



EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030

Bringing nature back into our lives

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EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030

- European Commission Strategy adopted on 20th May 2020
- **Overall objective** : to put biodiversity on the path to recovery by 2030
 - ↳ **Protecting and restoring** nature and ecosystems in the EU
- **Headlines targets:**
 1. Establish a larger and **coherent EU-wide network of protected areas**
 2. Develop a **EU Nature Restoration Plan**
- The Strategy has been **endorsed by Member States**

Protected area targets : key commitments for 2030

Legally protect a minimum of 30% of the EU's land area and 30% of EU's sea area as part of a true Trans-European Nature Network, and integrate ecological corridors.

Strictly protect at least a third of the EU's protected areas, including all remaining EU primary and old-growth forests.

Effectively manage all protected areas, with clear conservation objectives and conservation measures, and monitor these areas appropriately.

EU Nature Restoration Plan: key commitments for 2030

1. Ensure no deterioration in conservation status of habitats and species; at least 30 % of those not already in favourable conservation status reach that category or show a positive trend.
2. Restore significant areas of degraded and carbon-rich ecosystems.
3. Reverse the decline in pollinators.
4. Reduce the risk and use of chemical pesticides and reduce the use of more hazardous pesticides is reduced by 50%.
5. At least 10% of agricultural area is under high-diversity landscape features.
6. At least 25% of the EU's agricultural land is under organic farming management, and the uptake of agroforestry is increased.
7. At least 3 billion new trees are planted in the EU.
8. Significant progress is made in the remediation of contaminated soil sites.

EU Nature Restoration Plan: key commitments for 2030

9. At least 25,000 km of free flowing rivers are restored.

10. 50% reduction in the number of Red List species threatened by IAS.

11. The losses of nutrients from fertilisers are reduced by 50%, resulting in the reduction of the use of fertilisers by at least 20%.

12. Cities with a least 20,000 inhabitants have an ambitious Urban Green Plan.

13. No chemical pesticides are used in sensitive areas such as EU urban Green areas.

14. Negative impacts on sensitive species and habitats, including on the seabed through fishing and extraction activities, are substantially reduced to achieve good environment status.

15. Eliminate or reduce the by-catch of species to a level that allows species recovery and conservation.

Protected area targets

A larger and more coherent EU-wide network of protected areas (PA):

- **Legal protection** for at least $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 30\% \text{ of EU land area} \\ 30\% \text{ of EU sea area} \end{array} \right.$
 - ↳ **Strict protection** for at least $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 10\% \text{ of EU land area} \\ 10\% \text{ of EU sea area} \end{array} \right.$
- **PAs** have **clearly defined conservation objectives** and **measures** and are:
 - effectively managed
 - appropriately monitored

Protected area targets

A coherent and resilient Trans-European Nature Network

- PA target includes
 - Natura 2000 sites
 - existing protected areas under national schemes
 - new protected areas
- The Trans-European Nature network should integrate ecological corridors to
 - prevent genetic isolation and allow species migration
 - maintain an enhance healthy ecosystems
 - ensure connectivity among protected areas
- Restored areas should also be incorporated

Protected area targets

European Commission

- in agreement with Member States, puts forward **criteria and guidance** for:
 - identification and designation additional protected areas
 - definition of “strict protection” and “old-growth and primary forests”
 - appropriate management planning

Member States

- **identify potential areas to be protected**
- **designate additional protected areas**
 - complete Natura 2000 network; or
 - under national protection schemes
- **demonstrate significant progress** in coverage by new protected areas by 2023

Protected area targets

Role of the Biogeographical Process – support to target achievement

Tentative planning for steps under the biogeographical process :

	What?	When?	What for?
1	Virtual introductory meeting	early 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ launch the process▪ clarify what Member States are expected to submit in terms of pledges▪ discuss how the contribution of each MS should be ensured
2	Face-to-face biogeographical seminar	1 st semester 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ discuss and review initial MS pledges received▪ Possibly leading to proposals for revising them
3	Virtual meeting	late 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ assess progress in view of an interim evaluation of the Strategy

Protected area targets

→ The following may contribute to the PA's targets:

- **Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs)**
 - May include areas protected for other reasons different from habitats and species protection
 - Indirectly promote the conservation of biodiversity
 - **Greening of cities**
 - Need to **integrate healthy ecosystems**, green infrastructure and nature based solutions in urban planning
 - **Specific measures focus on connectivity**
- **Both are taken into account** in the **Commission guidance** and should be **counted for the target** if they include effective management and involve legal protection

EU Nature Restoration Plan

Achieve **non-deterioration** of all protected habitats and species

Ensuring that **at least 30% of habitats and species** not currently in **favourable status** reach that category **or** show a strong **positive trend**

Strengthening the EU legal framework for nature restoration

↳ **Legally binding** EU nature restoration **targets** by 2021

to restore degraded ecosystems, particularly those with **high potential to:**

- **capture and store carbon:** wetlands, old-growth forest, peatlands, etc.
- **prevent and reduce the impact of natural disasters:** floodplains, coastal habitats, etc.

Restoration targets for habitats and species

Criteria for habitats and species to be improved by 2030

- While the target also covers non-deterioration, criteria are focused on selecting **habitats and species to be improved by 2030**
- **Baseline**
 - **Habitats and species under Habitats Directive:** national biogeographical conservation status assessment in the national reports of 2019 – for species and habitats in FV status
 - **Bird species under Birds Directive:** EU level status assessment in the EU Red list of Bird species (2020) – for species in Secure status
- **Guidance** on national prioritization and on identification of transnational/transboundary coordination needs (migratory species, transboundary pressures, etc.)

Restoration targets for habitats and species

European Commission

- Provide **criteria and guidance in 2021 to select and prioritize habitats and species to be restored by 2030**
- **Propose for legally binding EU nature restoration targets to:**
 - restore degraded ecosystems
 - prevent and reduce the impact of natural disasters

Member States

- **Raise the level of implementation of legislation** within clear deadlines
- Ensure **no deterioration** in conservation trends and status of **all protected habitats and species**
- **Ensure that at least 30% of species and habitats** in unfavourable status **reach good status or show positive trends**

Restoration targets for habitats and species

Role of the Biogeographical Process – support to target achievement

Tentative time planning for biogeographical region-level meetings under the process :

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Thank you for your attention !