



ENVIRONMENT

# EASME

Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises

## LIFE

# Nature and Biodiversity

## Nordic LIFE Platform

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Executive  
Agency for  
SMEs

# Impact –?

Oxford English dictionary:

**a marked effect or influence**

*synonyms:* effect, influence, impression,  
footprint

# LIFE Nature & Biodiversity

21 May 1992 the [EU Habitats Directive](#) and [LIFE programme](#) were approved.

Since then:

- >1 700 nature and biodiversity projects supported
- > €2.2 billion of a total investment of €3.8 billion in nature conservation.
- For the 2014-2020, LIFE has a budget of some €3.4 billion.

# LIFE Nature & Biodiversity

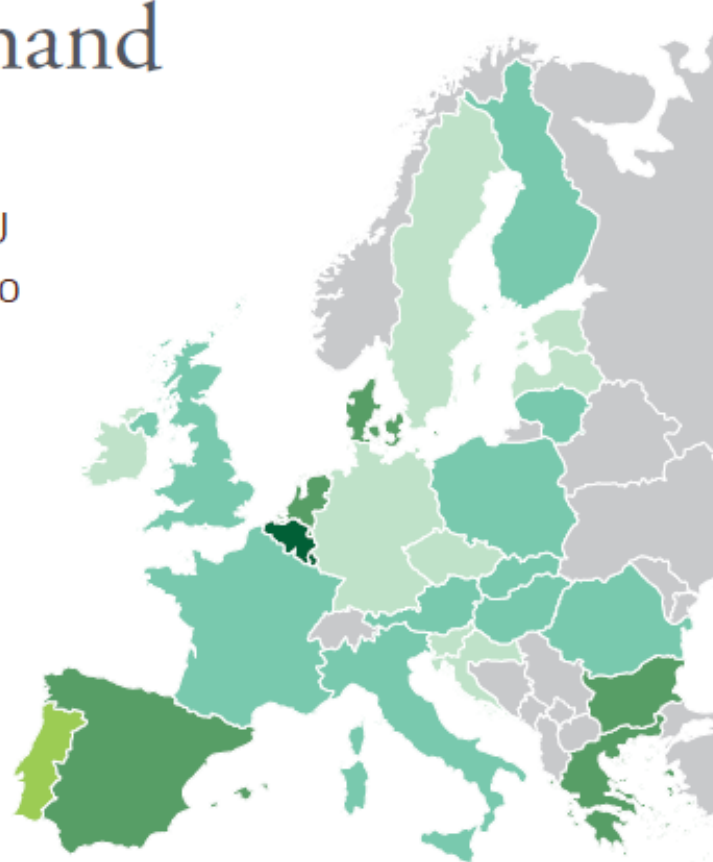
- 50 000 project actions
- 95 000 training sessions
- 194 000 hectares of land purchased for conservation





# LIFE and Natura 2000 go hand in hand

LIFE has been vital to EU Member States' efforts to designate and set up management of Natura 2000 network sites on land. Now it is playing an equally crucial role as they define the network in marine areas.



**Natura 2000 covered by LIFE**

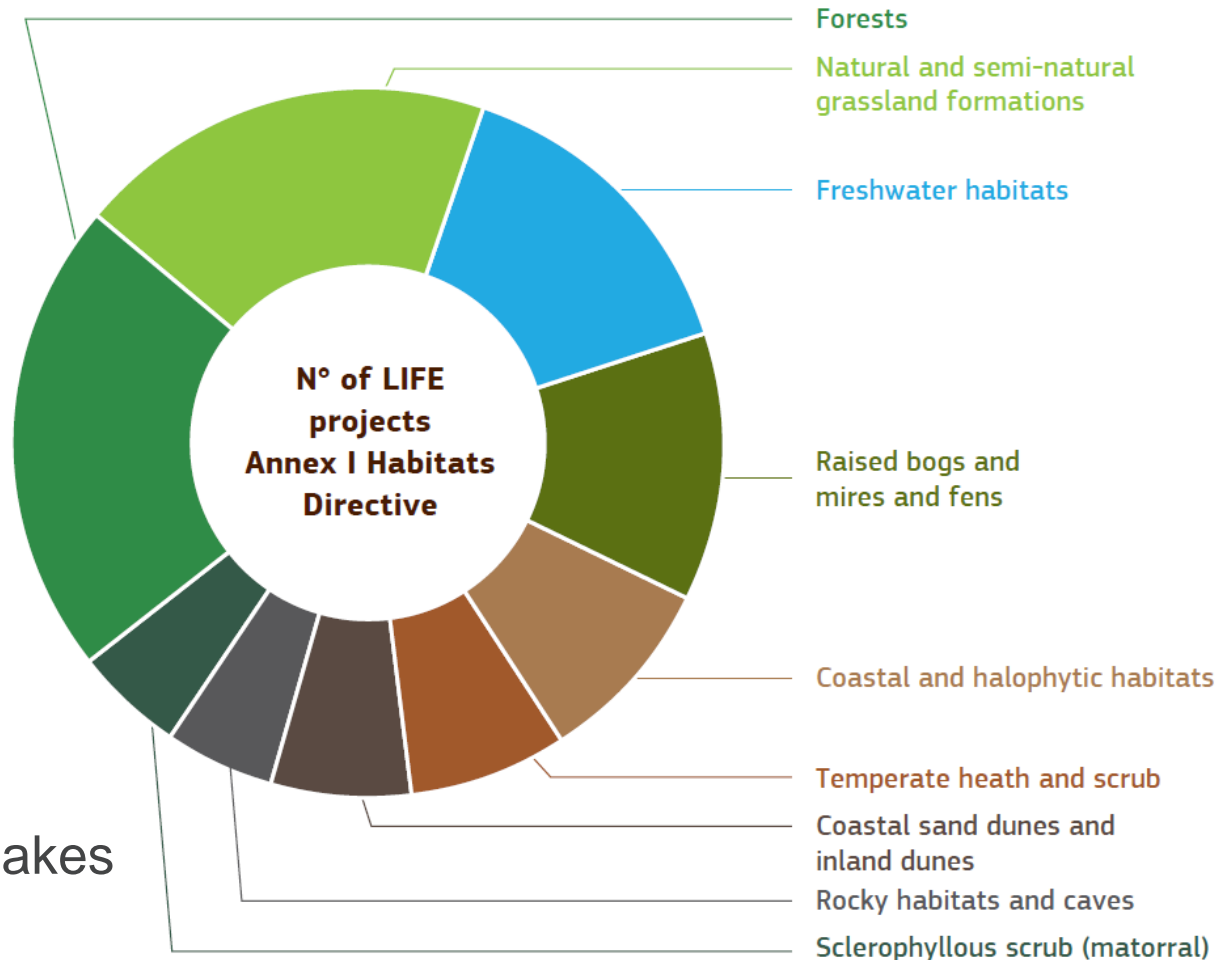
0 - 15%   15 - 30%   30 - 45%   45 - 60%   >60%



N2000 today:  
27 500 sites  
18% of EU land  
10% EU seas

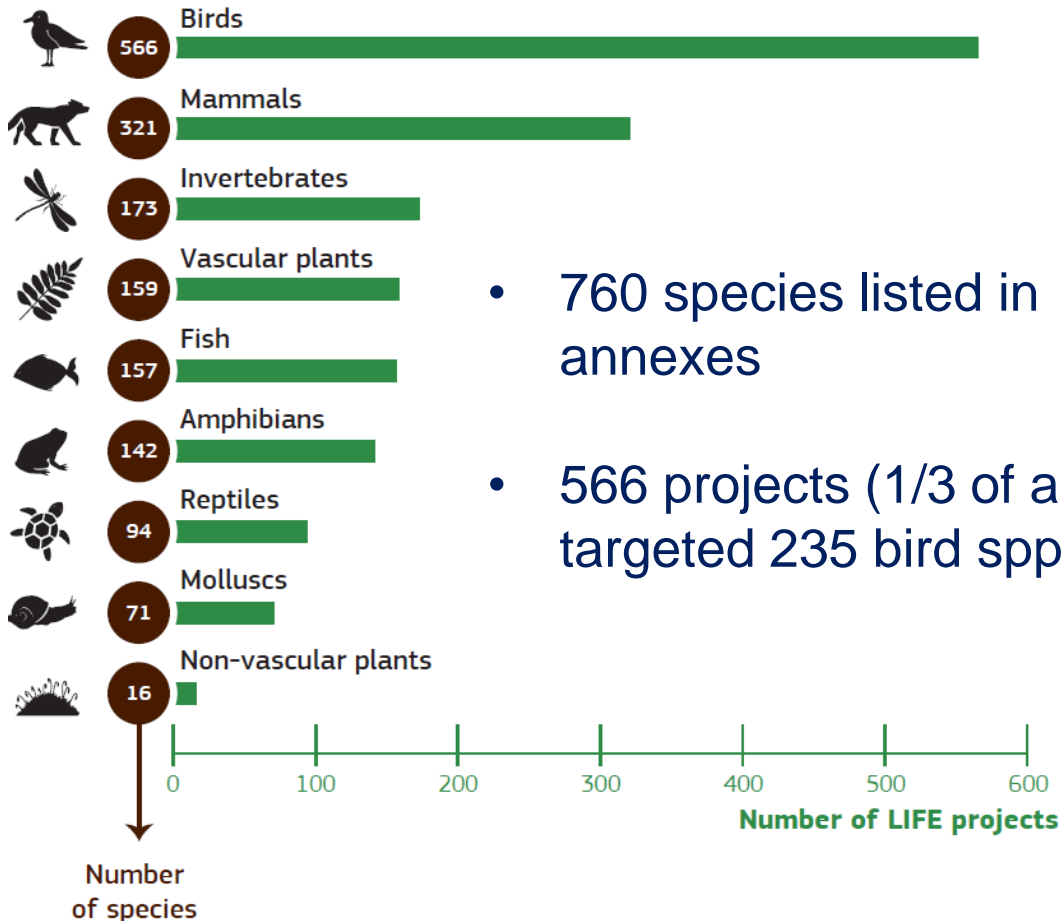
- > 5 400 N2000 sites benefited from LIFE funding
- >5 million ha (*over 6% of terrestrial N2000*) restored or improved cons status

# LIFE and habitats



Most targeted:  
91E0 –alluvial forests  
3150 – natural eutrophic lakes

# Top LIFE targeted species



- 760 species listed in annexes

- 566 projects (1/3 of all) targeted 235 bird spp

## Birds

*Botaurus stellaris* (80)

## Mammals

*Ursus arctos* (45)

## Invertebrates

*Leucorrhinia pectoralis* (30)

## Vascular plants

*Liparis loeselii* (21)

## Fish

*Cottus gobio* (53)

## Amphibians

*Triturus cristatus* (45)

## Reptiles

*Emys orbicularis* (35)

## Molluscs

*Margaritifera margaritifera* (29)

## Non-vascular plants

*Drepanocladus vernicosus* (6)



# LIFE improves NATURE



Environment



Legend: **FV** Favourable **XX** Unknown **U1** Unfavourable-Inadequate **U2** Unfavourable-Bad

Current selection: 2007-2012, Bogs, mires & fens, Belgium, Continental.

## Treated data from Member States reports

Habitat	Range (km <sup>2</sup> )				Area				Struct & func.	Future prosp.	Overall asses.			
	Surface	% MS	Trend	Ref.	Surface	% MS	Trend	Ref.			Curr. CS	Qualifier	Prev. CS	Net. of ch.
7110 - Active raised bogs	2500	<b>1.8</b>	0	≈2600	1.61	<b>1.1</b>	0	>>1.61	<b>U2</b>	<b>U2</b>	<b>U2</b>	+	<b>U2</b>	a
7120 - Degraded raised bogs still ca...	2800	<b>1.9</b>	0	≈2800	25.75	<b>12.4</b>	0	<25.75	<b>U2</b>	<b>U2</b>	<b>U2</b>	+	<b>U2</b>	a
7140 - Transition mires and quaking...	7000	<b>1.8</b>	0	≈7000	0.81	<b>0.2</b>	0	>>0.81	<b>U2</b>	<b>U2</b>	<b>U2</b>	+	<b>U2</b>	a
7150 - Depressions on peat substrat...	1700	<b>2</b>	0	>>1700	0.01	<b>0</b>	+	>>0.01	<b>U2</b>	<b>U2</b>	<b>U2</b>	+	<b>U2</b>	a
7220 - Petrifying springs with tufa fo...	7399	<b>4</b>	0	≈7399	0.84	<b>0.7</b>	0	≈0.84	<b>FV</b>	<b>FV</b>	<b>FV</b>		<b>FV</b>	nc
7230 - Alkaline fens	1100	<b>0.4</b>	0	≈1100	0.10	<b>0</b>	0	>>0.10	<b>U2</b>	<b>U2</b>	<b>U2</b>	-	<b>U2</b>	a

Member State	Biogeographical region	Habitat and code / Species	Number of LIFE projects (1992-2017)	Conservation status at MS level
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## Habitats

BE	Continental	4010 - Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i>	6	Previous: <b>U2</b> Actual: <b>U2+</b>
UK	Atlantic	21A0 - Machair	1	Previous: <b>U2</b> Actual: <b>U1+</b>
PL	Continental	6210 - Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates ( <i>Festuco-Brometalia</i> ) (* important orchid sites)	1	Previous: <b>U2</b> Actual: <b>U1+</b>

## Non-bird species

ES and PT	Mediterranean	Iberian lynx ( <i>Lynx pardinus</i> )	26	Previous: <b>U2-</b> Actual: <b>U2+</b>
HU	Pannonian	Hungarian meadow viper ( <i>Vipera ursinii rakosiensis</i> )	2	Previous: <b>U2</b> Actual: <b>U2+</b>
BE	Continental	Freshwater pearl mussel ( <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> )	1	Previous: <b>U2-</b> Actual: <b>U2+</b>
FI	Boreal	Saimaa ringed seal ( <i>Phoca hispida saimensis</i> )	1	Previous: <b>U2</b> Actual: <b>U2+</b>

## Bird species

PT	Macaronesian	Azores bullfinch ( <i>Pyrrhula murina</i> )	3	Stable in the short term and Unknown in the long term IUCN Red List: Vulnerable (2016) Endangered (2013) Critically endangered (2009)
AT, HU and SK	Continental and Pannonian	Great bustard ( <i>Otis tarda</i> )	3	Increasing in the short term and increasing in the long term.
IT and MT	Marine Mediterranean	Yelkouan shearwater ( <i>Puffinus yelkouan</i> )	4	Increasing in the short term and increasing in the long term



# LIFE Nature – impacts (1)

- The main driver and catalyst for nature conservation in the EU
- Helped prepare and implement Natura 2000 network site management plans and EU Species action plans
- Established long-term management of N2000 sites under the EU's RDP agri-environment schemes
- Mobilisation of additional investment for Natura 2000 and biodiversity actions



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# LIFE Nature – impacts (2)

- Enabled NGOs and competent authorities to build capacity in nature conservation work
- Promotion of dialogue and creation of stakeholder partnerships in Natura 2000



# LIFE Nature – impacts (3)

- **Added knowledge, developed monitoring methods, and pioneered techniques in conservation management**
- **Raised awareness about Natura 2000**
  - Communication activities at over 6 million people, including some 1.2 million pupils and students have raised awareness of Natura 2000.
  - The EU Natura 2000 day
  - The EU Natura 2000 Award

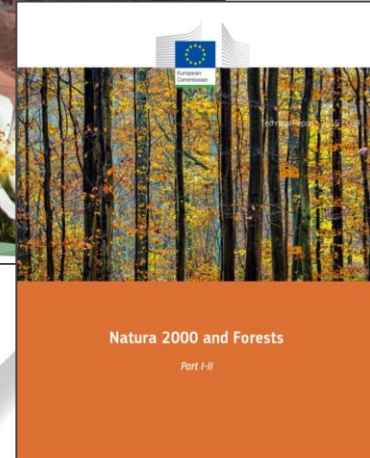
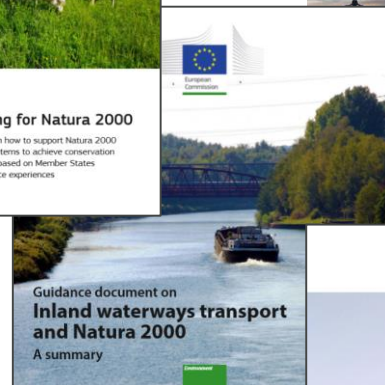
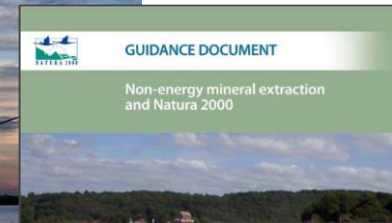
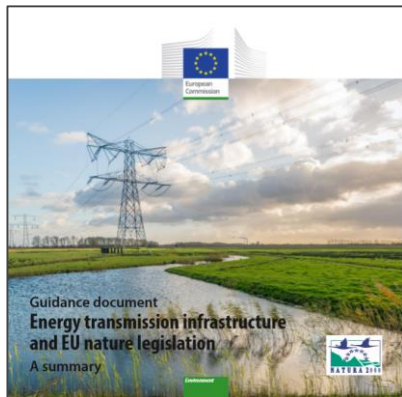




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# LIFE Nature – impacts (4)

- Integration of conservation with other policy sectors





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# LIFE Nature – impacts (5)

- Stimulated local stakeholders to launch conservation actions
- Positive influence on local economies, local communities and stakeholders





# Impact from the LIFE projects –how do we measure it?

*“In their proposals, applicants need to indicate the expected results of their project in terms of environmental and also socio-economic benefits. Once a project is funded, the CB must record the project results through the [KPI webtool](#) (only accessible to LIFE funded projects)”*

When KPIs should be reported?

**New reporting schedule will soon be communicated!**



**THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR ATTENTION**



*All pictures in this presentation are taken from the EC brochures "EU Nature action plan" and LIFE improves nature*