The Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process

Nitrogen Deposition and the Nature Directives
Impacts and Responses: Our shared experiences

2 – 4 December 2013 – Peterborough (UK)
EU biodiversity strategy

A 2050 VISION
European Union biodiversity and the ecosystem services it provides – its natural capital – are protected, valued and appropriately restored...

A 2020 HEADLINE TARGET
Halt the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services in the EU and restore them insofar as feasible, and step up the EU’s contribution to averting global biodiversity loss.

6 TARGETS

- Enhance implementation of nature legislation
- Restore ecosystems est. Green Infrastructure
- Sustainable Agriculture & Forestry
- Sustainable Fisheries
- Combat Alien Invasive Species
- Contribute to averting global biodiversity loss

ACTIONS
Working together in Natura 2000
For improving the status of conservation.

A voluntary process fulfilling legal obligations under the Nature Directives.
COMMISSION NOTE ON SETTING CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES FOR NATURA 2000 SITES

Establishing conservation measures for Natura 2000 Sites

FSC

Top 20 list

Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process

LIVING PROCESS!
Working at level of Biogeographical Regions…

For each region:
- Steering Committees
- Workshops
- Ad hoc expert meetings
- Seminars

Pre-scoping doc. (Top 20 list) – Background doc. – Seminar doc. & report – N2000 Platform.

…to help Member States to manage the sites.
The process seeks to answer to those questions:

1. Do we understand the problems and threats to address in order to achieve FSC and make significant/measurable and cost effective progress?

2. Have some Member States found practical solutions that can be shared with others?

3. What actions can be launched?

4. Where there are important gaps in knowledge can Member States co-operate together in finding solutions?
The Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process is

- based on voluntary cooperation between all actors
- strongly depending on active involvement of Member States and stakeholders / NGOs.
- helping Member States in developing and implementing measures necessary to achieve FCS of species and habitats of Community interest and to improve status of bird species
Achievements so far

- 3 Natura 2000 Seminars held: Boreal, Atlantic & Alpine regions
- Considerable background information on management of key habitat types compiled
- Main threats and good practices identified
- Necessary action identified, concrete recommendations and proposals for action made.
- Some concrete joint actions launched or planned (such as this current Workshop!)
Some lessons learnt

- Limited resources everywhere but overall acknowledgment of the huge potential interest of the process
- Useful information compiled and made available. Importance of inputs from MS/experts.
- Fruitful discussions at field trips, knowledge markets, workshops and seminars
- New cooperation and new contacts established at the biogeographical level.
Some more lessons learnt

- Importance of active role of lead Member State and 'node persons',
- Continuity of working together and coherence between workshops and seminars still needs to be improved (ad hoc expert meetings)
- Still sometimes limited involvement of actors (incl. MS) and limited commitments for new cooperative actions. We need a pro-active involvement in general and for particular issues; 'node persons' could help.

F. Feve.
Some new developments

- Possibility to organise *ad-hoc* expert meetings between workshop and seminar.
- Support of the contractor to the chairperson and also in facilitating the organisation of events and Working groups.
- Potential financial support for reimbursement of the travelling costs of certain NGOs experts.
- The **Natura 2000 Platform**.
Working together in Natura 2000

A communication platform in support of the New Biogeographical Process including the Natura 2000 seminars

This communication platform supports Natura 2000 site managers, policymakers, civil society organizations and land managers in their efforts to achieve favourable conservation status of Europe’s most precious habitats. It offers access to available management knowledge, relevant contacts, a forum for discussion, as well as relevant events, documents and news.

Read more about the NBP

Explore the Habitats Knowledge Base

Background information, links, management advice, etc.

Go to the page

Networking and Cooperation

Contacts, events, forum, networks, etc.

Go to the page

Action and Results

Workshop and seminar results, actions and follow-up, etc.

Go to the page

Events

- 19/02/2013: Alpine steering committee meeting
- 20/02/2013: Atlantic steering committee meeting
- 21/02/2013: Mediterranean/Macaronesian steering committee meeting

More...
Habitat type knowledge base

Introduction

The European Union has nine biogeographical regions, each with its own characteristic blend of vegetation, climate and geology. Under the Habitats Directive, Natura 2000 sites are selected on the basis of national lists proposed by the Member States. For each biogeographical region the Commission adopts a list of Sites of Community Importance (SCI) which then become part of the network. Finally, the SCI are designated at the national level as Special Areas of Conservation (SAC).

Search Habitat Type

Find habitat types located within a country and/or a biogeographic region
(ex.: habitats from alpine biogeographic region of Austria)

Search will provide the following information (checked fields will be displayed)

- Country  
- Biogeographic region  
- Level  
- Code  
- Habitat type name  
- English name

AND/OR Habitat Code  

Select database:
- EUNIS Habitat types
- Habitats Directive Annex I
- Both

Disclaimer: Databases might not contain data for all countries and biogeographic regions
First round of Natura 2000 Seminars planning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BioGeo region</th>
<th>Preparatory workshop</th>
<th>Seminar</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alpine</td>
<td>12/14 June 2013</td>
<td>25/26 Nov. 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mediterranean / Macaronesian</td>
<td>June 2014 (?)</td>
<td>End 2014 (?)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Continental / Pannonian / Steppic / Black Sea</td>
<td>Autumn 2014</td>
<td>Spring 2015</td>
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<td>Marine</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2015</td>
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To conclude:

- A unique chance to gather people and share information on Natura 2000 management issues.
- Should you have any other practical ideas to strengthen engagement of actors and efficiency of the process, please tell us!

Thank you for your attention!