<http://www.ukbap.org.uk/BAPGroupPage.aspx?id=112>

Alignment with EU biodiversity plan:

Alignment with EU 2010 Biodiversity Indicators (SEBI 2010):

A table showing relationship of the UK and SEBI indicators is available

Key sources of official nature & biodiversity information used for evaluation:

- <http://www.ukbap.org.uk/>
- <http://www.defra.gov.uk/>
- <http://www.jncc.gov.uk/>

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS IN DELIVERY OF OBJECTIVES OF EU BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN

A. POLICY AREA 1: BIODIVERSITY IN THE EU

1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species.

Natura 2000 sites (terrestrial and marine) (A1.1)

	<i>Number of sites</i>	<i>Area (km²)</i>
Total SCIs/SACs (Habitats Directive)	614	26 365
SCIs/SACs with marine component (Habitats Directive)	44	9 724
Total SPAs (Birds Directive)	265	517 896
SPAs with marine component (Birds Directive)	4	66 084

Number of SCIs and SACs - Natura 2000 Barometer – June 2008 (Source: European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity based on data supplied by Member State)

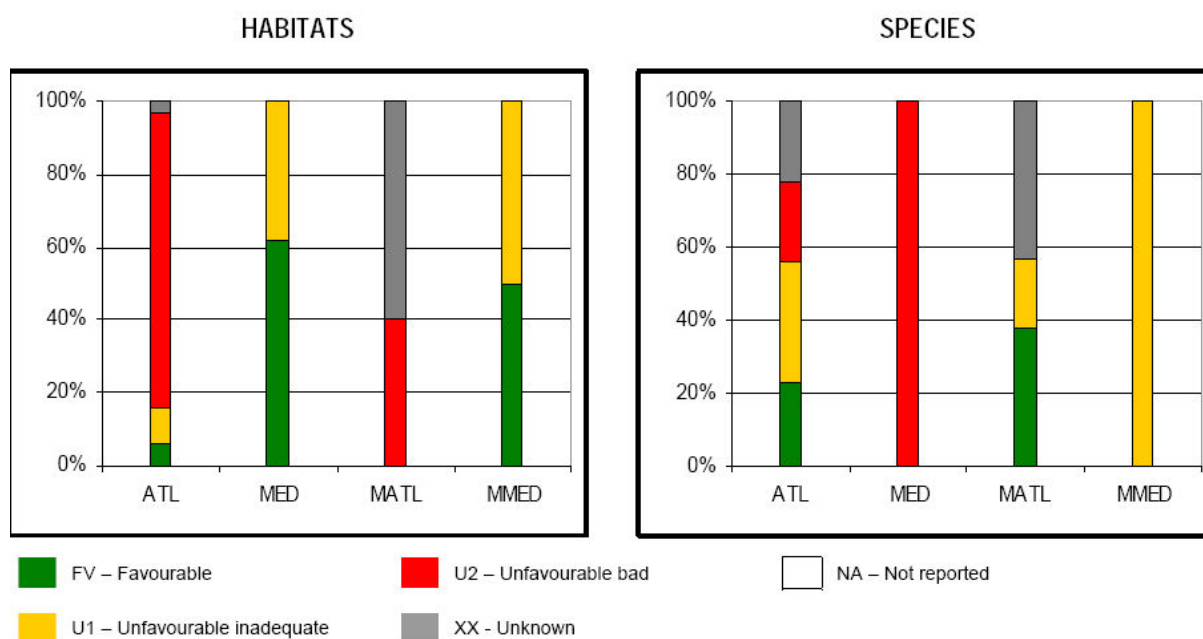
The UK was considered in June 2008, to have achieved a level of sufficiency of 95.2 % for site selection for species and habitat types under Habitats Directive, in its territory. GIS data on individual sites is available. A total of 507 Natura 2000 sites in the UK have a completed/agreed management plan. The UK authority chose not to state the number of management plans under preparation and to be finalised by 2010.

According to the EC LIFE Programme/Database, under the LIFE Nature programme, there was a total of 18 projects in UK spent EUR 32 257 630, during the period 2000-2006. In the year 2007, according to the indicative national allocations, UK projects received EUR 14 871 000 from LIFE+ funds.

Collaborative working between the statutory nature conservation agencies in the UK has led to the application of a common approach to terrestrial ecological networks in the UK. Any planned increase in connectivity is the subject of a risk assessment. The evaluation of freshwater and marine connectivity is planned working with the relevant statutory bodies leading on the implementation of the EC Water Framework Directive.

Conservation status assessment (A1.2)

Under the Habitats Directive UK has two biogeographical regions, Atlantic and also, Mediterranean, which is covering Gibraltar. The results of the first conservation status assessment for species and habitats of community interest are as follows:



Region / Conclusion	HABITATS					SPECIES				
	FV	U1	U2	XX	NA	FV	U1	U2	XX	NA
Atlantic	6	10	81	3		23	33	22	22	
Mediterranean	62	38						100		
Marine Atlantic			40	60		38	19		43	
Marine Mediterranean	50	50					100			
Member State	12	13	69	6		25	32	18	25	

*The conservation status categories: FV = favourable, U1 = unfavourable-inadequate, U2 = unfavourable-bad, XX = unknown, NA = no evaluation given by MS

Overall assessment of conservation status by biogeographical region (Analysis by the European Topic centre on Biological Diversity based on data supplied by Member State)

Red Data Books/Lists, National/Subnational Atlases, Action Plans (A1.3)

There are a substantial number of Red Data books and lists published on species in the UK. The UK has a history of producing both faunal and floral atlases for species throughout the British Isles. Action Plans for UK species have been published for a number of species, beginning in 1981 (birds with wintering populations) to 2004 (fishes). A new atlas on birds for 2007-2011 is in preparation.

Ex-situ conservation plans/programmes are in place for a number of species with vary levels of progress. None were given as in preparation.

Common bird monitoring (A1.4)

The State of the UK's Birds is an annual report from the British Trust for Ornithology. It draws together the most recent data from a range of reliable sources, including annual, periodically repeated and one-off surveys, up to 2006, and presents trends for some species

since 1970. The Quality of Life indicator shows trends in 113 species of common breeding bird in the UK since 1970. Overall, bird populations have remained stable over this period. However, farmland birds declined substantially in the 1970s and '80s and, although stable in recent years, have yet to show signs of recovery. The indicator for woodland birds reveals a more recent decline, in the 1980s and early 1990s, principally in woodland specialists and long-distance migrants.

2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside.

Rural Development Programmes (A2.1.1, A2.1.2 & A2.1.8):

According to information supplied by the UK authorities, the UK gives a high level of importance to supporting biodiversity conservation measures in the wider countryside through its agri-environment schemes. It is therefore spending 50 % of its EAFRD spending on agri-environment measures, amounting to some EUR 4 450 000 000 in its current Rural Development Programmes. The UK has also increased its budget for such schemes by additional modulation, i.e. transfer of subsidy funds from Pillar 1 of the CAP (guarantee expenditure and single farm payments) to Pillar 2 (rural development and agri-environmental schemes). This additional income has been used to support some important farmland biodiversity measures, including the Entry level Stewardship Scheme in England, which is open to all farmers and aims to deliver widespread basic habitat enhancement measures, e.g. for declining farmland birds.

The UK also uses axis 2 funding to support first afforestation of agricultural and non-agricultural land and (EUR 451 000 000) and some forest environment measures (EUR 40 000 000).

The UK does not use the specific RDP Natura funding stream because it considers that adequate funding is provided under the agri-environment measures.

Agricultural genetic diversity (A2.1.11):

Work is in place to establish a UK indicator on agricultural genetic diversity

Agricultural cross-compliance measures (A2.1.4 & A2.1.10):

Within the UK, agricultural regulations within England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales have implemented all three listed GAEC Minimum Level of Maintenance measures that may provide biodiversity conservation benefits. These are minimum livestock stocking rates and/or appropriate regimes, protection of permanent pasture and retention of landscape features.

In addition, there are rules governing the felling of trees (E, S, W), protection of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (E, NI, S, W) and in accordance with heather and grass burning regulations (E, NI, S, W). It is however, unclear to what extent these requirements provide additional levels of protection, other than supporting existing regulations.

High Natural Value Farmland and forests (A2.1.3):

The UK has a high proportion of farmland of High Natural Value, including extensive areas of upland moorland and bog and rough grazing, as well as smaller remnants of wood pasture, heathlands, calcareous and acid grasslands, hay meadows and wet grasslands. Most UK forest lands are of recent origin but some significant areas of ancient and semi-natural forest remain. Accurate maps or inventories of such habitats in relation to definitions of High Natural Value

Farmland or Forest have been produced for England.

There are no specific measures for High Natural Value habitats in the UK's Rural Development Programmes, but most of the agri-environment measures will contribute to the conservation of such habitats.

Afforestation / deforestation policies and biodiversity (A2.1.5):

The impacts of afforestation and deforestation schemes on biodiversity are assessed under land-use regulations including SEA and EIA requirements. A felling licence is required for deforestation (under the Forestry Act 1965). Biodiversity surveys are undertaken as part of environmental impact assessments where required and there are many standard types of survey, such as National Vegetation Classification, but no particular method is specified as part of the RDP/country strategies.

New policy/guidance on creating open habitats from forestry in England due in December 2008.

Soil protection and biodiversity (A2.2.1):

The UK does not have a baseline for soil biodiversity and has little information on how it may be changing or what any changes will mean. It is, however, in the process of developing and field-testing biological indicators, through two research projects, which could be used to give an indication of the capacity of soil to perform certain functions.

Measures to improve the ecological status of freshwaters (A2.3.1):

The UK has completed all the legal transposition and the implementation elements of the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC (WFD) which have deadlines during 2004, 2005 and 2007. These include the production of a River Basin District Report and River Basin Analysis report and Monitoring Network Report.

Measures to reduce air pollution impacts on biodiversity (A2.4.2 & A2.4.3):

The UK's main policies and measures for achieving air quality improvements and EU obligations are set out in the Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. The most recent version of the Strategy was published in July 2007 (DEFRA 2007). The UK's air quality objectives are equal to or more stringent than EU requirements.

The Strategy notes that the UK's air "is cleaner in overall terms than at any time since the industrial revolution". Further improvements have continued over the past ten years and the UK is meeting current objectives for all air pollutants in over 99 % of the UK. However, the Strategy predicts that the UK will miss three of its nine national pollutant objectives (particles, ozone and nitrogen dioxide). It is expected to meet its NECD 2010 objectives for three pollutants, but not nitrogen oxides.

Furthermore, significant air pollution concerns remain regarding biodiversity impacts. In particular, the UK has recently completed an analysis of critical loads on Habitats Directive Annex I habitats as part of its Article 17 Conservation status report. This revealed that 33 out of 51 assessed Annex I habitats are likely to be threatened by acid deposition and nutrient nitrogen deposition.

3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment.

Good marine ecological status (A3.1a):

UK has a strategy to achieve a marine environment that is clean, healthy, safe, productive and with biologically diverse oceans and seas. "Charting Progress: an integrated assessment of UK seas" was published by DEFRA and the Devolved Administrations in 2005 and contains details on marine ecological status. The UK is also Contracting Party to the OSPAR Convention, the current instrument guiding international cooperation on the protection of the marine environment in the North-east Atlantic.

The Article 17 National Summary for UK indicates that 25 % of marine (Mediterranean) habitats covered under the EU Habitats Directive have "favourable" status, another 25 % (Mediterranean) have an 'unfavourable-inadequate' status, and 20 % of marine (Atlantic) habitats have an 'unfavourable-bad' status further 30 % (Atlantic) is "unknown".

Integrated coastal zone management (ICZM) (A.3.1.b):

ICZM strategies are in the process of being developed for England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Consultations are currently being undertaken. Scotland's Marine Strategy for the coast and marine environment includes ICZM elements.

Pollution: Bathing water quality (A3.2)

According to the EU Bathing Water Report for the 2007 season, 96.5% of the coastal waters in the UK met minimum standards and 75.6% met the tighter guideline standards set by the EU that Member States must endeavour to achieve.

Ecosystem approaches in Fisheries management measures (A3.3):

DEFRA's Fisheries 2027 – A Long-term vision for sustainable fisheries sets out the intention for fishing to be managed according to an ecosystem-based approach. A draft implementation plan (October, 2007) sets out proposals for delivering the vision and a further version is currently being prepared. The draft plan includes developing and implementing the ecosystem approach to fisheries management in the English Channel (which aims to turn EAF theory into practice) and the applying lessons learnt from that pilot to other areas.

Community and National Financing under European Fisheries Funds (EFF) (A3.4):

The UK EFF Operational Programme is currently going through a consultation phase and has not yet been officially adopted. The draft OP includes a range of environmentally-friendly measures within Axes 1, 2 and 3, for example, minimising the environmental impact of fishing activities through decommissioning schemes, updating fishing equipment to increase selectivity and reduce impacts on the seabed, and to minimise the environmental impacts of aquaculture through improved methods and enhancing traditional aquaculture preserving the environment.

Restoration programmes for diadromous species (A3.5.a):

The Environment Agency has a proposed Sea Trout and Salmon Fisheries Strategy (along with proposed legislation). There are also regional trout and salmon plans. CEFAS is contributing to an EU project on pilot studies for a scientific framework in support of sustainable management (SLIME). The EU is a contracting member of NASCO which was

established to promote conservation, restoration, enhancement and rational management of salmon stocks in the North Atlantic Ocean.

Fishing Capacity-Decommissioning (3.5.b):

The Marine and Fisheries Agency opened a £5m fishing vessel decommissioning scheme for the South West of England in April 2007, for beam trawlers over 10 metres long which would be affected by cuts in fishing effort required by the agreed long term management plan for Western Channel sole. Owners of eight large beam trawlers in the South West accepted financial investment for fisheries guidance (FIFG) grants to break up and decommission their fishing boats. DEFRA is also considering a limited decommissioning scheme for small vessels.

Action plans and conservation status for marine species and habitats (A3.6):

Action plans exist for UKBAP Priority Species of marine cetaceans, fish, corals, turtles, molluscs, crustaceans and birds. UK action plans for marine habitats are available including oceanic seas, rivers & streams, reefs, coastal salt marshes, coastal sand dunes. Under UK's marine strategy, DEFRA has developed a UK Marine Monitoring and Assessment Strategy that aims to coordinate marine monitoring under three clusters: clean & safe seas; healthy and biological diverse seas (covers species & habitats monitoring) and productive seas (covers fisheries).

Aquaculture planning and biodiversity (A3.7):

The UK's draft EFF Operational Programme includes support for new or improved production facilities for aquaculture — implementation of aquaculture methods which reduces negative impacts or enhances positive effects on the environment; and enhancing traditional aquaculture preserving the environment.

4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU.

Biodiversity spending under Cohesion and structural funds (A4):

No expenditure is foreseen by the UK for Biodiversity & nature protection under the Cohesion and structural funds for the period 2007-2013.

There is however, a large number of Cohesion and Structural funds foreseen for rehabilitation of contaminated sites (EUR 167 million) for the period 2007-2013, which has the potential of making a positive contribution to biodiversity. Same is true for climate change mitigation & adaptation activities (EUR 56 million) foreseen for the same period, which are likely to have an impact on biodiversity.

5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes.

Strategies to reduce impacts from invasive alien species (A5.1.2):

The overall impact of invasive alien species (IAS) on biodiversity in the UK is not certain or fully monitored. However, the UK has legislation that attempts to regulate IAS, including controls on imports (and exports) and the accidental and intentional releases.

Furthermore, a Great Britain Invasive Non-native Species Framework Strategy will be

launched in May 2008, its proposed measures include work to review IAS-related legislation and develop proposals for improvement. The Strategy proposes that a central depository for data on IAS should be established. A scoping project has already been completed and information on some IAS is available on the National Biodiversity Network website.

Biosafety measures to reduce impacts from alien genotypes (A5.1.2 & 5.1.3):

As required in the EU Biodiversity Action Plan, the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety is fully applied and biodiversity considerations are included in measures to protect human health and environment from the deliberate release into the environment of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs).

The EU legislation on GMOs forms the basis for the existing UK biosafety measures. The EU provisions on GMOs, i.e. the relevant EU Regulations and Directives have been fully adopted / implemented in the UK.

As regards addressing negative impacts of intentional GMO release on biodiversity, the deliberate release regime in the UK (as defined in the Part VI of the Environmental Protection Act 1990) “*includes land, air and water and the living organisms supported by any of those media*”. Thus, this definition covers all living things individually or collectively - including humans, animals, plants, fungi, micro-organisms, and whole ecosystems.

As for the future developments, DEFRA initiated a stakeholder consultation process to inform its decisions on the co-existence of GM and non-GM crops in 2004. It remains the Government’s intention to introduce coexistence measures before any commercial cultivation of GM crops takes place in the UK, which is not expected for several years at least.

B. POLICY AREA 2: THE EU AND GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY

6. To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services.

The UK adopted a Biodiversity Action Plan in 1994. There is currently no UK-wide biodiversity strategy, but England, Scotland and Northern Ireland have their own biodiversity strategies. The UK submitted the Third National Report to the CBD in 2005 and has also submitted all thematic reports requested by the CBD except for the one on access and benefit-sharing. Substantial funding for national biodiversity is released through the nationwide and country agencies as well as through the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs’ Environment Action Fund. The biggest single source for national funding is the agri-environment schemes (over £300 million per year). Other funding sources include the Landfill Tax, the National Lottery, the Overseas Territories Environment Programme, and others. A number of schemes provide substantial funding for biodiversity to developing countries, including the Darwin Initiative, the Flagship Species Fund, and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office Sustainable Development Global Opportunities Fund. Other funding for developing countries is made available through the UK’s contributions to the GEF and other multilateral agencies. The UK is also providing substantial contributions to the CBD, Ramsar, CMS, AEW, World Heritage Convention and the UNEP Environment Fund.

7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance.

Funds allocated for biodiversity projects and programmes in developing countries (B7.1.3) and Members State's Overseas Countries and Territories (B7.1.6):

According to the most recent figures, annual spending on biodiversity-related bilateral aid was EUR 7.2 million in 2006, which amounted to 0.16 % of the UK's spending on bilateral aid.

One of the most important direct sources of UK funding on biodiversity outside the EU is from the Darwin Initiative. This is a small grants programme that aims to promote biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of resources around the world. The Initiative is funded and administered by the UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. Phase II of the Darwin Initiative was officially launched on 19 November 2002. The new phase includes a commitment to more than double the money for the Darwin Initiative over the next 3 years, to £7 million a year from 2005/6.

8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services.

The figures on certificates reported through the biennial report to CITES indicate a high-level of trade in CITES species. 741 seizures were reported for 2005-05, two of which were significant. National capacity building for CITES implementation includes an increased budget for activities; development of implementation tools; improvement of national networks; computerisation; and a range of training activities for enforcement authorities, in particular the police and customs. The UK CITES authorities assisted the implementation of CITES in developing countries through support to a number of CITES workshops, development of information material, and direct funding for developing countries' agencies. The UK paid their contribution to the CITES Trust Funds.

C. POLICY AREA 3: BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

9. To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change.

Progress on Kyoto targets (C9.1.1):

The UK agreed to reduce its emissions by 12.5 %, which is its legally binding target under the Kyoto Protocol (ratifying decision 2002/358/EC). The UK has already surpassed this target, with a 15.7 % reduction in emissions compared to its baseline year (1990 for most gases) and in fact UK emissions are predicted to fall 23.2 % below base year levels by 2010⁴.

The UK is also introducing legislation (the Climate Bill) that aims to reduce carbon dioxide emissions (excluding those from shipping and aviation) by at least 60 % by 2050. Furthermore, the Government has recently announced that the target will be reviewed in accordance with the latest scientific evidence and that this will be a statutory duty under the Bill.

Adaptation measures to increase biodiversity resilience to climate change (C9.4.1 & 9.4.3):

⁴ Projected change based on existing policies and measures, excluding the use of Kyoto Mechanisms and carbon sinks.

The UK government is in the process of developing a cross-department Adaptation to Climate Change Programme, which aims to address all significant adaptation needs. The UK Biodiversity Partnership has produced guidance on building the capacity for biodiversity climate change adaptation in “*Conserving biodiversity in a changing climate*” (DEFRA 2007). However, there is no clear programme of actions.

A research programme on biodiversity and climate change has been undertaken with three main objectives: (1) to improve understanding of impacts of climate change on biodiversity in terrestrial and marine environments, including through application of modelling techniques to assess vulnerability of priority species and habitats; (2) to review and develop options for adaptation of policy and management, including improved transfer of knowledge between researchers and practitioners; and (3) to ensure that long-term monitoring systems are in place to detect changes in biodiversity and discriminate the effects of climate change from other factors.

DEFRA recently published a review of climate change impacts on migratory species.

D. POLICY AREA 4: THE KNOWLEDGE BASE

10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally.

National research programmes (D10.1):

The UK has dedicated programmes for supporting biodiversity research. In 2004/2005, EUR 42.5 million (£ 33.5 million) was allocated to biodiversity funding (based on the Strategic Analysis of UK Environmental Research Activity, by the Environment Research Funders’ Forum (ERFF)). Total funding for environmental research by Government Departments, Research Councils and environmental protection agencies was £263.56 million. There are a number of statutory bodies and other forums at UK and country levels which have responsibility for providing scientific advice on biodiversity, assessment of biodiversity outcomes and identification of research needs (e.g. see section, ‘Competent authorities for nature and biodiversity’).

E. THE FOUR KEY SUPPORTING MEASURES

1. Ensuring adequate financing

Overall use of Community funds for biodiversity:

Agri-environment and other land management schemes: UK's RDP 2000 - 2006

The expenditure from co-financing UK's Rural Development Programme for the period 2000-2006 came at a total public cost EUR 1 496.7 million, which includes an EU contribution of EUR 615.2 million from the Guarantee Section of the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF). The appropriations from modulation provide a further EUR 757.3 million, including EUR 381.6 million from the EAGGF. In addition, the UK has committed a further EUR 404.1 million of national state aids associated with measures under the programme, which increases the full financial effort for the rural development programme for England to an overall total of EUR 2 658.1 million, with an EU contribution of EUR 996.8 million from the EAGGF.

A breakdown of the different regional RDPs allows for a better identification of funds allocated to biodiversity activities.

RDP 2000 – 2006: England

The following are activities from the English RDP were identified as having a biodiversity component. However, these values are for total expenses under the measure, and not for biodiversity activities alone.

Financial allocations per measure (in EUR millions)

Measure	Total Public Expenditure	EU Contribution
Less-Favoured Areas: Basic area payment (divided between four land categories) and five optional environmental incentives.	402.8	85.6
Agri-Environment: Organic Farming Scheme (OFS), Countryside Stewardship Scheme (CSS), Environmentally Sensitive Areas Scheme (ESAS)	31.3	15.7

RDP 2000 – 2006: Northern Ireland

The following are activities from Northern Ireland's RDP were identified as having a biodiversity component. However, these values are for total expenses under the measure, and not for biodiversity activities alone.

Financial allocations per measure (in EUR millions)

Measure	Total Public Expenditure	EU Contribution
Agri-Environment: Environmentally Sensitive Areas Scheme (ESA), Countryside Management Scheme (CMS), Organic Farming Scheme (OFS)	56.99	41.34
Less-Favoured Areas	258.42	76.97
Forestry	16.7	11.33

RDP 2000 – 2006: Wales

The following are activities from the Welsh RDP were identified as having a biodiversity component. However, these values are for total expenses under the measure and not for biodiversity activities alone.

Financial allocations per measure (in EUR millions)

Measure	Total Public Expenditure	EU Contribution
Strengthen the agriculture and forestry sectors	19.78	8.81
Protect the environment and rural heritage	432.6	99.86

RDP 2000 – 2006: Scotland

The following are activities from the Scottish RDP were identified as having a biodiversity component. However, these values are for total expenses under the measure and not for biodiversity activities alone.

Financial allocations per measure (in EUR millions)

Measure	Total Public Expenditure	EU Contribution
Less-Favoured Areas	788.89	218.61
Agri-Environment: Rural Stewardship Scheme (RSS) & Organic Aid Scheme (OAS)	91.10	54.64

UK's RDP 2007 – 2013

England's RDP

The following axes from the English RDP were identified as having a biodiversity component. These values are for total expenses under the axis, and not for biodiversity activities alone.

Axis	Biodiversity Component	Total Public Expenditure (EUR)	EU Contribution (EUR)
2	Agri-environment measures (incl. Natural Handicap measures)	4 182 903 442	2 441 251 501

Northern Ireland's RDP

The following axes from Northern Ireland's RDP were identified as having a biodiversity component. These values are for total expenses under the axis, and not for biodiversity activities alone.

Axis	Biodiversity Component	Total Public Expenditure (EUR)	EU Contribution (EUR)
------	------------------------	--------------------------------	-----------------------

2	Management of Natura 2000 areas Farmland habitat preservation and creation(incl. High Nature Value farming systems) Appropriate management of the environment to ensure water quality improvement	187 501 153	103 125 634
3	Sustainable development of the natural and built environment	99 920 982	49 960 491

Wales' RDP

The following axes from the Welsh RDP were identified as having a biodiversity component. These values are for total expenses under the axis, and not for biodiversity activities alone.

Axis	Biodiversity Component	Total Public Expenditure (EUR)	EU Contribution (EUR)
2	LFA payments Agri-environment payments Support for non-productive investments	721 625 423	225 663 111
3	Conservation & upgrading of rural heritage	93 942 754	52 796 304

Scotland's RDP

The following axes from the Scottish RDP were identified as having a biodiversity component. These values are for total expenses under the axis, and not for biodiversity activities alone.

Axis	Biodiversity Component	Total Public Expenditure (EUR)	EU Contribution (EUR)
2	LFA payments Agri-environment payments Support for non-productive investments	1 468 678 865	463 223 724
3	Conservation & upgrading of rural heritage	247 767 585	78 146 303

Fisheries

The total amount of money on UK sustainable fisheries from EFF and national contributions for each of the three axes is as follows:

- Axis 1: Measures for the adaptation of the Community Fishing fleet - EUR 52 789 625 of which EUR 24 453 101 comes from EFF
- Axis 2: Aquaculture, inland fishing, process & marketing of fisheries and aquaculture products – EUR 58 617 228 of which EUR 34 131 537 comes from EFF
- Axis 3: Measures of common interest – EUR 100 089 353 of which EUR 56360 927 comes from EFF

These values are for total expenses under the specific axis, and not for biodiversity activities alone.

2. Strengthening EU decision-making

Plans and follow-up to UN Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (E2.1):

The UK is considering conducting a follow-up to the MA and is working to enable and embed an ecosystems approach into policy making across government at all levels in England (see “*Securing a healthy natural environment: an action plan for embedding an ecosystem approach (December 2007)*”). Any future “MA-style” ecosystem assessment in the UK would probably have national, sub-national and local/community components. No commitment has been made to undertake an ecosystem assessment until a scoping study is completed but smaller scale assessments of ecosystems services are being undertaken through a number of research projects concentrated on marine, inland water and wetland, coastal and island, cultivated, forest, heathland and urban systems, and on assessing the following ecosystem services: biodiversity, fresh water quality, food, fish, timber and fibre, carbon sequestration, water flow regulation, climate and air regulation, cultural/amenity services, and fuel and energy.

Alignment of national biodiversity strategies with EU (E2.2):

The UK is working to enable and embed an ecosystems approach into policy making across government at all levels. This is reflected in the shape of a new (2007) cross-government Public Service Agreement setting out the Government’s vision for a diverse, healthy and resilient natural environment. This sets out the framework for all government departments and sectors to help deliver a healthy natural environment and to take account of the value of ecosystem services into their policy and decision-making.

The UK’s first biodiversity action plan was published in 1994 and applies to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and dependent territories. Following devolution and a number of other top drivers, the UK published a new strategic framework entitled “*Conserving Biodiversity – The UK Approach*”. This set out a vision and six priorities for action which will be taken forward in partnership with others and by applying the principles of the ecosystem approach.

In England, DEFRA has an Action Plan for embedding an ecosystems approach ‘*Securing a healthy natural environment*’ which sets out a programme of work to deliver a shift towards an ecosystems approach in policy-making and delivery, providing a basis for securing wider engagement across Government and a broad range of partners and stakeholders. More recently, DEFRA has prepared the England Biodiversity Strategy which includes 8 headline indicators as a contribution to the EU objective of halting biodiversity loss by 2010.

Effective integration of Natura 2000, Rural development, river basin management and other territorial plans and programmes in support for biodiversity (E2.5):

The UK is advanced in developing biodiversity indicators and recently published '*Biodiversity indicators in your pocket 2007*' for the whole of the UK. A biodiversity strategy for England has been developed that integrates Natura 2000 and other plans (BAP 2.5.1). The strategy includes a set of biodiversity indicators, last updated in 2005, thus integrating biodiversity into MS evaluation monitoring and reporting (BAP B2.5.2).

3. Building partnerships

National partnerships for biodiversity including private sector involvement (E3.1):

The UK has national initiatives aimed at promoting and strengthening partnerships for biodiversity. The key sectors involved are tourism, mining/extractive industry and farming/forestry/food supply. There are a number of guidance documents for different sectors, including for the construction industry, mining and metals industries, the water industry, and a publication with case studies on business and biodiversity in the water, leisure, travel, pharmaceutical, oil and financial sectors.

4. Building public education, awareness and participation

National/Sub-national public awareness campaigns/initiatives (E4.1):

In the UK, 40 % of people have never heard of biodiversity, but 36 % are well informed or very well informed about biodiversity loss. 71 % of people feel they make personal efforts to protect biodiversity (43 million people). However, only 4 % had heard of the Natura 2000 network and none knew what it was.

F. MONITORING

Monitoring (F1-4)

The UK has developed a sophisticated system of national biodiversity indicators, closely aligned to the CBD, EU and SEBI 2010 indicators framework. No indicator has been developed for the focal area of access and benefit-sharing. There is good information on the state of development for each indicator.

A wide range of biodiversity monitoring programmes and schemes has been developed, some of them long-standing ones, others rather new ones. They cover a wide variety of habitats and species and involve various agencies and non-governmental organisations.

DATA SOURCES

A1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species:

A.1.1.

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/countries/documents/uk_en_oct06.pdf

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/barometer/index_en.htm

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/db_gis/index_en.htm#sites

http://www.jncc.gov.uk/PDF/FCS2007_General_report.pdf

http://www.jncc.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/gis_data/terms_conditions.asp

A.1.2.

<http://www.jncc.gov.uk/page-4060>

A.1.3.

http://www.brc.ac.uk/atlas/red_data.htm

<http://www.brc.ac.uk/publications.htm>

<http://www.bto.org/birdatlas/>

<http://www.bto.org/research/projects/atlas.htm>

<http://www.jncc.gov.uk/page-2133>

<http://www.jncc.gov.uk/page-3409>

<http://www.searchnbn.net>

http://www.ukbap.org.uk/2002OnlineReport/ConstraintsResearch_files/sheet018.htm

http://www.ukbap.org.uk/2002onlinereport/TargetsAndProgress_files/sheet020.htm

http://www.ukbap.org.uk/2002OnlineReport/TargetsAndProgress_files/sheet019.htm

http://www.ukbap.org.uk/2002OnlineReport/TargetsAndProgress_files/sheet018.htm

A.1.4.

http://www.bto.org/research/pop_trends/state_uk_birds.htm

A2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside

A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8

Published National Rural Development Programmes [From IEEP Database]. Figures are summed totals for the separate RDPs covering England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

<http://defraweb/rural/rdpe/index.htm>

<http://defraweb/rural/rdpe/pdf/RDPQA.pdf>

A2.1.4 & 2.1.10

Alliance Environment (2007). Evaluation of the application of cross compliance as foreseen under Regulation 1782/2003. Part I: Descriptive Report - 26/07/2007. Report to the European Commission.

A2.1.5

MS Questionnaire

www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/inf-d-5nlkt7

<http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/wales/government/en/1105619050708.html>.

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/rddteam/forestry.htm>

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/rddteam/pdf/0706forestry-strategy.pdf>

<http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/INFD-6H3FVS>

www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/151267

www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/inf-d-6aggzw

<http://www.forestserviceni.gov.uk/index/publications/policy-and-standards/a-strategy-for-sustainability-and-growth.htm>

A2.2.1

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/pdfs/biodiversity/econ-bene-biodiversity.pdf>

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/pdfs/biodiversity/ConBioUK-Oct2007.pdf>

Proposed Soil Strategy for England

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/land/soil/index.htm>

A2.4.2 & 2.4.3

UK NEC Directive submission (20 Dec 2007)

http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/gb/colr2o_xa/envr2plag/NECD_06_UK_submission.xls/manage_document

NEC Directive National Programmes

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/air/nationalprogr_dir200181.htm

Article 17 report

http://circa.europa.eu/Public/irc/env/monnat/library?l=/habitats_reporting/reporting_2001-2007/ms-reports_2001-2006&vm=detailed&sb=Title

A3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment

A3.1.a

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/Environment/water/marine/uk/stewardship/index.htm>

Progress on ICZM plans and strategies are as following: ICZM Consultation England:

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/water/marine/uk/iczm/pdf/iczm-consultation.pdf> ICZM Consultation

Wales : <http://www.countryside.wales.gov.uk/fe/master.asp?n1=797&n2=123&n3=952> ICZM Consultation

Northern Ireland (towards a strategy) http://www.doeni.gov.uk/iczm_document-2.pdf Marine Strategy for Scotland's coast and marine environment covers ICZM elements:

A3.1.b

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2005/08/26102543/25444>

A3.2

www.environment-agency.gov.uk/yourenv/eff/1190084/water/21325/bathing/?lang=_e

<http://www.sepa.org.uk/publications/bathingwaters/index.htm>

<http://www.ehsni.gov.uk/water/quality/bathingqualityni/data.htm>

A3.3.

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/marine/pdf/fisheries2027vision.pdf>

http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/natres/pdf/eco_actionplan.pdf

A3.4

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/eufishfund/op-consultdraft.pdf>

A3.5.a

http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/subjects/fish/165773/1791055/?version=1&lang=_e

[http://www.cefasdirect.co.uk/projects/restoration-of-the-european-eel-population-pilot-studies-for-a-scientific-framework-in-support-of-sustainable-management-\(slime\).aspx](http://www.cefasdirect.co.uk/projects/restoration-of-the-european-eel-population-pilot-studies-for-a-scientific-framework-in-support-of-sustainable-management-(slime).aspx)

<http://www.nasco.int/>

A3.5.b

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/marine/fisheries/fishman/eufleet.htm>

A3.6.

www.ukbap.org.uk/species.aspx

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/Environment/water/marine/uk/science/monitoring.htm>

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/ENVIRONMENT/water/marine/uk/stateofsea/index.htm>

www.ukbap.org.uk/habitats.aspx

A3.7.

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/eufishfund/op-consultdraft.pdf>

A4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU

A4

Infoview Data (DG Regio)

A5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes

A5.1.2

<http://www.nonnativespecies.org/>

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/non-native/legal-guidance.htm>

<http://www.nonnativespecies.org/>

<http://www.searchnbn.net/>

A5.1.2 & 5.1.3

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/gm/regulation/process.htm>

IEEP (2007). Manual of Environmental Policy – the EU and Britain. Maney Publishing, Leeds, the UK (Chapters 7.13 – 14 and 7.22-24)

DEFRA (2002). Draft note on deliberate release of genetically modified organisms – a guide. 119 pp. http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/gm/regulation/pdf/gm-guide_draft.pdf

B6: To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services

B6

<http://www.chm.org.uk/>

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/biodiversity/biostrat/index.htm>

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/Wildlife-Habitats/16118/BiodiversityStrategy>

<http://www.ehsni.gov.uk/natural/biodiversity/issues.shtml>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/gb/gb-nr-03-p1-en.pdf>

<http://www.cbd.int/convention/parties/contributions.shtml?tab=2&yr=2007>

http://www.cms.int/bodies/StC/32_stc_meeting/French/Doc_09_Fonds_Affectation_avec_Annexes.pdf

http://www.unep-aewa.org/meetings/en/stc_meetings/stc4docs/pdf/stc4_9_income_expenditures.pdf

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/31COM/documents/>

http://www.unep.org/rmu/en/Financing_of_UNEP/Environment_Fund/Table_2007/index.asp

B7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance

B7.1.3 & 7.1.6

Data are available online at www.oecd.org/dac/stats/crs.

<http://www.darwin.gov.uk/about/phase2.html>

B8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services

A8

<http://www.cites.org/eng/resources/reports/biennial.shtml>

<http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/14/doc/E14-07-1.pdf>

C9: To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change

C9.1.1

EC (2007). Communication from the Commission. Progress towards achieving the Kyoto objectives. See http://ec.europa.eu/environment/climat/gge_progress.htm

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/climatechange/uk/legislation/>

C9.3.1 & 9.3.2.

<http://www.jncc.gov.uk/page-4201>

C9.4.1 & 9.4.3

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/resprog/findings/climatechange-migratory/index.htm>

D10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally

D10.1

www.erff.org.uk

www.ukbrag.org

www.ukgecc.org/dvl_Biodiversity.htm

www.highways.gov.uk

E1. Ensuring adequate financing

E1

MS questionnaire

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/countries/documents/uk_en_oct06.pdf

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rur/countries/uk/england/fiche_en.pdf

E2. Strengthening EU decision-making

E2.1

<http://defraweb/wildlife-countryside/natres/eco-value.htm>

<http://defraweb/wildlife-countryside/natres/eco-actionp.htm>

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/natres/research.htm>

E2.2

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/biodiversity/biostrat/index.htm>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/gb/gb-nbsap-01-en.pdf>

http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/natres/pdf/eco_actionplan.pdf

http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/media/1/3/pbr_csr07_psa28.pdf

E2.5

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/news/latest/2007/biodiversity-0612.htm>

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/biodiversity/biostrat/index.htm>

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/biodiversity/biostrat/indicators/index.htm>

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/news/latest/2007/biodiversity-0612.htm>

E3. Building partnerships

E3.1

<http://www.environmentawards.net/category.asp?id=38&page=2>

E4. Building public education, awareness and participation

E4.1

http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/index_en.htm

F1-4. Monitoring, evaluation and review

F1-4

<http://www.jncc.gov.uk/pdf/2010-BIYP2007.pdf>

<http://eumon.ckff.si/>

<http://www.chm.org.uk/Library/reports/uk-nr-03-en.pdf>

<http://www.countrysidesurvey.org.uk/index.html>

<http://www.jncc.gov.uk/page-3713>

<http://www.forestry.gov.uk/inventory>

http://www.english-nature.org.uk/pubs/publication/pub_results.asp?C=3&K=Bunce&K2=&I=&A=&Submit1=Search

<http://www.english-nature.org.uk/pubs/publication/PDF/636.pdf>

<http://www.brc.ac.uk/>

<http://www.bsbi.org.uk/>

<http://www.bto.org>

List of key information sources

- List of formal contacts in MS (Nature Directors)
- Administrations and related web links:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/db_gis/index_en.htm#sites

POLICY AREA 1: Biodiversity in the EU

1. To safeguard the EU's most important habitats and species.

- Natura 2000 sites:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/barometer/index_en.htm
- Conservation status, site management plans, national reports on the Article 17:
<http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/>
- Red data lists: <http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/>
- LIFE Expenditure: LIFE Unit
<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm>
- Legal cases (designation, management, compensation)
- Connectivity:
<http://biodiversity-chm.eea.europa.org/information/indicator/F1090245995/fo1591978>
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/ecosystems/docs/adaptation_fragmentation_guidelines.pdf
- Others:
 - Ex-situ conservation
 - Common bird monitoring
 - CBD reports: <http://www.cbd.int/reports/>
 - EC-CHM: <http://biodiversity-chm.eea.europa.eu/>
 - MS questionnaires
- EEA indicators for biodiversity:
 - <http://themes.eea.europa.eu/IMS/CSI>
 - <http://biodiversity-chm.eea.europa.eu/information/indicator/F1090245995/fo1591978>
- EEA SOER 2005, inc. country profiles:
<http://www.eea.europa.eu/highlights/20051122115248>

2. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU countryside.

- Funding under Rural development programmes: Report on how Natura 2000 is covered by RDPs - DG ENV.B1, MS questionnaire
- RDP reports on national web sites
- Under the Objective 2, for Rural Development Programmes (A2.1.1, 2.1.2 & 2.1.8): Spending under the Rural Development Programmes allocated for agri-environmental

measures in majority countries includes public co-financing but excluding additional private & national contributions. (Finland, France, Hungary, Lithuania, Poland, etc)

- under objective 2 - Agricultural cross-compliance measures (A2.1.4 & 2.1.10):
GAEC Minimum Level of Maintenance measures as referred according to article 5 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003
 - under the Objective 2 - Measures to reduce air pollution impacts on biodiversity (A2.4.2 & 2.4.3):
The National Emission Ceilings Directive (NECD, 2001/81/EC) sets ceilings for each Member State for emissions within their boundaries of ammonia, nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide, and volatile organic compounds. These four pollutants are primarily responsible for acidification, eutrophication, and ground-level ozone. The ceilings must be met by 2010.
- 3. To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider EU marine environment.**
 - Funding under EFF: Operational programmes on DG FISH web site (if adopted) - http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/structural_measures/operational_programmes_en.htm
MS questionnaires
 - 4. To reinforce compatibility of regional and territorial development with biodiversity in the EU.**
 - Funding under Cohesion and structural funds, MS questionnaires
 - 5. To substantially reduce the impact on EU biodiversity of invasive alien species and alien genotypes.**
 - MS questionnaire
<http://www.europe-aliens.org/index.jsp>
<http://biodiversity-chm.eea.europa.eu/>
CBD reports: <http://www.cbd.int/reports/>

POLICY AREA 2: The EU and global biodiversity

- 6. To substantially strengthen effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services.**
 - most of the actions are undertaken at EC level
 - <http://biodiversity-chm.eea.europa.eu/>
 - CBD reports: <http://www.cbd.int/reports/>
- 7. To substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance.**
 - AIDCO Report - DG ENV.E1
 - <http://biodiversity-chm.eea.europa.eu/>

- Funds allocated for biodiversity projects and programmes in developing countries - CBD reports: <http://www.cbd.int/reports/analyzer.shtml> - information on development cooperation, assess Article 20 (financial resources):
Biodiversity-related aid is defined as activities that promote at least one of the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity: the conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of its components (ecosystems, species or genetic resources), or fair and equitable sharing of the benefits of the utilisation of genetic resources (ABS).
Figures used in national reports showing relate to bilateral aid, and do not include multilateral contributions to GEF, UNEP and other organisations active in the field of biodiversity.
Also, figures are based on indications of the policy objectives of bilateral aid activities, though the biodiversity objective is usually less than the total value of such activities. Policy objectives are reported by donors through “markers” which do not allow exact quantification of aid activities’ contribution to the objectives, therefore the figures are approximate.
- OECD DAC reports - Original figures are provided in million USD. The percentage of total bilateral aid has been calculated using the country’s total amount of bilateral commitments provided by the OECD.

8. To substantially reduce the impact of international trade on global biodiversity and ecosystem services.

- Most of the actions are undertaken at EC level (CITES, FLEGT, Trade agreements). There should also be specific reports on ABS to CDB but no many MS are providing these - <http://biodiversity-chm.eea.europa.eu/>, CBD reports -<http://www.cbd.int/reports/>

POLICY AREA 3: Biodiversity and climate change

9. To support biodiversity adaptation to climate change.

- <http://biodiversity-chm.eea.europa.eu/>,
CBD reports: <http://www.cbd.int/reports/>

POLICY AREA 4: The knowledge base

10. To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally.

- *MS questionnaire*, <http://biodiversity-chm.eea.europa.eu/>, <http://www.cbd.int/reports/>

THE FOUR KEY SUPPORTING MEASURES

1. Ensuring adequate financing

- MS questionnaires
<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/>
<http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rur/>

2. Strengthening EU decision-making

- MS questionnaire, National web sites, CBD reports: <http://www.cbd.int/reports/>, <http://biodiversity-chm.eea.europa.eu/>

3. Building partnerships

- MS questionnaire, National web sites, CBD reports: <http://www.cbd.int/reports/>, <http://biodiversity-chm.eea.europa.eu/>

4. Building public education, awareness and participation

- National web sites, CBD reports: <http://www.cbd.int/reports/>, <http://biodiversity-chm.eea.europa.eu/>

MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REVIEW

- MS questionnaire, National web sites, CBD reports: <http://www.cbd.int/reports/>, <http://eumon.ckff.si/>, <http://biodiversity-chm.eea.europa.eu/>