



Belgium for  
Biodiversity

# LIFE B4B

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BNIP

# LIFE BNIP

Belgian Nature Integrated project

*The Added Value*



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Flemish Agency for Nature and Forests



**OBJECTIVE:** Strategic project that contributes to the achievement of the Natura 2000 objectives in Belgium (Prioritised Action Framework – PAF)

Budget - € 19 million

Duration: 88 months (12/2015-3/2023)

Complementary funding € 350 million

 + 90



# THE LIFE BNIP-PROJECT

The Belgian Nature Integrated Project, financed by the European funding instrument for environment and climate action LIFE

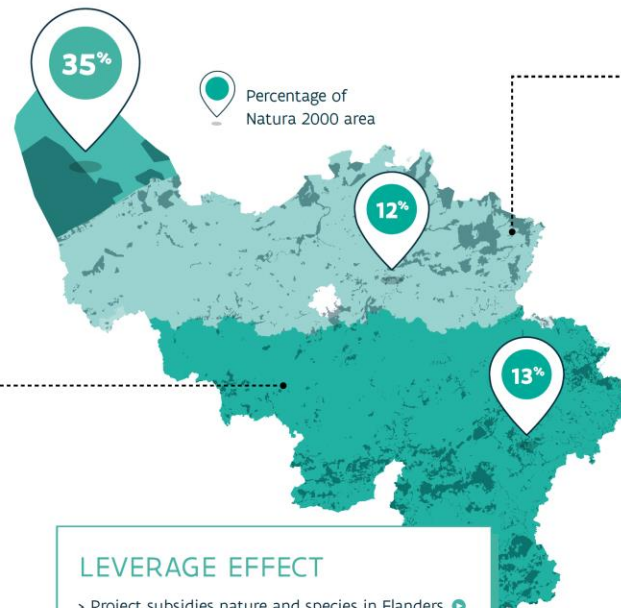
**Natura 2000** is a European network of protected nature. Together with all partners, **LIFE BNIP** gives an extra boost to the protection of Europe's **most valuable, endangered species and habitats** in Flanders, Wallonia, and the Belgian part of the North Sea. In this way, BNIP creates a **leverage effect** and provides additional measures **on the ground**.



## NATURA 2000 POLICY WALLONIA

- ACTIONS**
- > Action plans for species and habitats
  - > Management plans
  - > Development of data bases and monitoring tools

- IN THE FIELD**
- > Protect habitats of animal and plant species
  - > Management plans on the ground in 18 pilot areas
  - > Developments in agricultural areas for the environment, the biodiversity, and the climate, thanks to advice and subsidies for farmers
  - > Breeding programmes and reintroduction
  - > Hydrological studies
  - > Educate, involve, and assemble stakeholders
  - > Increase awareness of Natura 2000

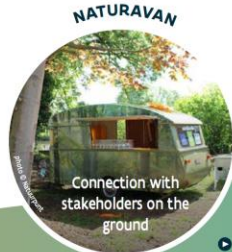
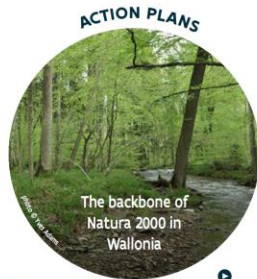


## NATURA 2000 POLICY FLANDERS

- ACTIONS**
- > Species protection programmes
  - > Management plans
  - > Defragmentation thanks to the Flemish Action Programme Ecological Defragmentation (VAPEO)
  - > Development of data bases and monitoring tools

- IN THE FIELD**
- > Protect habitats of animal and plant species
  - > Improve connectivity by restoring habitats
  - > Breeding programmes and reintroduction
  - > Hydrological studies
  - > Educate, involve, and assemble stakeholders
  - > Increase awareness of Natura 2000

- LEVERAGE EFFECT**
- > Project subsidies nature and species in Flanders
  - > PDR funds in Wallonia
  - > Methodology for socio-economic impact studies



A COLLABORATION BETWEEN:



7 project partners



Produced with a contribution from the European Union's financing instrument LIFE

# LIFE B4B: Belgium for Biodiversity



Protect and restore biodiversity in Belgium by contributing to the implementation of the **PAFs & MSFD** and subsequent strategies, plans and programmes.

Budget - € 36.2 million

Duration: 108 months  
(2023 – 2031)

Complementary funding € 603 million

Coordinating Beneficiary:



Competent authorities



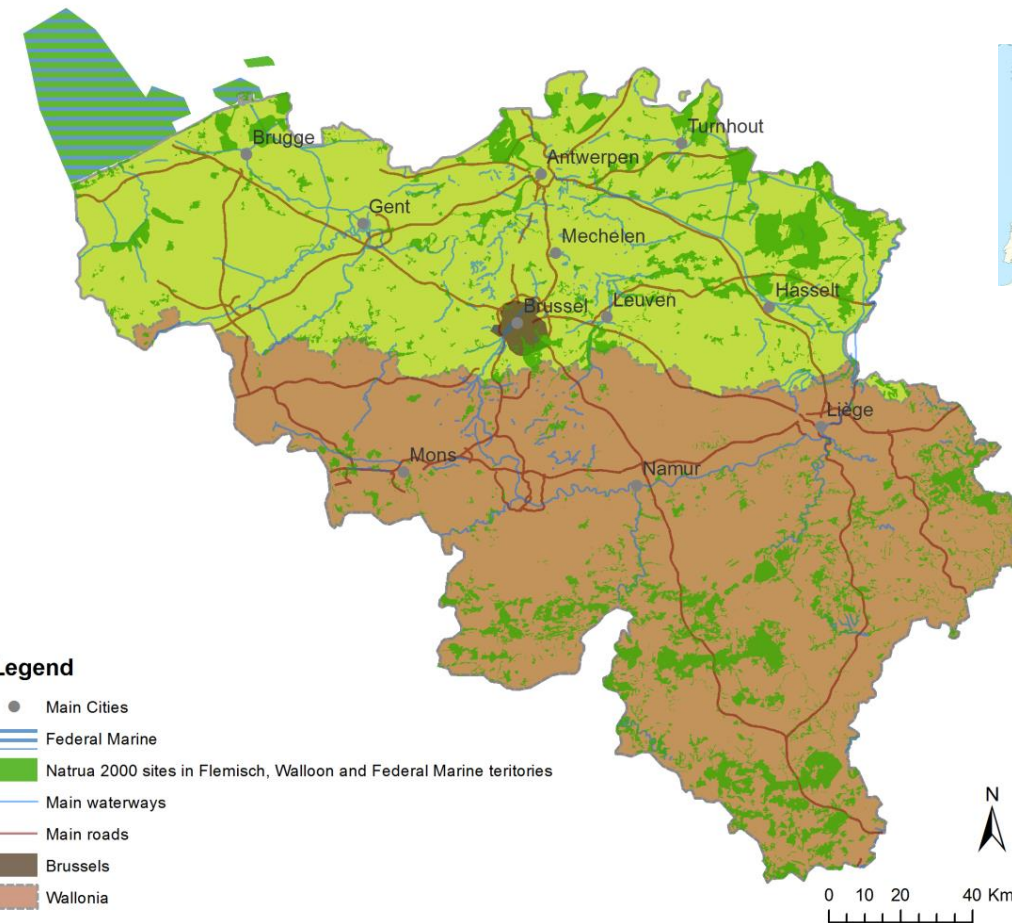
Supporting beneficiaries



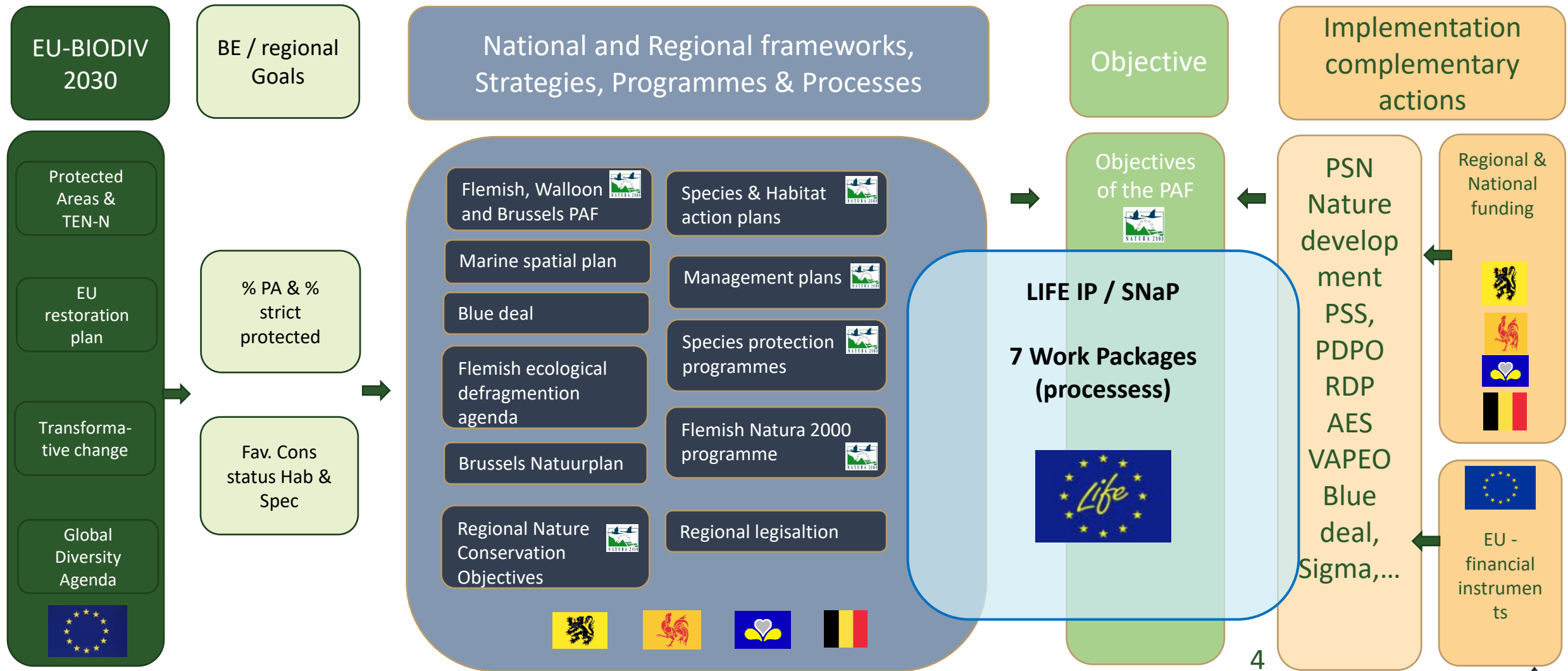
Stakeholders



ZONIËNWOUd



# Implementing EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030 and Natura 2000



## Pillar A:

### Coherent and resilient Trans European Nature network

- Enlarging protected areas
  - National parks - spatial planning
- Connecting protected areas
  - Green blue infrastructure
  - Nature inclusive agriculture
  - Landscape parks
  - Flemish action programme defragmentation
- Managing protected areas
  - Appropriate management
  - PLC tools
  - Compliance promotion

## Pillar B:

### Restoring Biodiversity

- Restoration of ecosystems
  - Development of strategic tools
  - Large scale restoration projects
  - Restoration Marine habitat (oyster banks)
  - Agri-environmental measures (AEM) – nature inclusive agriculture (e.g. paludiculture)
- Species specific programmes
  - Drafting and implementing species programmes
- Habitat specific programmes
  - Drafting and implementing habitat programmes

## Pillar C:

### Reducing Environmental Pressures

- Into the dark: light pollution
- Effluents of highways
- Recreation as a pressure
- Hydrology (floods and desiccation)
- Climate: impact on habitats & species

### ***Pillar D: Transformative change (horizontal measures)***

- **Mainstreaming biodiversity:** relation managers – ambassadors liaise with other policies
- *Training stakeholders/actors: setting up a programme and development of tools (blended learning)*
- *Knowledge network - sharing information: setting up **Interregional Working Groups** (also at EU level) – Actively contribute to the biogeographical processes – set up **interregional working groups** on various topics (tbd)*
- *Awareness raising - **Branding Natura 2000***
- ***Fair transition** with mitigative policy: including nature inclusive agriculture, Business Conservation Partnerships*
- ***National EU project office:** better coordination and agenda setting of large scale restoration projects (higher impact)*



# Expected Impact

## Improved coherence and resilient Trans European Natura Network

- Increased % of protected areas (cf. 30% protected and 10% strict protected areas)
- Connectivity: ecological connections
- Appropriate management of Natura 2000 sites / habitats
- Compliance promotion: reduction of offences

## Restoration

- Contribute to the restoration targets (EU restoration law)
- 30% positive trend of species and habitats in bad conservation status

## Environmental pressures

- New policy about light disturbance and effluents of road infrastructure
- Lower impact of recreation
- Climate change

## Transformative change

- Biodiversity agenda in relevant policies
- Biodiversity known throughout society (communication + capacity building)
- biodiversity related communication to new target groups



# Any Questions?

## More info

[www.LIFEB4B.be](http://www.LIFEB4B.be)

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