

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 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)

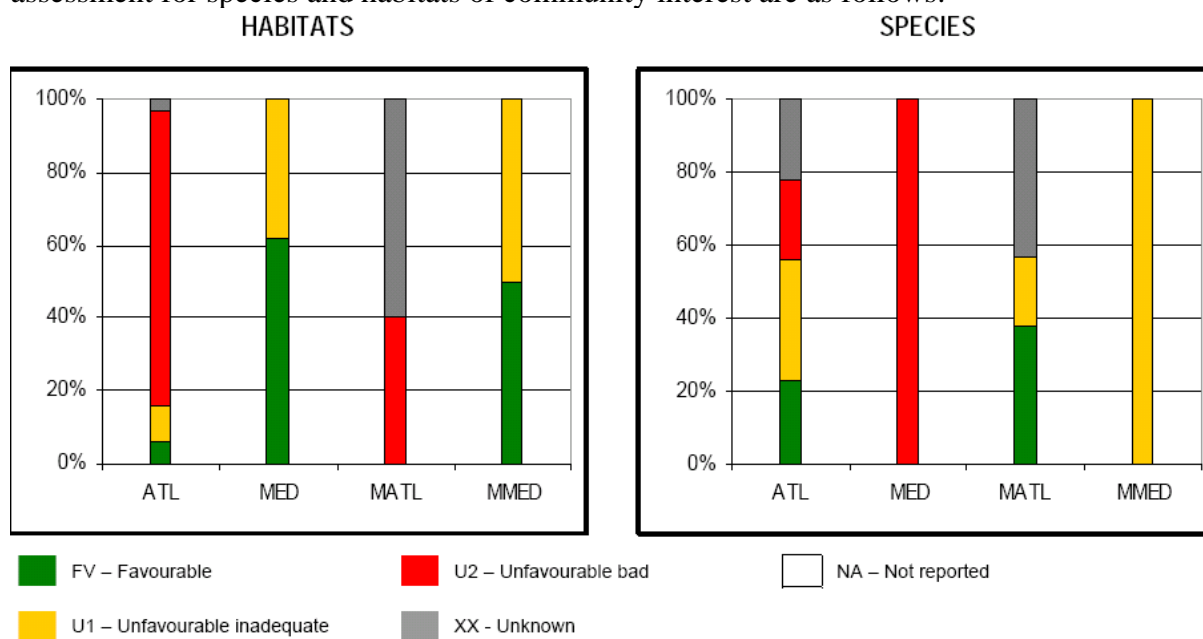
The UK was considered in June 2008, to have achieved a level of sufficiency of 95.2 % for site selection for species and habitat types under Habitats Directive, in its territory. GIS data on individual sites is available. A total of 507 Natura 2000 sites in the UK have a completed/agreed management plan. 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, 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):

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 2010¹. 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):

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

¹ Projected change based on existing policies and measures, excluding the use of Kyoto Mechanisms and carbon sinks.

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>

[\[nature.org.uk/pubs/publication/pub_results.asp?C=3&K=Bunce&K2=&I=&A=&Submit1=Search\]\(http://www.english-nature.org.uk/pubs/publication/pub_results.asp?C=3&K=Bunce&K2=&I=&A=&Submit1=Search\)](http://www.english-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

<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>