



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Natura 2000 Macaronesian Seminar

## Angra do Heroísmo, Azores, Portugal



### Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process

## The improvement pledges for the Macaronesian region

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## The improvement pledge

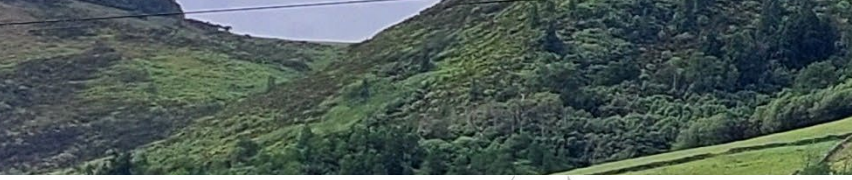
### Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process

#### Ambition of the pledge process:

- Improvement of status and **trends** for 30 % of species and habitats **assessments at MS level**
- No further deterioration in conservation trends and status
- No unknown assessments due to lack of data
- Identifying limitations to achieving non-deterioration



Leisler's bat (*Nyctalus leisleri*)  
©Saxifraga- Jeroen Willemsen



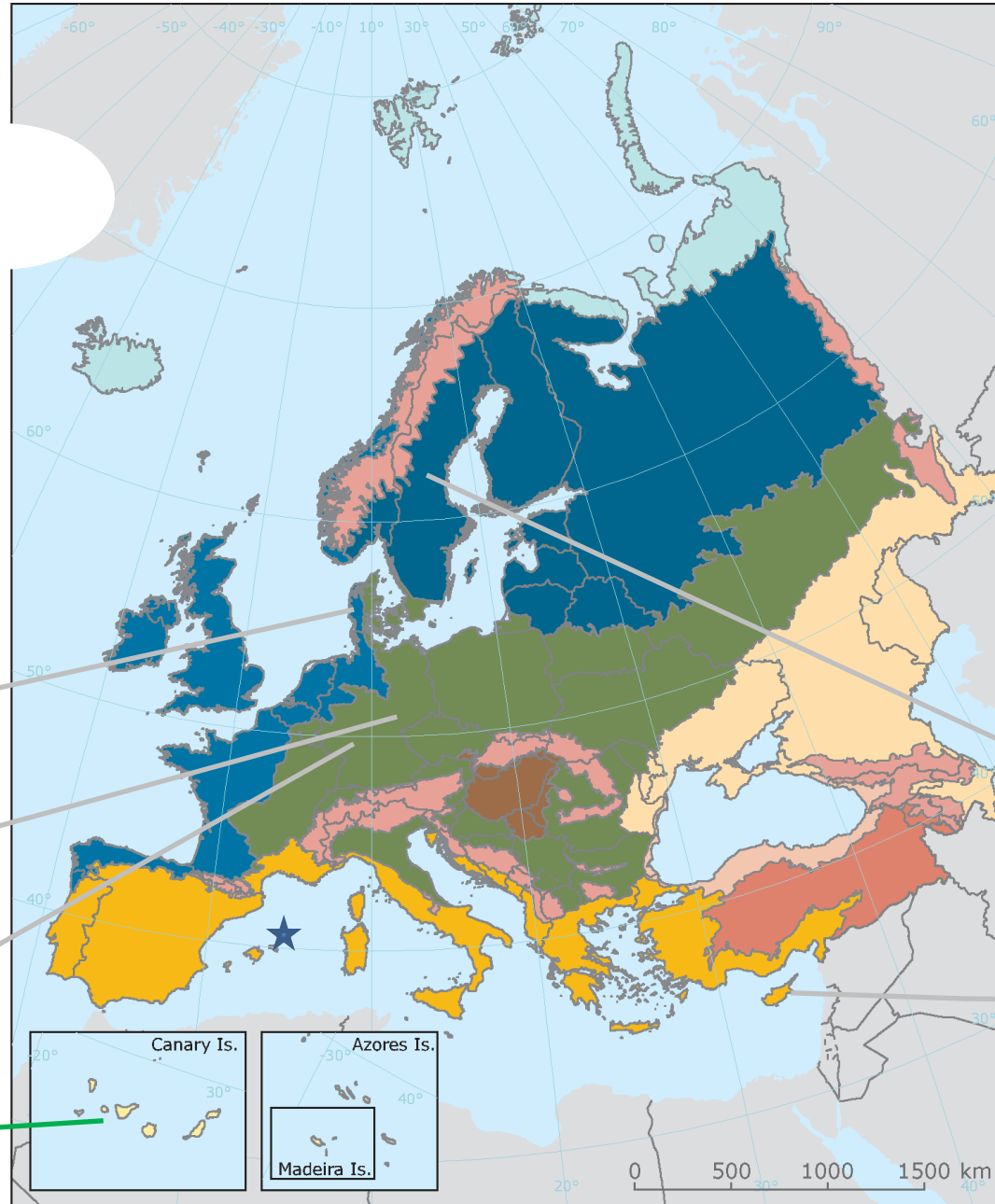
**Pledges received from Member States so far  
(green = Macaronesian region)**

Denmark

Germany

Luxembourg

**Spain**

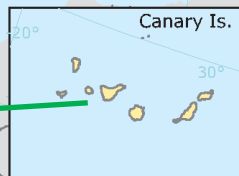


**Biogeographical regions in Europe, 2016**

- Alpine
- Anatolian
- Arctic
- Atlantic
- Black Sea
- Boreal
- Continental
- Macaronesia
- Mediterranean
- Pannonian
- Steppic
- Outside data coverage

Sweden

Cyprus







## Analysis undertaken so far...

### Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process

#### Member State level

- Completeness
- 30 % improvement target reached

#### Macaronesian region

- Habitats and species groups pledged for improvement & non-deterioration
- Current Conservation status of pledged species and habitats groups for improvement & non-deterioration
- Habitat types and species for which deterioration is unavoidable



## How is status assessed for Habitats Directive?

### Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process

#### Status in MS Biogeographical region

- Good (FV)
- Poor (U1)
- Bad (U2)
- Unknown

#### Trend

- Improving (I)
- Stable (S)
- Deteriorating (D)
- Unknown (U)

For more information: <https://www.eea.europa.eu/en/topics/at-a-glance/nature/state-of-nature-in-europe-a-health-check/explore-nature-reporting-data>





## How is status assessed for Birds Directive?

### Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process

#### Trend (short & long term)

Increasing (I)

Stable (S)

Fluctuating (F)

Decreasing (D)

Unknown/uncertain (U)



#### Status EU level

Secure

Threatened, declining,  
depleted

Threatened

Unknown

For more information: <https://www.eea.europa.eu/en/topics/at-a-glance/nature/state-of-nature-in-europe-a-health-check/explore-nature-reporting-data>



## Member State - completeness

### Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process

Are all species and habitat assessments with a non-favourable/non-secure status or unknown status covered?

	Habitats	Species
U1-I	x	x
U1-S	x	X
U1-D	x	X
U1- UKN	x	x
U2- I	x	X
U2- S	x	x
U2-D	x	X
U2-UNK	x	x
FV -I		
FV-S		
FV-D		
FV-UNK		
XX	x	x

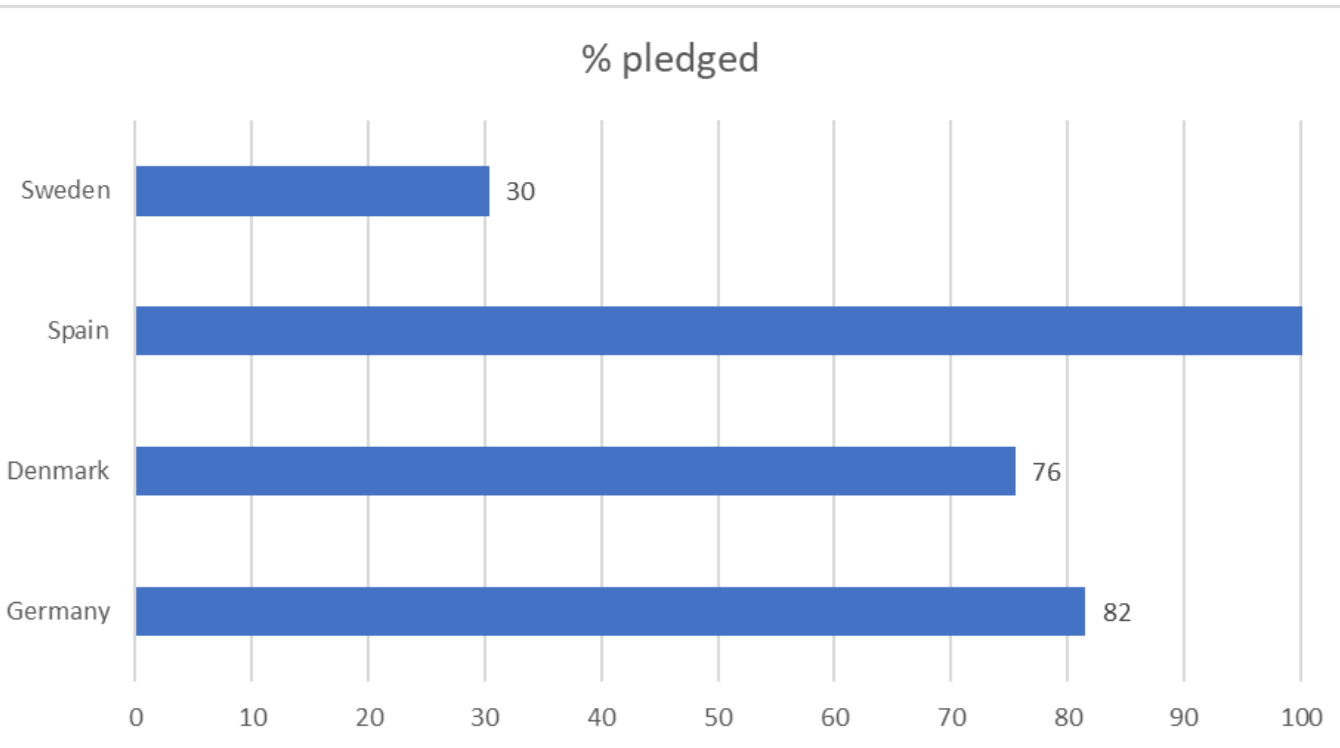
Birds – short term trend	
secure	
near threatened	x
Threatened	X
declining	x
depleted	x
fluctuating	x
unknown	x





## Member State -Completeness

### Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process



### Conclusions:

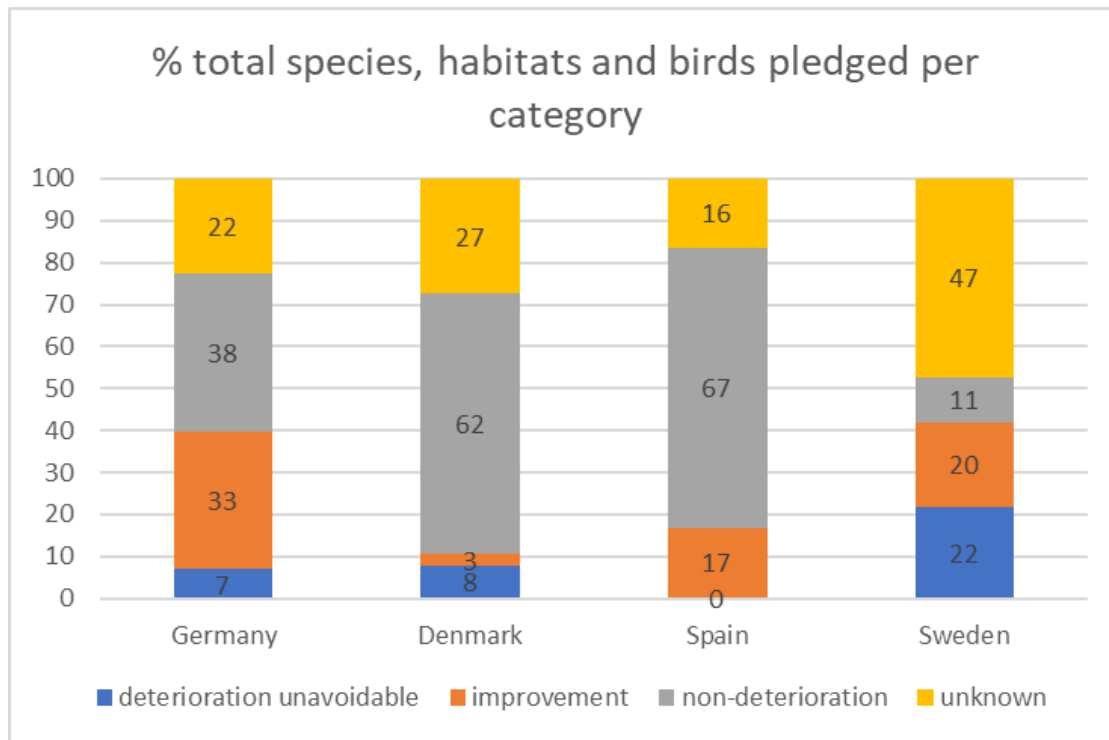
- Swedish pledge is low compared to other pledges submitted
- Not pledged:
  - Wintering and passing birds
  - Habitats and species with stable or increasing trends (GE/DK)
  - Data information errors





## Member State - 30% improvement target reached

### Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process



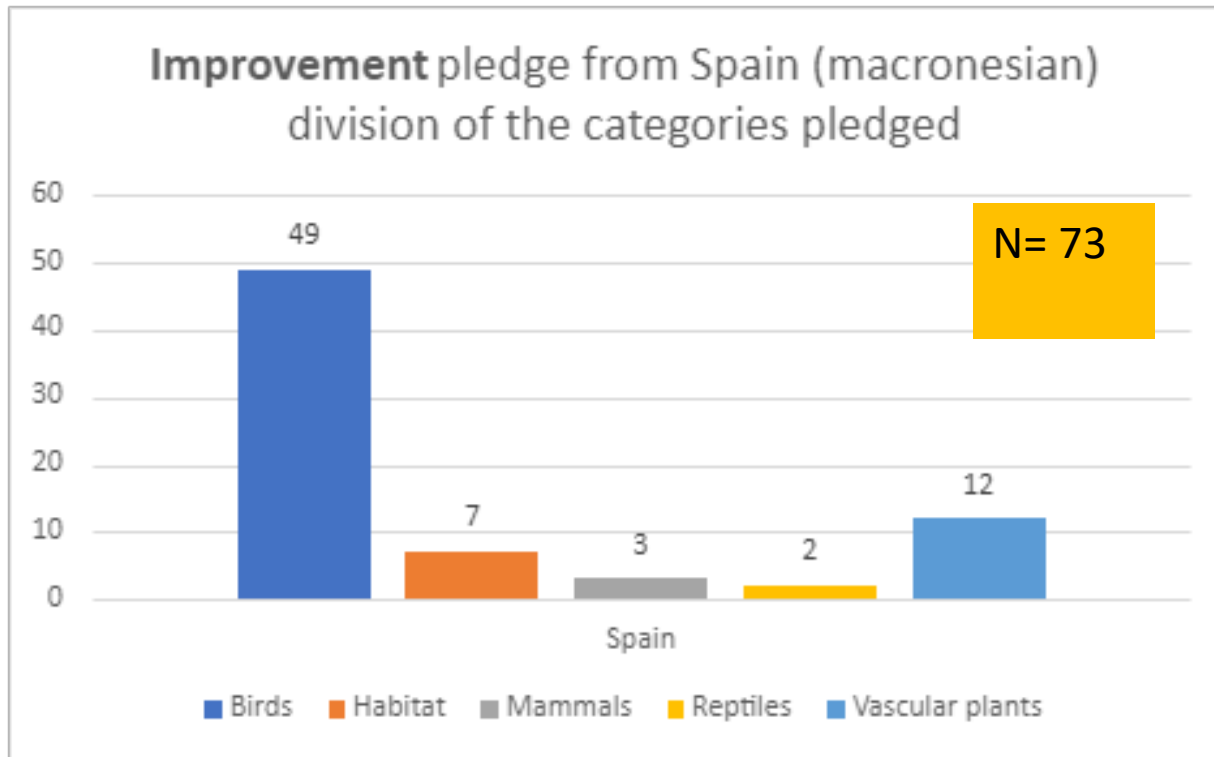
*Do Member States pledge to improve 30% of species and habitat assessments for achieving improving trends by 2030?*

- Not all Member States reach the target
- Sweden & Denmark pledges low
- Possible explanation
  - Unclearly on whether all species or only species with declining trend needed to be pledged for improvement ?



## Pledges for improvement - Macaronesian region

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Mostly bird species have been pledged





## Some examples for species

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Common redshank (*Tringa totanus*)  
© Saxifraga- Piet Munsterman



Jandia anise (*Bupleurum handiense*)  
© Wikipedia



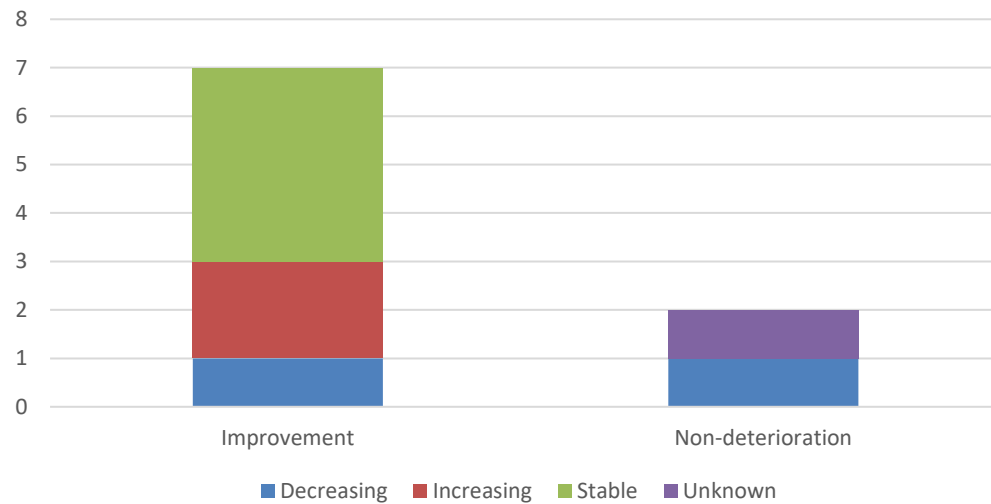
Boettger's wall gecko (*Tarentola boettgeri*)  
© Wikipedia- photograph: Yummifruitbat



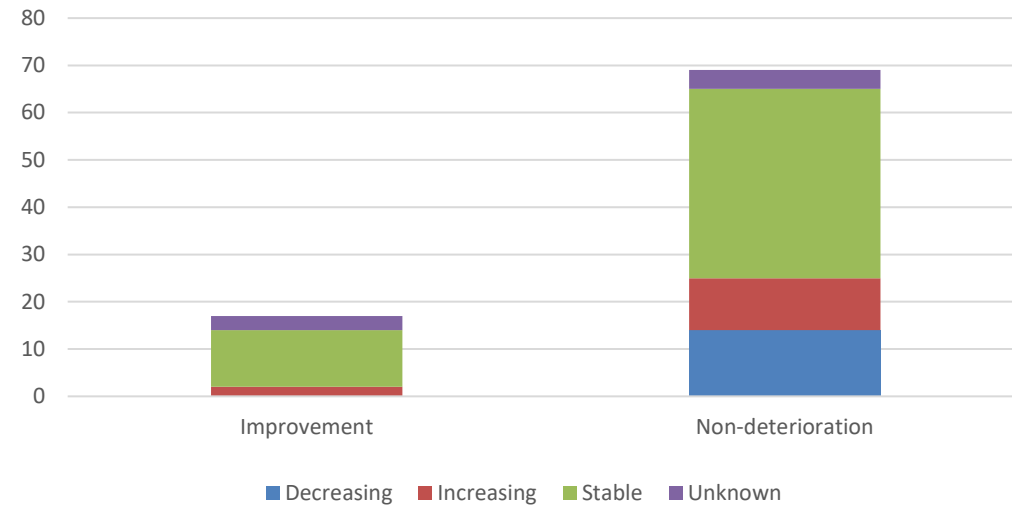
# Current conservation status of pledged species and habitats

## Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process

Trend of habitats in Spain (macaronesian region) for **improvement and non-deterioration**



Trend of species in Spain (macaronesian region) pledged for **improvement and non-deterioration**



Source Conservation status: Art. 17 reporting database (2012-2018)



# Current conservation status pledged birds

## Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process

*EU trend : Decreasing*



Squacco heron (*Ardeola ralloides*)  
© Saxifraga-Arie de Knijff



Great bustard (*Otis tarda*)  
© Saxifraga-Arie de Knijff



Black-eared Wheatear (*Oenanthe hispanica*)  
© Saxifraga-Piet Munsterman



## Measures taken for species and habitats

### Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process

- Not analysed due to limited data
- Sufficiency of measures difficult to assess
  - For instance
    - Improve condition of existing habitats (either Annex I or species habitats) through active area-based restoration measures
    - Prevent, control, eradicate or mitigate negative impacts of Invasive alien (plant or animal) species

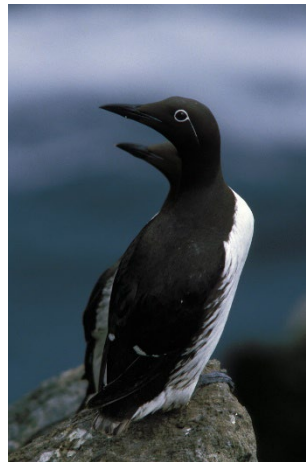




## Deterioration unavoidable – Spanish pledge

### Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process

- No species and habitats pledged in the 'deterioration unavoidable' category
- Only 1 bird species in this category



Iberian guillemot (*Uria aalge ibericus*)

© Saxifraga- Janus Verkerk



## Overall conclusions for Macaronesian region

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- Only one pledge submitted
- Overall sufficiency is relatively low
- Improvement pledges for habitats with decreasing trends
- No pledges made for species, habitats and birds for which deterioration cannot be halted





## Issues for discussion

### Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process

- What is the timeline for submission of the missing pledges?
- Does this analysis reflect the pledges not yet submitted of other Member States?

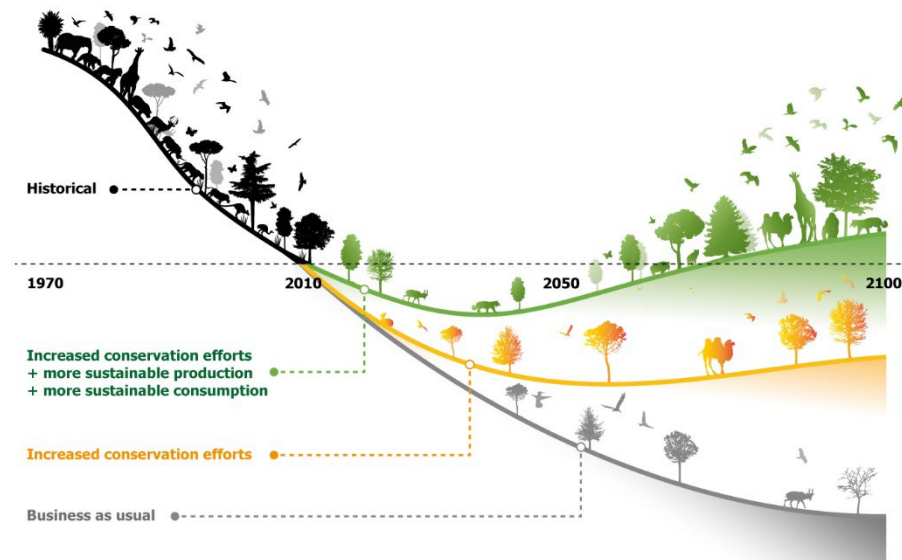


Titl

Issues for discussion

# Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process

## How feasible is it to reverse trend?



This artwork illustrates the main findings of the article, but does not intend to accurately represent its results (<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-020-2705-y>)



**Thank you!**

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