

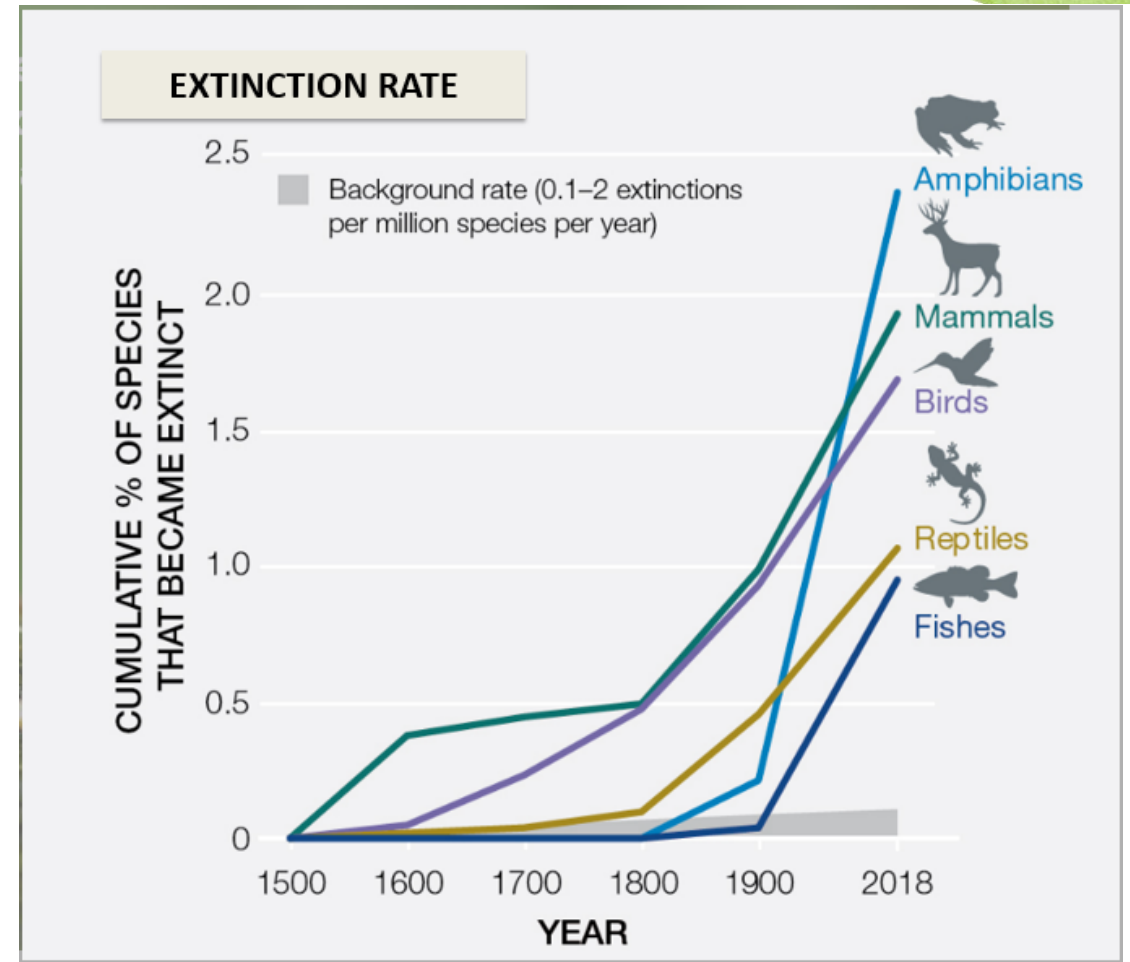
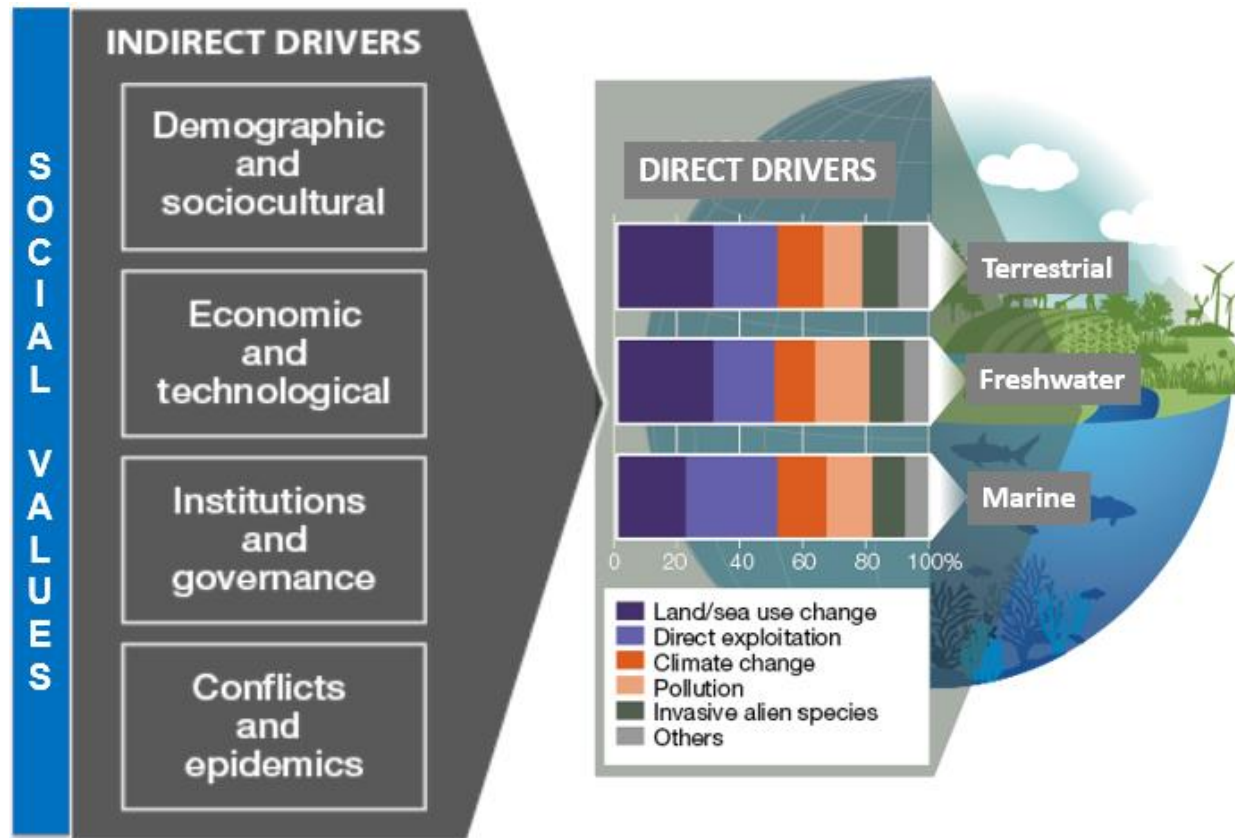
EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030

ESPON Annual Conference 2022
The territorial dimension of the protection of
biodiversity and nature

8 November 2022

Rayka Hauser, ENV.D2, European Commission

The global biodiversity crisis



We are losing biodiversity and its benefits to people

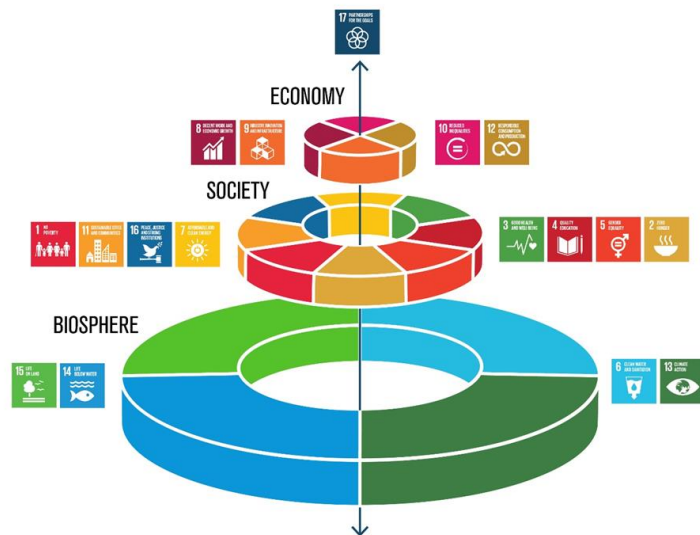


Figure SPM 3 Trends in nature's contributions to people (1960–2016) for Europe and Central Asia and the subregions.

Trends are based on the evidence from publications and indicators reporting increasing, decreasing, constant or variable trends for each ecosystem service (2.2.5). The higher level of confidence for the region of Europe and Central Asia compared with the subregions is the result of the extra publications that addressed the region as a whole. Abbreviations: WE = Western Europe, CE = Central Europe, EE = Eastern Europe, CA = Central Asia, ECA = Europe and Central Asia

		WE	CE	EE	CA	ECA
REGULATING NATURE'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO PEOPLE	Habitat maintenance	↘	↘	↘	☐	↘
	Pollination	↘	↘	↘	☐	↘
	Regulation of air quality	↕	↗	↗	↕	↗
	Regulation of climate	↗	↕	↗	↕	↕
	Regulation of ocean acidification	☐	☐	☐	☐	↕
	Regulation of freshwater quantity	↘	↕	↘	↘	↘
	Regulation of freshwater quality	↘	↘	↘	☐	↘
	Formation and protection of soils	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘
	Regulation of coastal and fluvial floods	↕	↘	↘	↕	↘
	Regulation of organisms (removal of carcasses)	↗	↕	↗	↗	↗
MATERIAL NATURE'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO PEOPLE	Food	↗	↗	↗	↗	↗
	Biomass-based fuels	↗	→	→	☐	↗
	Materials (wood and cotton)	→	→	→	→	→
NON-MATERIAL NATURE'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO PEOPLE	Learning derived from indigenous and local knowledge	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘
	Physical and psychological experiences	↕	↘	↘	☐	↕
	Supporting identities	☐	☐	☐	☐	↕

↗ Increase
↘ Decrease
→ Stable
↕ Variable
☐ Lack of evidence

IPBES (2018)

Confidence level

- ➔ Well established
- ➔ Established but incomplete/unresolved
- ➔ Inconclusive



Elements of the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030



Protect Nature



Enable Transformative Change



Restore Nature



EU for an Ambitious Global Agenda





Protect Nature



Establish a coherent protected areas network:

- Protect 30% of EU land and sea areas
 - Strictly protect a third of these areas (10%)
 - Integrate **ecological corridors**, invest in **green infrastructure**
- Commission [Criteria and guidance for protected areas designation](#)
 - A process for national pledges, assessment and review in 2023 under discussion
 - No deterioration of protected habitats and species by 2030, and positive trend for at least 30% of those in bad status ([Commission guidance on selecting habitats and species for priority action](#)).



Restore Nature (1)



- ✓ **EU Nature Restoration Law** ([Commission proposal](#) in June 2022)
- ✓ Agro-ecology: Organic farming >25% ([Action Plan on Organic Farming](#))
- ✓ **Biodiverse landscape features** >10% ([CAP Strategic Plans](#))
- ✓ Address land take and restore soil ecosystems
[EU Soil Strategy](#) and ***Soil Health Law*** (*under preparation*)
- ✓ Reverse the decline of pollinators
[EU Pollinators Initiative](#) and its **[revision](#)**.



| Restore Nature (2)



- ✓ Increase **forest** quantity, health and resilience

[EU Forest Strategy](#)

[The 3bn trees planting pledge](#) and [Counter to 3 billion trees](#)

- ✓ Green urban and peri-urban areas

[EU Urban Greening Platform](#)

[Guidance on urban greening plans](#)



| Restore Nature (3)



- ✓ Restore 25,000 km of **free-flowing rivers**

[Commission document on Barrier Removal for River Restoration](#)

- ✓ Reduce negative impacts on marine species and habitats

[Guidelines for implementing an **ecosystem-based approach in MSP**](#)

[Assessment of MSPD relevance and effect in the context of the EGD](#)



Proposed Nature Restoration Law

OVERARCHING OBJECTIVE

Restoration targets

- By 2030 → restoration measures will cover **20%** of EU's land and sea
- By 2050 → measures in place for **ALL ecosystems in need of restoration**

Protected
Habitat Types
(Annex I HD)



Habitats of
protected
species (BHD)



Marine
Habitats
(beyond HD)



Urban
ecosystems



River
connectivity



Pollinators



Agro-
ecosystems



Forest
ecosystems



Implementation framework

Nature Restoration Plans, monitoring and reporting



| Urban ecosystem targets



- No net loss of urban green space by 2030
- 3% increase in the total national area of urban green space by 2040 & 5% increase by 2050
- Minimum of 10 % urban tree canopy cover by 2050
- Net gain of urban green space integrated into buildings and infrastructure developments



Restore Nature (4)



- ✓ Win-win solutions for energy generation

[EU Strategy on offshore renewable energy](#)

[Guidance on wind energy and EU Nature legislation](#)

- ✓ 50% reduction of the use and risk of pesticides

[Sustainable Use of Pesticides Regulation](#) (Commission proposal)

- ✓ Reduction of pollution from fertilisers by 50% and of use by 20%
Implementation, enforcement, Integrated Nutrient Management AP
- ✓ Halve the number of Red List species threatened by IAS

[Union list update](#) and [documents](#) to support implementation



| Enable Transformative Change (1)



- Strengthen biodiversity governance

[EU Biodiversity Platform](#)

Progress tracking: [actions tracker](#) and [targets dashboard](#)

[EU Knowledge Centre for Biodiversity](#)

[Unlocking financing for biodiversity](#)

- [EU methodology for ecosystem condition assessment](#)

Business engagement: [EU B@B platform](#)

- **Education and skills** for the green transition

[Council Recommendation](#)



EU level Prioritised Action Framework (publication by end 2022): Financial needs for Natura 2000 in 2021-2027



- EUR 10.2 billion per year
- EUR 6.8 bn (66%) - annual costs
- EUR 3.5 bn (34%) - one-off costs
- maintenance and restoration (EUR 4.8 bn, 47%)
- additional green infrastructure measures beyond Natura 2000 (EUR 2.5 bn, 24%)
- horizontal and administrative measures (EUR 2.1 bn, 21%)
- Species-specific measures (EUR 0.9 bn, 8%)
- costs average EUR 133/ha (terrestrial)

Data: June 2022

Biodiversity financing and tracking in the MFF

- Study updating the biodiversity tracking methodology, assessing funding needs, funding levels and financing gap:
 - Financing needs to deliver the Strategy estimated at ca **EUR 48 billion annually** between 2021 and 2030 (EUR 20 billion/year in the BDS). Expenditure on biodiversity estimated at ca. EUR 29 billion annually over 2021-2030: a **financing gap estimated at ca. EUR 19 billion per year.**
- **Draft EU Budget 2023** shows perspectives of reaching the biodiversity target of the MFF (7,5% in 2024 and 10% in 2026/2027):
 - EU would reach 8% in 2024 but only ca. 9% in 2026/2027. We need to **step up efforts to increase biodiversity mainstreaming in relevant EU funds!**
 - reaffirms the Commission's commitment to **double international biodiversity finance** compared to the 2014-2020 MFF (from 3,5 bn EUR to 7 bn EUR)

2021-2027 Cohesion Policy – state of play

- All 27 **PAs** have been formally submitted and 22 have been approved (81%).
- Out of 294 cohesion policy IJG programmes, REGIO is waiting for submission of 4 remaining programmes. 119 (+20 in two weeks) - or around 40% of programmes – are adopted.
- 85 out of 86 **Interreg** programmes were submitted, i.e., 99%, and **51 (59%)** are adopted.
- Average **biodiversity allocations** close to **6%**: above the previous programming period level (3.9%) but below the political ambition of 7.5-10%.
 - CF – 7.9%
 - ERDF – 5.5%
 - Interreg – 12%
 - JTF – 2.8%

EU Vademecum of environment funding opportunities

What is the Vademecum ?

- Practical, user-friendly guide on where and how to access EU funding for environmental projects
- Covers all EU funding for:
 - ✓ environmental projects
 - ✓ environment-mainstreamed projects

“Find Your EU Funding Programme for the Environment”

Some Horizon Europe research projects

- **NaturaConnect** Designing a resilient and coherent Trans-European Network for Nature and People (2022 – 2026)
- **SELINA** Science for Evidence-based and sustainable decisions about Natural capital (2022 – 2027)
- **BIONEXT** The Biodiversity Nexus: transformative change for sustainability (2022 – 2026)
- **NATURANCE** Nature for insurance, and insurance for nature (2022 – 2026)
- **TRANSPATH** Transformative pathways for synergising just biodiversity and climate actions (2022 – 2026)

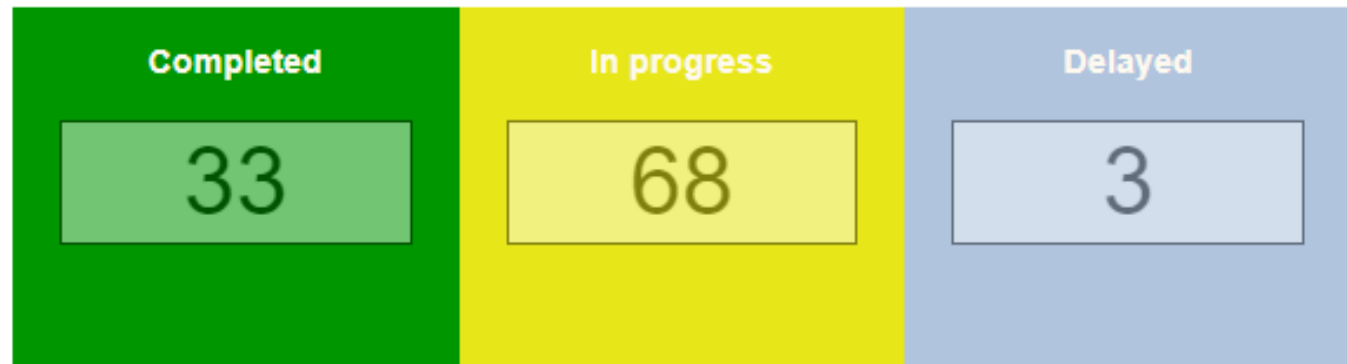
| EU for an ambitious global agenda



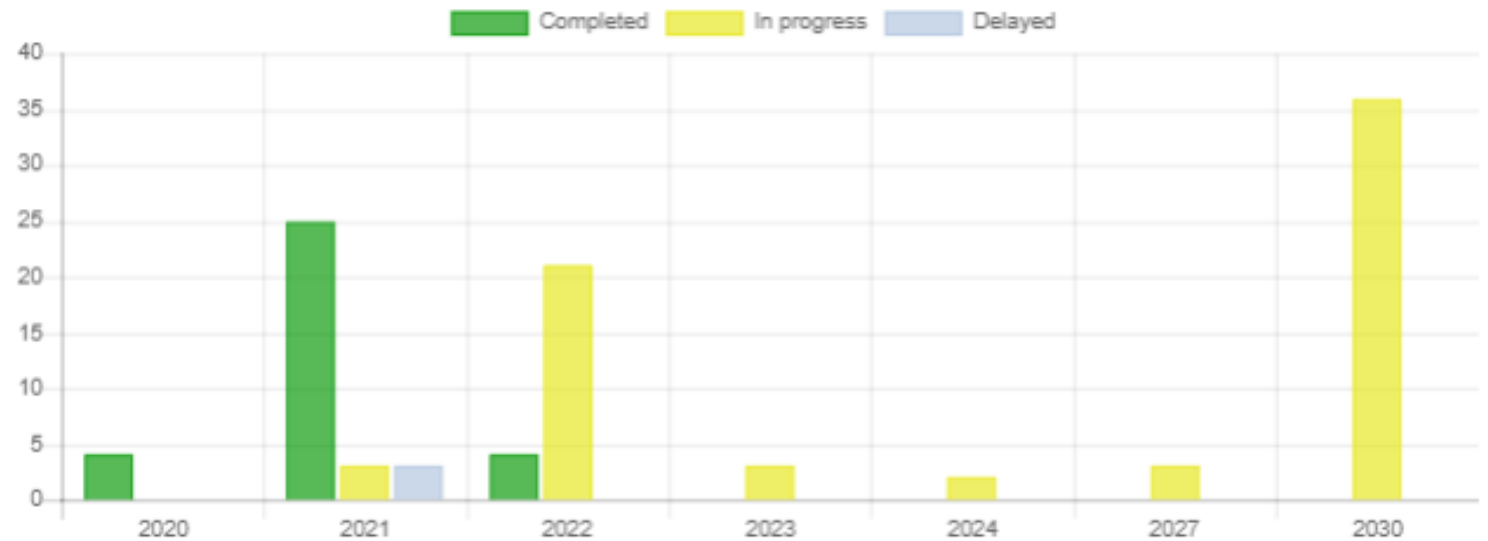
- Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework
- Green Diplomacy
- International Ocean Governance
- Trade Policy
- International cooperation



EU Biodiversity Action Tracker – November 2022



Actions deadlines and status



EU Green Infrastructure Strategy (2013)

- EU wide strategy to promote investments in green infrastructure to restore natural ecosystems, improve their connectivity and allow species to move throughout their natural habitat
- Four key priority areas:
 1. Promoting green infrastructure in the main policy areas (mainstreaming)
 2. Improving information, strengthening the knowledge base and promoting innovation
 3. Improving access to finance
 4. Promoting EU-level green infrastructure projects

Guidance documents – ecosystem services and green infrastructure

- Two guidance documents (2019)
 - EU guidance on integrating ecosystems and their services into decision making (SWD(2019) 305 final)
 - EU guidance on a strategic framework for further supporting the deployment of EU-level green and blue infrastructure (SWD(2019) 193 final)

<https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/ecosystems/>

Thank you for your attention!

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