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Web 6 - Biodiversity : Getting to know you...

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European Commission

European Green Deal

Greening EU cooperation

WEBINAR N° 6

VALUING ECOSYSTEM SERVICES AND THE USE OF NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS - EMBEDDING BIODIVERSITY IN THE EU'S EXTERNAL COOPERATION

Wednesday 12 October 2022

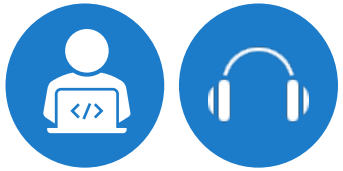
10:15 to 12:45 (CEST)

Programme

10.15 h.	• Opening / agenda / housekeeping rules
10.20 h.	• The biodiversity challenge in EU cooperation (+ Q&A)
10.40 h.	• Biodiversity mainstreaming IN and BY economic sectors with examples from practice (+ discussion)
11.25 h.	• Wrap up and inventory of common features of cases
11.50 h.	• Experiences from some EU delegations
12.10 h.	• Discussion: How to better include biodiversity in one's portfolio
12.30 h.	• Available support from Greening and B4LIFE Facilities
12.40 h.	• Closing and MKS evaluation

Housekeeping Notes

This a **recorded** webinar that will last 2.5 hours.



Please try to keep your webcam ON as much as possible and use a headphones to improve sound quality.
Please mute yourself when not talking.

The materials can be found and downloaded on Capacity4dev on the group :
Environment, Climate Change and Green Economy

You can use the chat box to drop questions to the trainer or wait the Q&A sessions. Questions that are left unanswered during the session will be answered by the team in a post event email. For all technical related issues, please send a private message to the MKS team.

For more interactivity, we encourage you to use the emojis feature and Reaction buttons for nonverbal feedback.

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Introductory video: The Battle for Biodiversity

OECD: The Battle for Biodiversity:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QAEE3HN1RM0

The Biodiversity Challenge in EU Cooperation

- Mathieu Bousquet (NEAR)
- Thierry Dudermel (INTPA Biodiversity)
- Guillemette Vachey (NEAR)

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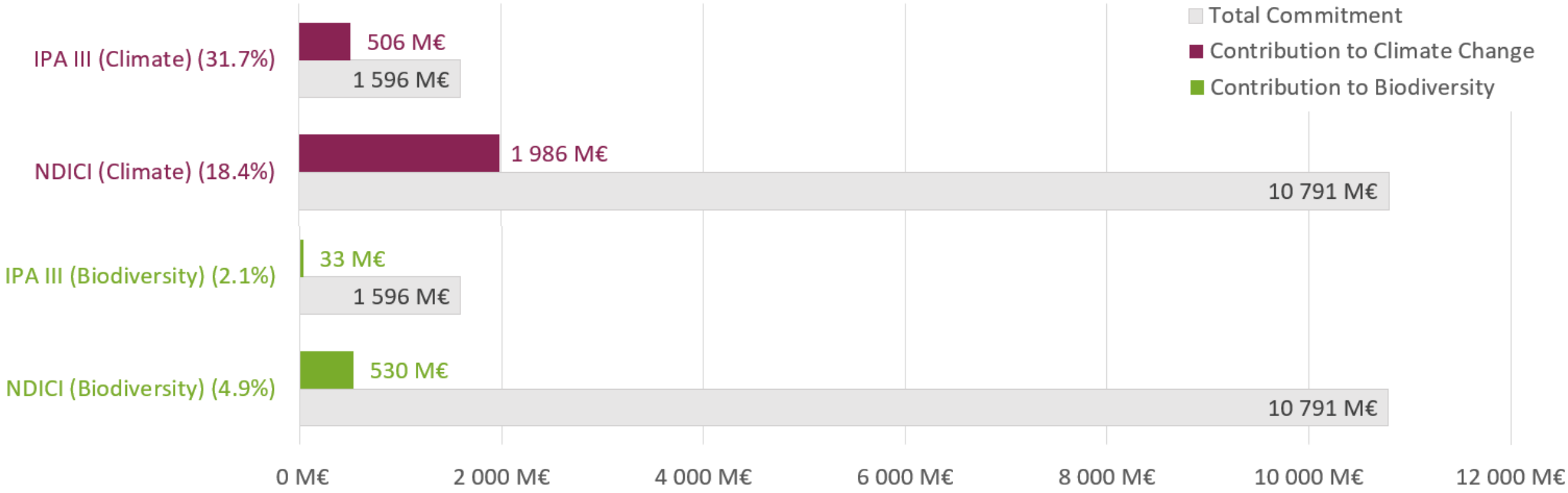
Spending targets for biodiversity finance (2021-2027) – External action

7.5% (2024)
10% (2026)

X 2 against
2014 – 2020 baseline
SOTU

Contribution to Climate and Biodiversity Targets in 2021



* Preliminary data, subject to change

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Mainstreaming Biodiversity IN and BY Economic Sectors: Approaches and Examples

- Roel Slootweg
- Ivana Šarić

INTPA-NEAR Greening Facility

European Commission

Video 2: Ecosystem services : Biodiversity and nature provide countless benefits for humans

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YbyxzGbYQBc

Biodiversity and humanity: not in balance

Biodiversity Benefits

- **Harvestable products**: water, food, fibers, medicines, energy, …
- **Regulating services**: pollination, coastal protection, flood control, climate regulation, erosion control, pollution control, soil fertility, salinity control, …
- **Cultural services**: recreation & tourism, religion, science, …
- **System maintenance**: nutrient and water cycles, evolutionary processes, …

Drivers of Biodiversity Loss

- **Land use change:** habitat loss, fragmentation, degradation by clearing, infrastructure, cities = biggest cause of biodiversity loss.
- **Over-exploitation / destructive harvesting**: fisheries, forestry, agriculture, energy, industries
- **Pollution:** nutrients, chemicals, waste
- **Invasive species:** pest organisms
- **Climate change:** the big unknown

Nature-based solutions: biodiversity as technical solution

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Nature-based solutions: biodiversity as technical solution

Nature-based Solutions can:

Replace traditional grey infrastructure by natural processes

- Ex: water storage in natural floodplains replaces traditional dikes for flood protection (room for rivers)

Complement grey infrastructure

- Ex: restored vegetation regulates water supply to a dam and traps sediments, increasing the economic life of a reservoir

Protect grey infrastructure

- Ex: planting / restoring mangroves protects coastal infrastructure against erosion, saltwater intrusion and sea level rise

Advantages of NbS:

Grey infrastructure is fixed; it can be insufficient (e.g. sea level is rising faster) or too expensive (oversized).

- NbS are **more flexible and resilient** in the light of an unpredictable future

- NbS have **co-benefits** for communities, economy and biodiversity. Nature is multifunctional !

Hybrid engineering is a combination of nature-based and traditional approaches (**“** ***green where possible, grey where necessary “***)

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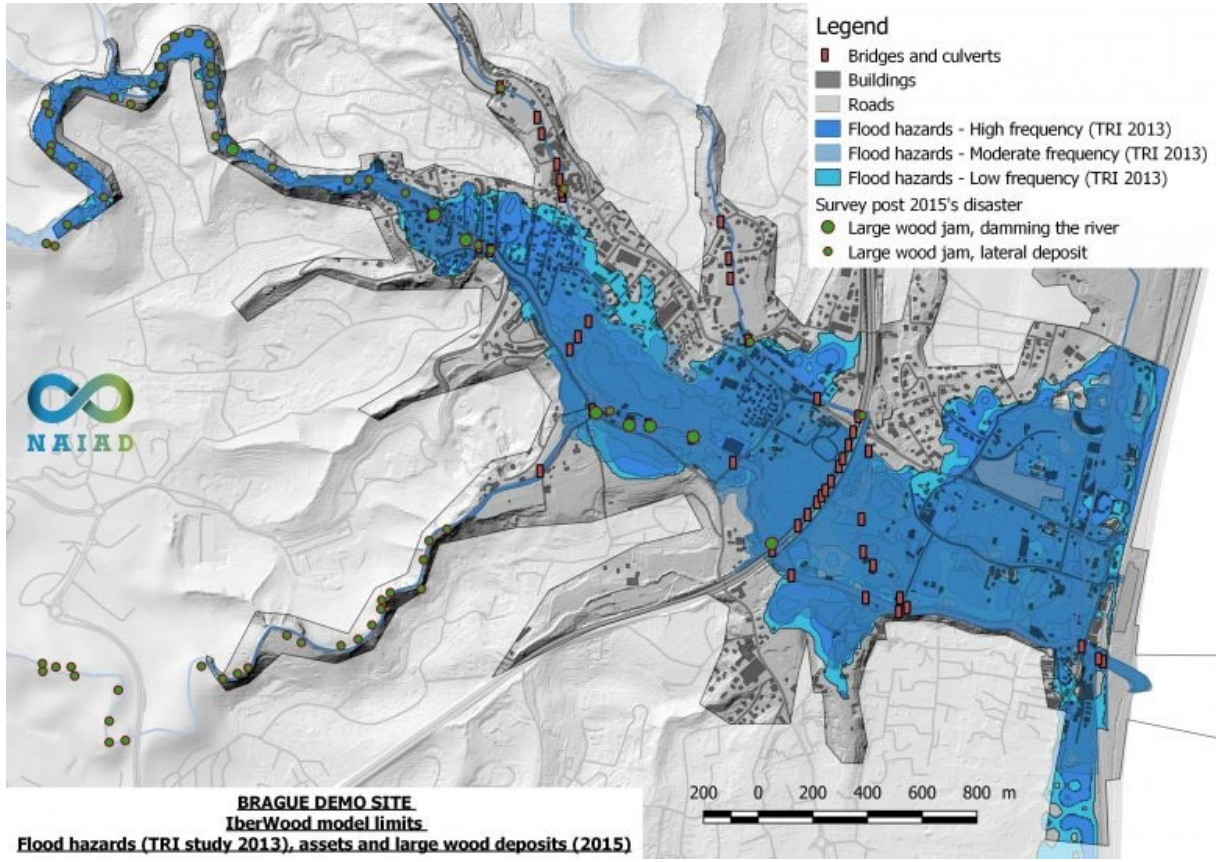
The Case of the Bragues Demonstration Site in Southern France



BRAGUE DEMO SITE
IberWood model limits
Flood hazards (TRI study 2013), assets and large wood deposits (2015)

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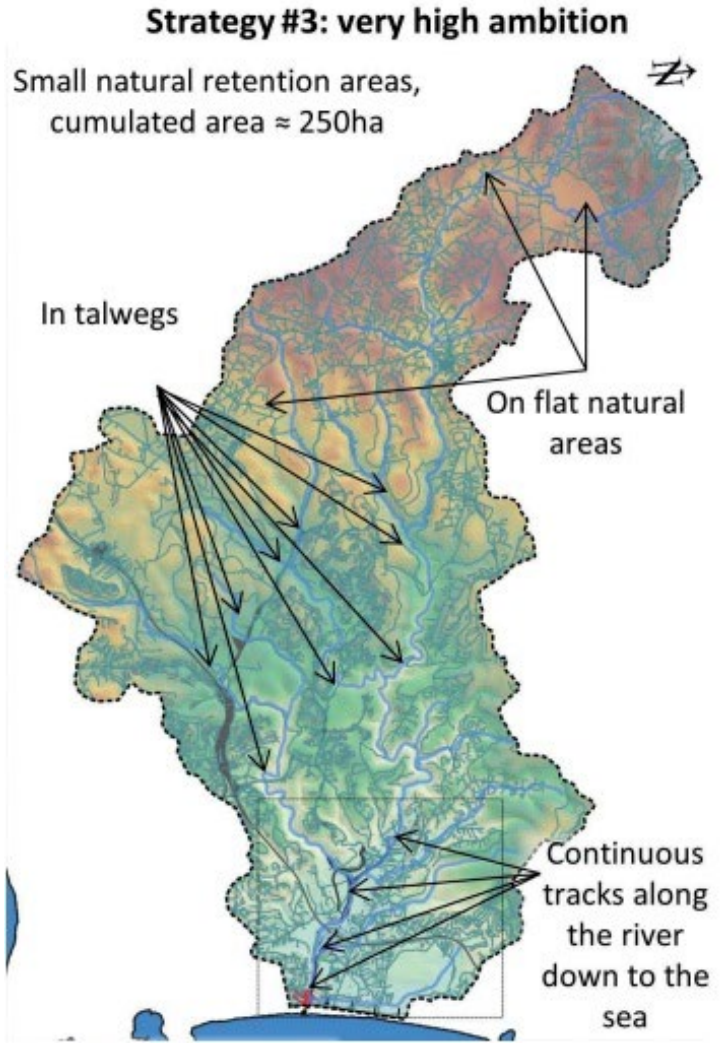
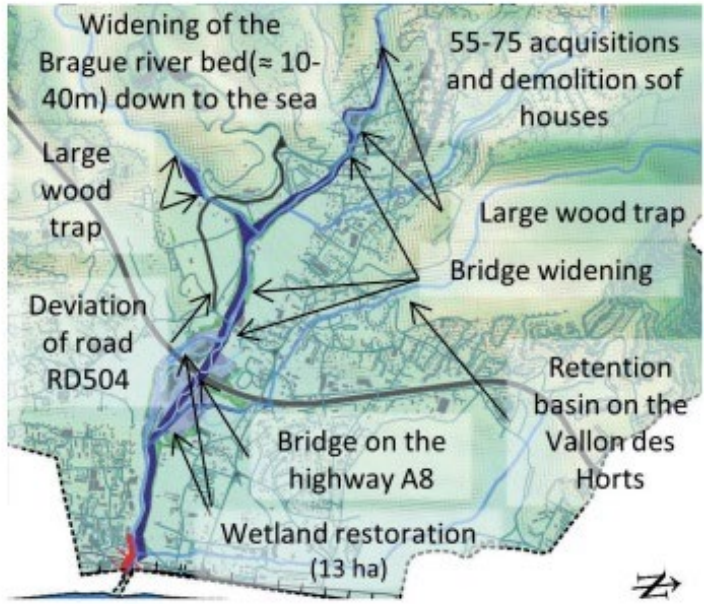
The Case of the Bragues Demonstration Site in Southern France

Approach

Low / High / Very high ambition strategies

- Natural retention areas
- Local widening the riverbed – avoiding buildings
- Large wood traps in upstream parts
- Wetland restoration





The Case of the Bragues Demonstration Site in Southern France

Lessons learnt

- NbS were found to have lower costs of implementation than grey solutions for the same level of risk reduction.
- However, the economic benefits arising from the reduced flood damage are not sufficient to fully cover the investment, maintenance and opportunity costs.
- There is a need for economic evaluation to identify the most suitable strategy in a context of limited public funding.
- Intensive stakeholder engagement with local community
- Sufficiently large corridor (floodplains) must be maintained to convey flows. Such corridor can be natural but also allows for flood resilient activities (e.g. grazing or annual crops), but buildings should be avoided.

Biodiversity conservation as a source of income: Payment for Ecosystem Services

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Biodiversity conservation as a source of income: PES

Payment for ecosystem services (PES):

- A market-based instrument to finance nature conservation
- Beneficiaries of an ecosystem service make payments to the providers of that service
- ES initially provided for free are turned into a financial incentive for their conservation
- This incentive is sufficient to not over-exploit or convert the ecosystem

Common PES-based programmes

- Carbon sequestration for climate mitigation
- Watershed protection for water supply
- Landscape beauty for tourism
- Nature protection

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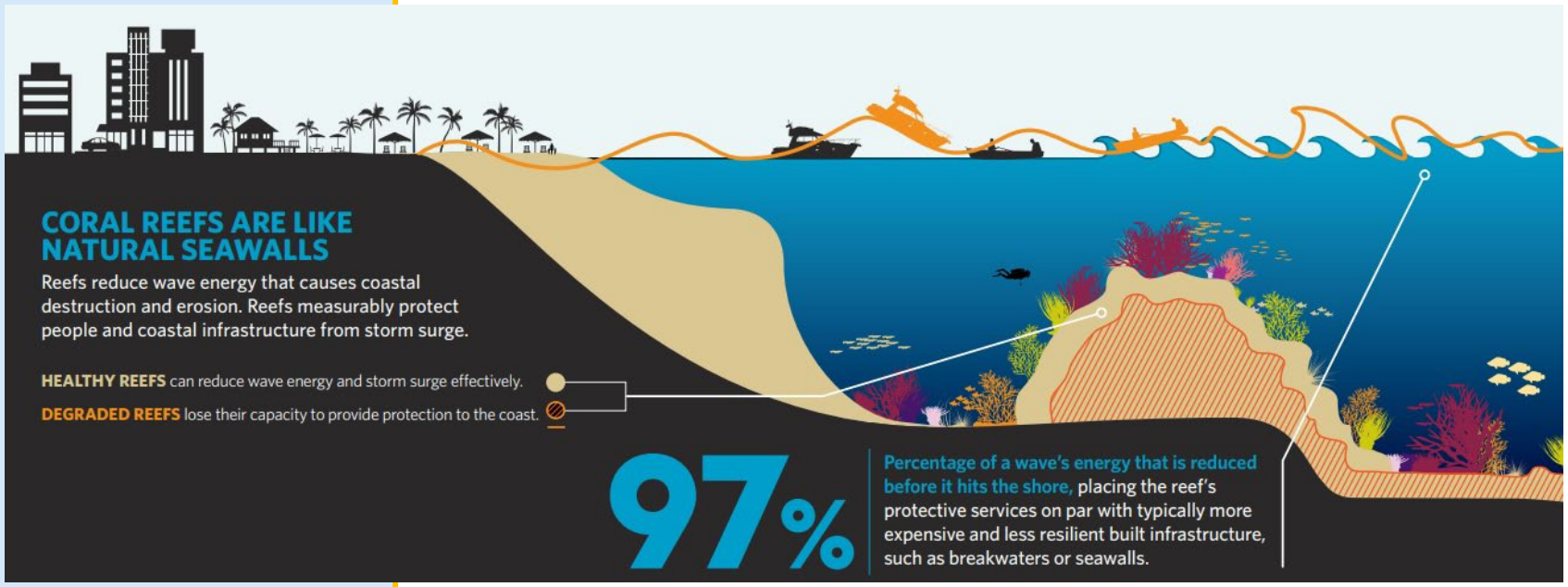
The Case of the Coastal Zone Management Trust in Quintana Roo, Mexico



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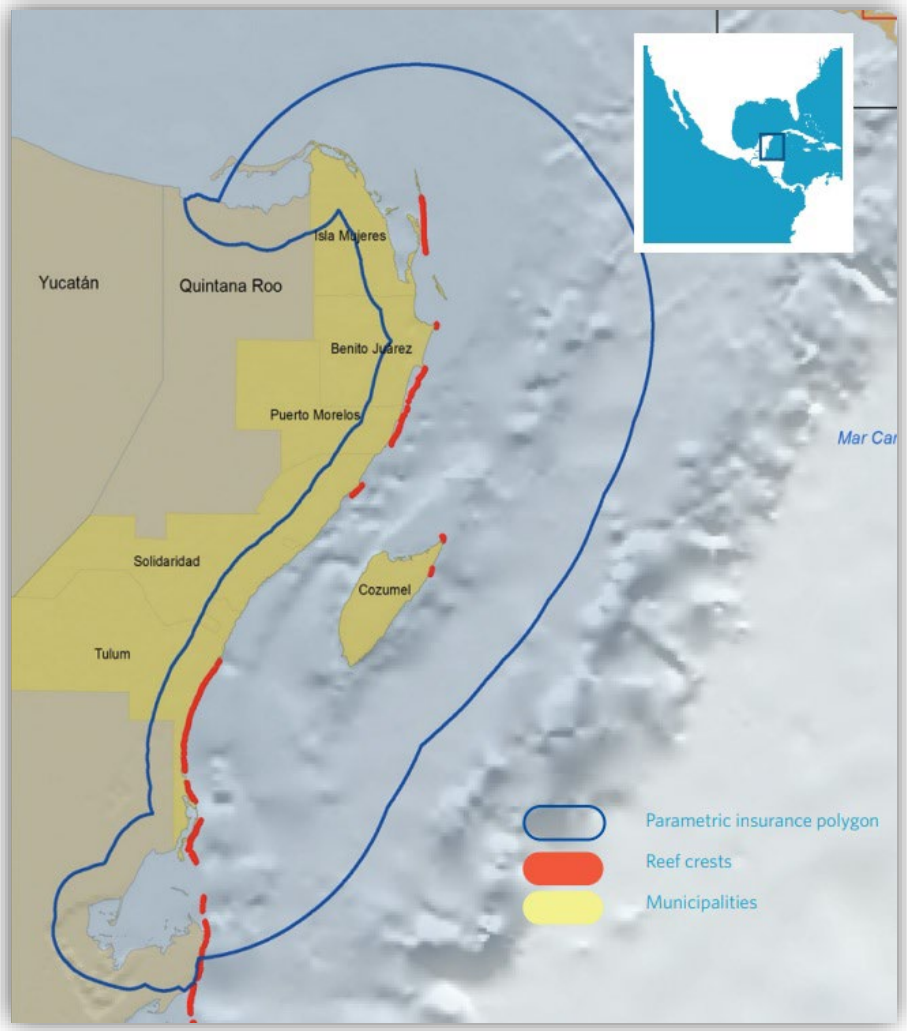
The Case of the Coastal Zone Management Trust in Quintana Roo, Mexico

Approach

- the **first-ever insurance policy on nature** - a stretch of the Mesoamerican coral reef and beach **based on its protective service** - that will pay out to repair and restore the reef in the event of a major storm.
- **triggered** not by financial losses, but **when a specified set of conditions are met:**
  - if wind speed within the polygon is greater than 100 knots.
  - the payout increases according to the maximum sustained wind speed since stronger winds result in greater damage and expenses



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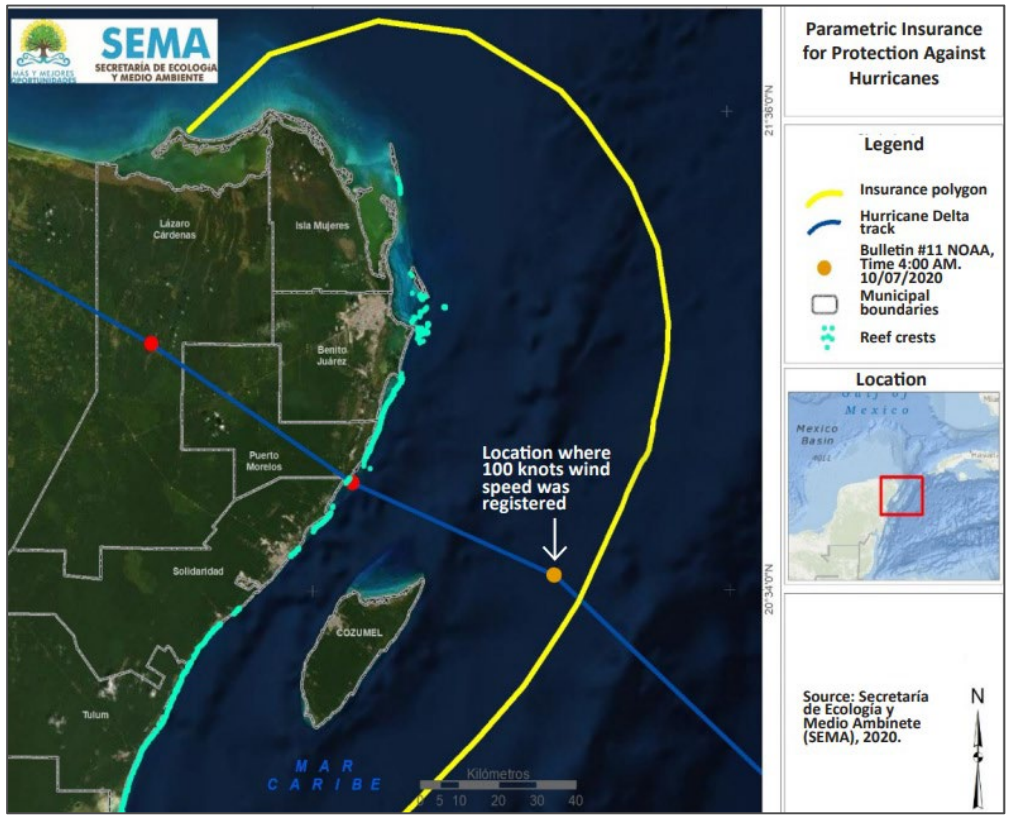
The Case of the Coastal Zone Management Trust in Quintana Roo, Mexico

- Hurricane DELTA triggers a payout in October 2020
- The insurance policy was triggered and paid $850,000 to the Trust Fund
    - swift damage assessment, debris removal and initial repairs, followed by a longer periods of restoration to restore the reef's value as a coastal barrier
- Transferring the cost of restoration to the market via an insurance policy reduces the burden for local authorities.



INSURANCE POLICY COST AND PAYOUT STRUCTURE IN USD AND MEXICAN PESO		
CHARACTERISTICS OF 2020 INSURANCE POLICY	USD	MEXICAN PESOS
Cost of the policy	250,000	4,995,000
Payout at 100 knots (40%)	850,000	17,000,000
Payout at 130 knots (80%)	1,700,000	34,000,000
Maximum payout at 160 knots or more (100%)	2,125,000	42,500,000

Landscape approach for multi-sector challenges

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Landscape approach for multi-sector challenges

Characteristics of a Landscape

- Landscape is multifunctional, with different stakeholders
- Competing demands and policies for multiple land uses.
- Different perceptions of success in landscape development
- Sectorial approaches do not solve conflicting challenges

Characteristics of Landscape Approach

- Consultation with stakeholders from a defined area
- Commonly agreed goal and objectives
- Agreement on what is sustainable, or at least, on the right and wrong directions
- Too many variables, so no predefined recipe, but tailor made for each situation
- LEARN one's way towards a sustainable future

The Case of Clima EAST - Sustainable Management of Pastures and Forests in NEAR East Countries

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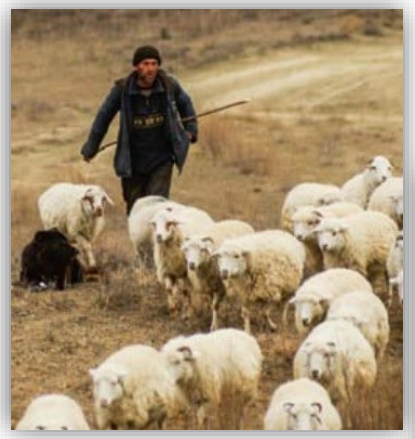
The Case of Clima EAST - Sustainable Management of Pastures and Forests in NEAR East Countries

Approach

- Pasture restoration
  - Lowering pressure from migratory routes (installation of water supply system, rotational grazing, new roads)
  - Fencing and reforestation, combined with sowing erosion-controlling plants
- Peatlands restoration
  - Converting degraded private arable peatlands to semi-natural conditions with high value for local people and biodiversity conservation
  - Construction and maintenance of water-regulating facilities
  - Harvesting the biomass



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The Case of Clima EAST - Sustainable Management of Pastures and Forests in NEAR East Countries

Lessons learnt

- Healthy ecosystems are more resilient to climate change and can help farming communities to cope with it
- The benefits for biodiversity were more than evident - over 66,000 hectares of key ecosystems and at least 57 key species of flora and fauna have either reduced climate-related threats and/or improved their biodiversity status
- In addition, commercial activity has been spurred - local residents have begun farming cooperatives
- Local farming communities play a central role in the process of ecosystem-based land management

"Now, I understand what a sustainable solution truly means. This is a win-win for the nature, the people, and the economy."

– Oleksandr Pyvovar, Head of Kukshyn village council (Ukraine)

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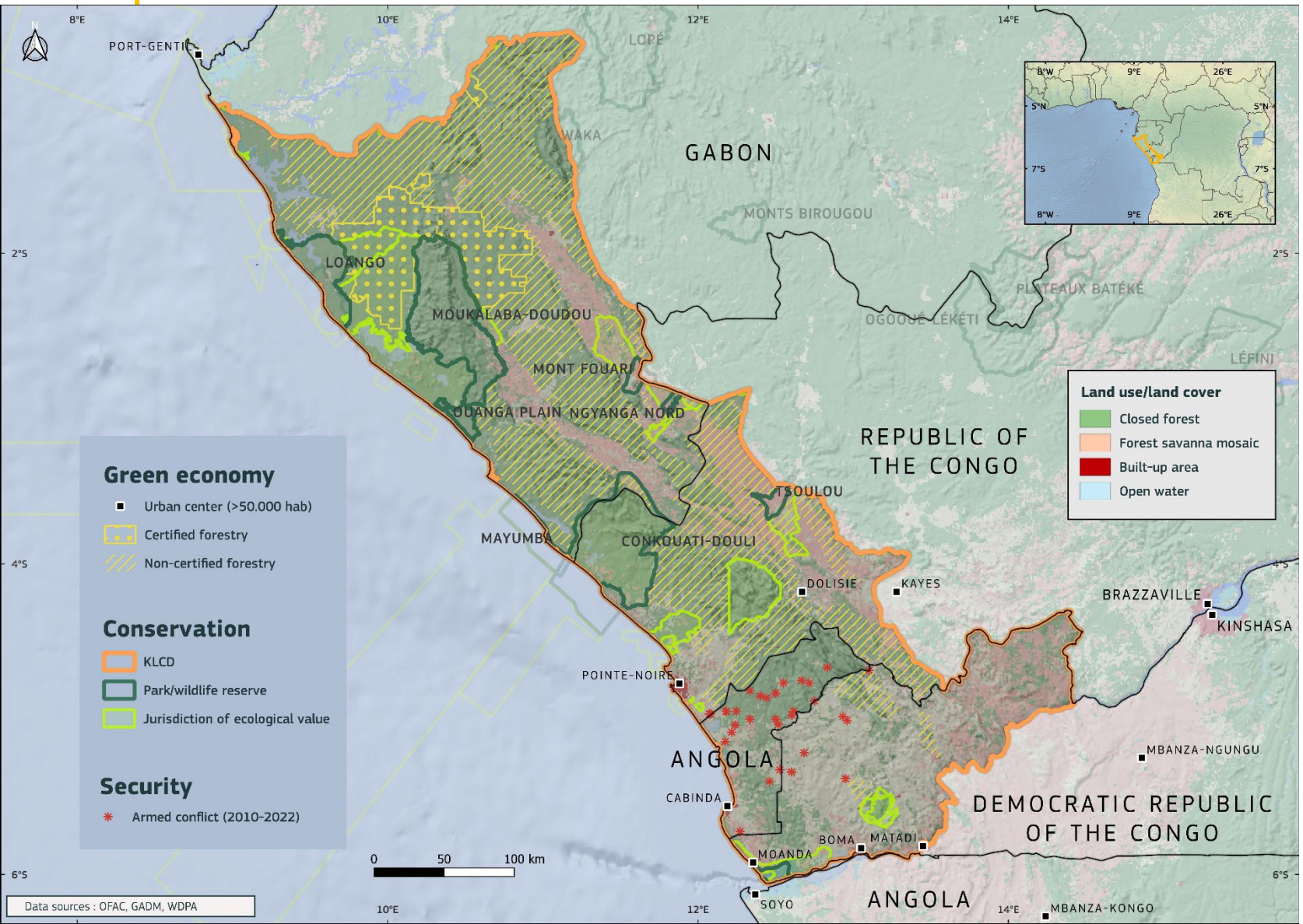
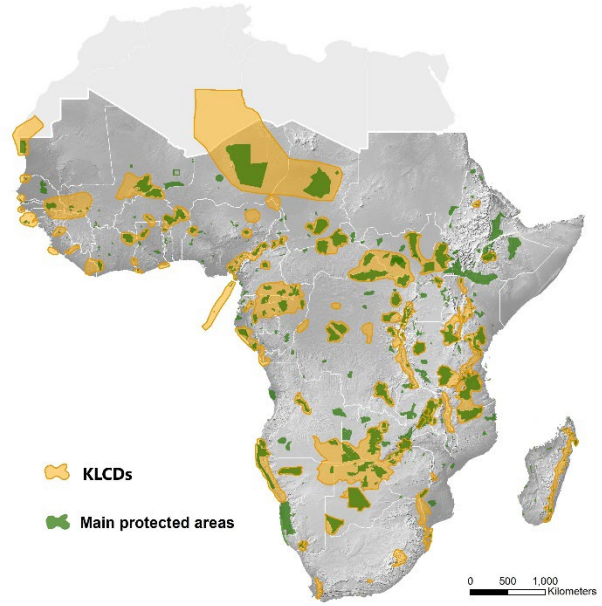
NaturAfrica
Key Landscapes for Conservation and Development





- Areas of high biodiversity value within multi-use landscapes
- Green development opportunities with actors (communities/private sector…) in the KLCD.
- Land use planning and territorial governance

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Green Infrastructure for people and biodiversity

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Green Infrastructure for people and biodiversity

Green Infrastructure is :

- A planned network of natural and semi-natural areas to **conserve biodiversity** and/or…
- …to **deliver ecosystem services** such as water purification, air quality, space for recreation, climate mitigation and adaptation.
- It provides ecological connectivity and ecosystem services in seriously disturbed and urban landscapes.

Green infrastructure may consist of:

- **Protected areas**: the backbone of green infrastructure
- Networks of **green** (land) and **blue** (water) spaces
- **Stepping stones or corridors** with natural areas, or semi-natural areas with human activities but managed for ecological connectivity
- **Man-made corridors** such as fish ladders and eco-bridges

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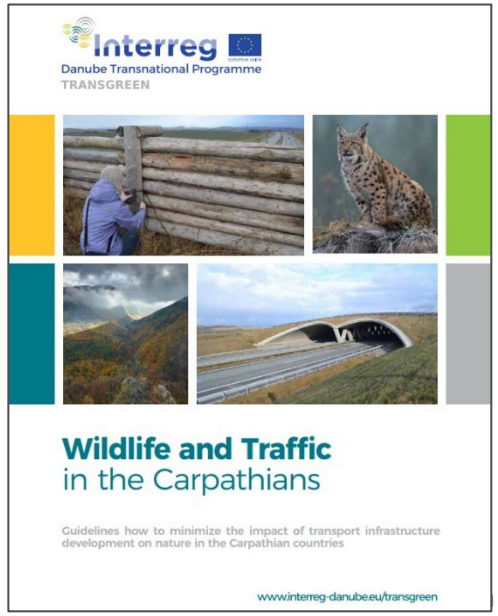
The Case of Large Mammals in the Alpine-Carpathian-Dinaric region

Habitat fragmentation

Loss of wildlife habitats

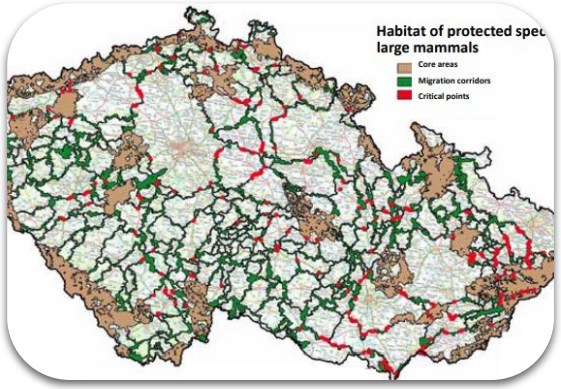
Fauna traffic mortality

- Alpine-Carpathian Corridor
- The LIFE DINALP BEAR project
- The TRANSGREEN project

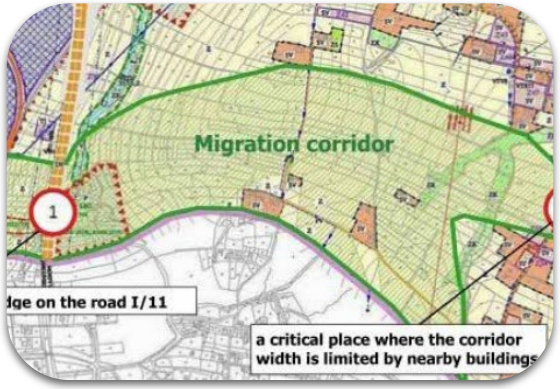


The Case of Large Mammals in the Alpine-Carpathian-Dinaric region

Approach



Scoping



Planning

Designing and Construction

Operation

The Case of Large Mammals in the Alpine-Carpathian-Dinaric region

Lessons learnt

- **Strategic focus:** practice points towards the need to have biodiversity conservation as an objective in national transport master planning and where possible making a link to existing spatial planning frameworks.
- **Interdisciplinarity:** Combined green and grey Infrastructure requires interdisciplinary and interagency cooperation. There is a need to share experiences as there still is little practical experience.
- **Data** on animal movement and use of habitats has proven to be fundamental to identify the best location for ecological connectivity measures and to provide evidence of their concrete use.
- **Stakeholder involvement** at all stages of project development is essential to make use of available knowledge and to avoid conflict.

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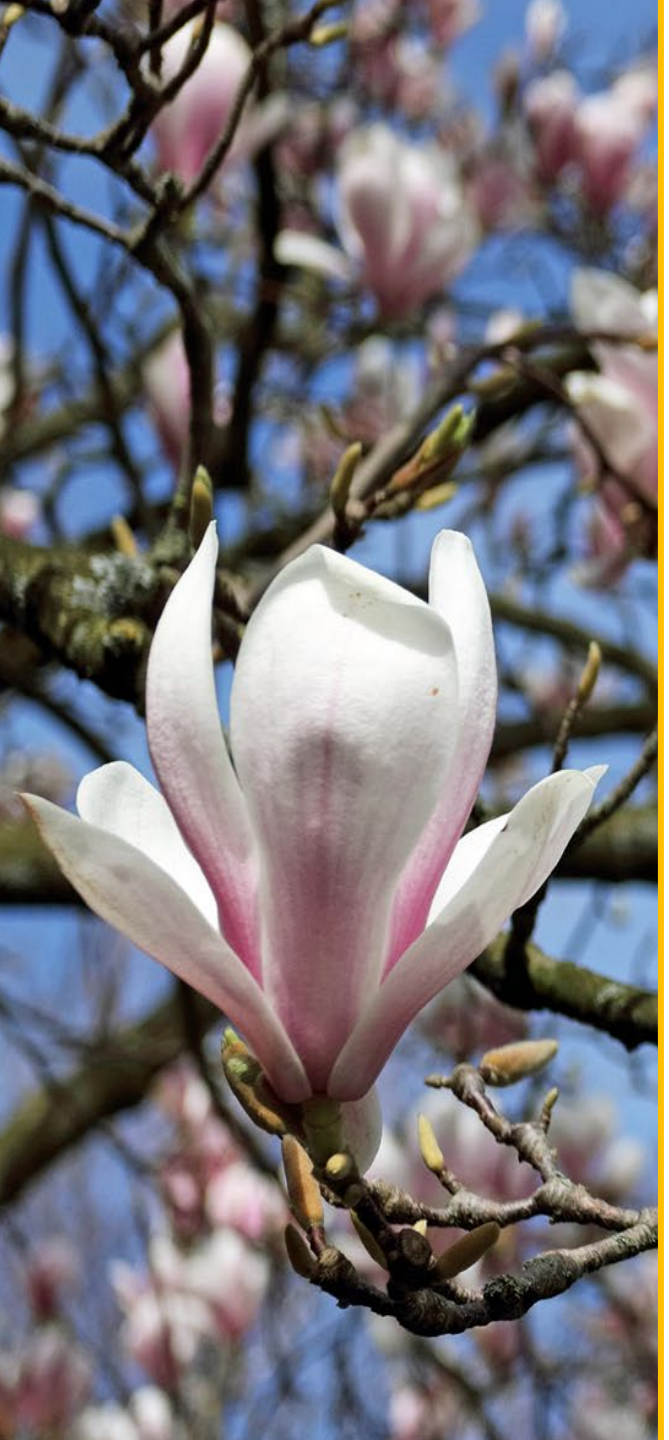

Q&A / Discussion

Mainstreaming of Biodiversity IN and BY economic sectors

Questions:

- Is it possible to use the presented approaches in the identification and definition of actions ?
- Could this work in all sectors?

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Wrap up: common features of many cases

- Biodiversity has multiple benefits = multiple sectors involved
- Need to include biodiversity objectives from the start = determines design
- Participatory approach = different perspectives
- Biodiversity results take time to show = upfront costs, better results later
- Serious information and research requirements = different questions
- Disasters provide opportunities = build back better!

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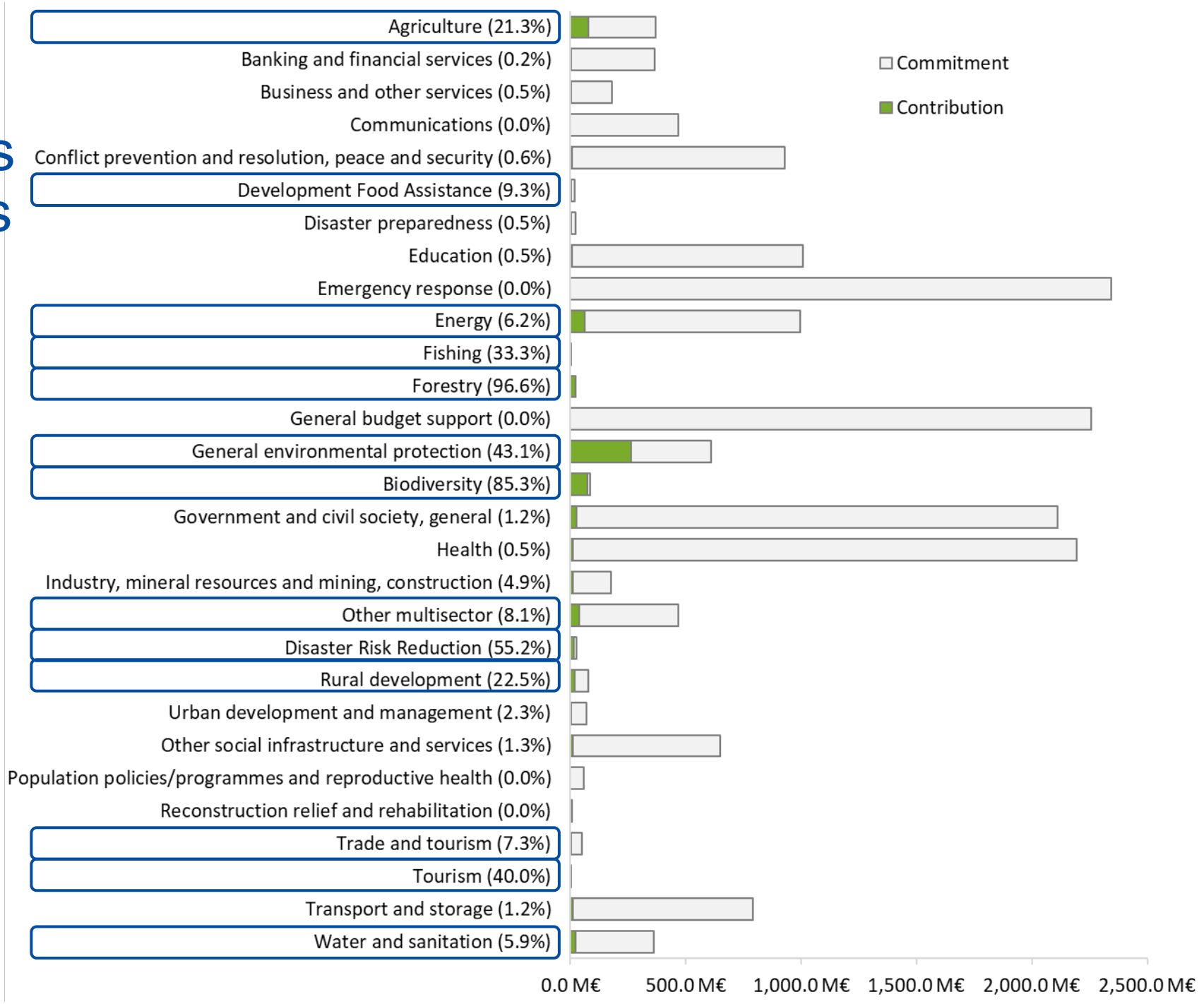
Cases, with additional examples and links for further reading
(available at Cap4Dev)

sector	approach	location	Aditional example(s)
River management and flood safety	Nature based solution	Brague Catchment, France	Drava river, Croatia
Urban quality of life and climate adaptation	Green infrastructure	Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain	Blue-green corridors, Belgrade, Serbia
Disaster risk reduction in coastal zone	Payment for ecosyst. services	Quintana Roo, Mexico	Upper Tana-Nairobi Water Fund, Kenya
Green and Transport Infrastructure	Green/blue/grey infrastructure	Alpine-Carpathian-Dinaric Green Corridors, Austria, Slovakia, Croatia, Slovenia, Austria, Italy	Roads in Pench tiger reserve, India
Forest fires and forest restoration	Nature based solution	VERENIKE – Greece	Riba-Roja de Túria, Spain
Rural (pastoral) climate adaptation	Landscape approach	Clima EAST - Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, Moldova, Belarus, Ukraine	Grazing and degraded rangeland: Morocco and Poland
Agricultural soil remediation	Nature based solution	Ecoremed; Italy	Urban waste processing near Natura 2000, France
Energy: biodiversity benefits in solar PV facility	Green infrastructure	Solar PV in Germany	Biodiversity corridors under high-voltage lines, Belgium and France

Contribution to the Biodiversity targets in 2021, by sectors

* all external actions



Messages from the field: experiences from several delegations

EU delegations:

- Georgia
- Serbia
- Palestine territories

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Final Discussion

Practical suggestions to get biodiversity better reflected in economic sectors and in the lending portfolio?

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Support available from
- Greening Facility
- B4LIFE Facility

- Juan Palerm – Greening Facility team leader
- Conrad Aveling team leader – B4Life
- Aymeric Roussel – INTPA

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INTPA/NEAR Greening Facility

Communication and awareness raising

Capacity development

Support services

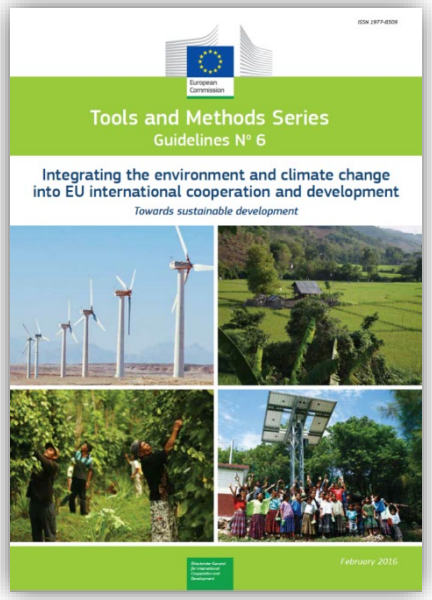
Screening and review of documents

Tracking of financial contributions

Development of procedures, guidelines and tools

Further support at Capacity4dev.eu

Guidelines: *generic tools and methods (being updated)*



Quick Tips: *good practice at a glance*

+ lists of activities that qualify for Rio Markers

Transformational stories: *inspiration from practice*

E-mail to:

NEAR-GREENING-FACILITY@ec.europa.eu

INTPA-GREENING-FACILITY@ec.europa.eu

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Biodiversity for Life Facility (B4Life & B4Life Crisis)

Objectives:

- Strengthen technical quality and coherence of EU biodiversity interventions
- Support programming and reporting
- Share knowledge and lessons learned

Available products:

- EU strategic approaches for biodiversity conservation (‘***Larger than…’*** series). Focuses on **Key Landscapes for Conservation and Development (KLCD)**

Types of services

- Short term TA missions to support identification, formulation and implementation of biodiversity interventions
- On-demand advice on biodiversity interventions and mainstreaming (for LAC and Crisis countries)
- Knowledge sharing: publications, webinars and events

Contacts:
B4Life: Conrad Aveling (Conrad.AVELING@agreco.be)
B4Life Crisis: Romain Calaque (Romain.CALAQUE@agreco.be)
INTPA F2: Aymeric Roussel (Aymeric.ROUSSEL@ec.europa.eu)

B4Life:
Number of NKE working days left: 225 senior and 38 junior
September 2015 to March 2023

B4Life Crisis:
Number of KEs: 1
Number of NKE working days left: 1054 senior, 760 junior
January 2022 to December 2024

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INTPA/NEAR B4Life 2.0 facility

Objectives:

- Improve quality of EU external actions in support to biodiversity, natural resources and nature-based solutions
- Strengthen knowledge and capacity
- Support policy development and coherence
- Tracking and reporting of EU commitments to biodiversity

Types of services

- Technical backstopping for biodiversity interventions and mainstreaming of biodiversity and NbS in other sectors
- Knowledge and capacity development
- Participation to important regional and global events
- Support to coordination between EU and MS

Resources

- Regionalized long term experts for NEAR and INTPA regions
- Pool of Senior and Junior Experts for short term missions
- Cartographic support services

Expected period of implementation:

- Mid 2023 – Mid 2026

Closing

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MKS Final Evaluation

Please help us improve our learning experience by assessing this Webinar

OR click on the link in the chat …

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Thank you

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- INTPA-GREENING-FACILITY@ec.europa.eu

B4Life
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