Natura 2000 is the most ambitious initiative ever undertaken to conserve Europe’s rich natural heritage. It enables all 25 countries of the EU to work together to protect hundreds of our most vulnerable species and habitats across their natural range in Europe, irrespective of national boundaries. At its heart lies the creation of an ecological network of sites known as the Natura 2000 Network. Some 18,000 sites have been included in this network so far.

Natura 2000 sites
- Sites of Community Interest under the Habitats Directive
- Special Protection Areas under the Birds Directive
- Sites designated under both Directives

NB: Information on Natura 2000 sites for the ten new Member States is not yet finalised.