



The biogeographical process

Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process

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What is the biogeographical process?

Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process

The Natura 2000 biogeographical process:

- Is a voluntary process focused on fulfilling the obligations set in the Nature Directives,
- Enhances co-ordinated and collaborative approaches among Member States sharing a common biogeographical context,
- Is strongly depending on active involvement of Member States and stakeholders / NGOs,
- Sees Natura 2000 as a network of protected areas and as a network of people



What is the biogeographical process?

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The biogeographical process is:

- contributing to the implementation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2030, which includes the following targets :

Target 1: To legally protect at least 30% of the land, including inland waters, and 30% of the sea in the EU, of which at least one third (10% of land and 10% of sea) to be under strict protection.

Target 2: Member States will have to ensure that at least 30% of species and habitats not currently in favourable status are in that category or show a strong positive trend.



What does the biogeographical process contribute to achieving?

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Work under the process seeks responses to the following questions:

- Do we understand the conservation problems and possible solutions to address these so that we can make significant / measurable and cost effective progress?
- Have some Member States / stakeholders found practical solutions that can be shared with others?
- Where are the important gaps in knowledge?
- Can Member States / stakeholders co-operate together in finding solutions?



Who is organising the biogeographical process?

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The Commission launched the process in 2011.
It relies on 6 partners spread over different biogeographical regions of the EU:

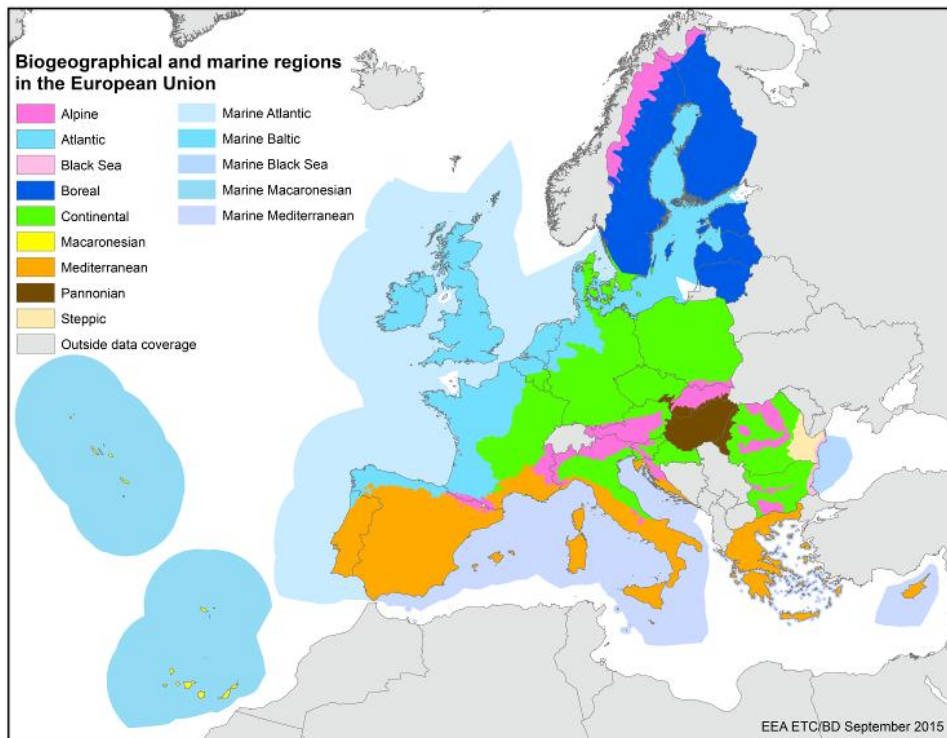
- Wageningen Environmental Research - NL
- NatureBureau Ltd. - UK
- CEEWeb for biodiversity - HU
- Estonian University of Life Sciences - ES
- TerraEcogest - SP
- Mãe d'água - PO





Seminars: a tool to work together and coordinate action on Natura 2000...

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... and contribute to halting the loss of biodiversity across the EU in the different biogeographical regions

Two terrestrial regions:

Mediterranean Region

- 8 Member States

Macaronesian Region

- 2 Member States

Disclaimer: The maps serve for information purposes only, and may not and shall not be construed as an official map representing maritime borders in accordance with international law.

www.emu.ee





Seminars: a tool to work together and coordinate action on Natura 2000

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Key elements:

- We stimulate Member States to improve, strengthen, and consolidate the Natura 2000 network of protected areas
- It is on a voluntary basis, MS are in the driver's seat...
 - ... however, the European Commission sets the agenda
- We (WENR) are in a continuous discussion with DG-ENV on policy development and implementation by MS
- Valuable insights in the development of the agenda of the Commission



Background information for seminars and some networking events

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- Close cooperation with the European topic Centre on Biodiversity (ETC/BD) in Paris
- Involve experts in preparation of documentation (partner organisations, LIFE and EASME, EEA, etc).



Seminars: a tool to work together and coordinate action on Natura 2000

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Basic questions to be discussed to help establish coherent, effective and efficient conservation systems for the Natura 2000 network throughout the EU:

1. What are the **common issues** (re. policy, implementation, knowledge, resources, monitoring, communication, etc.) in management of habitats over the biogeographical region ?
2. What are the **potential solutions** to these problems (incl. best practice)? What special management measures are required to accommodate habitats and key associated species?
3. Are there **concrete possibilities for cooperation** across borders linked to the preferred solutions identified at the seminar? Which of these are **priority**?

to: agree **biogeographical level roadmaps for cooperative action**



Network events: bringing together knowledge and experience to prepare actions

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Network events are:

- Meetings proposed and organised by authorities, experts or stakeholders, on a specific theme relating to management or conservation of species or habitats
 - Target 1: Protect species and habitats
 - Action 1 on cross-border issues.
- Some additional events can be suggested Meetings proposed and organised by experts or stakeholders, on a specific theme relating to management or conservation of species or habitats



Network events: bringing together knowledge and experience to prepare actions

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Typical networking events:

- Have some 20-40 participants
- Correspond to priorities under the roadmaps or priorities for EU Nature policies
- Are often a follow-up of biogeographical seminars
- A dedicated call is sent out yearly to different networks for ideas for network events.



Communication from the Natura 2000 biogeographical process

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The biogeographical process communicates through:

- Dedicated **webpages**:

https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/platform/index_en.htm

- A dedicated **wiki**:

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/wikis/spaces/viewspace.action?key=naturabiogeo>

(Instructions before 1st visit: https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/platform/natura2000_wiki.htm)

- 6 digital **newsletters** per year:

https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/platform/news/newsletter/196_n2000_biogeographical_process_newsletter_en.htm

Information is further is spread via (unofficial):

 Twitter for updates and news: <https://twitter.com/BioGeoProcess>

 LinkedIn group **Natura 2000 (N2K) International**: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/1968616/>

Mail: Natura2000platform@wur.nl



<https://twitter.com/BioGeoProcess>



Thank you!

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