



Day 1: Protected areas target

Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process





Theme 1: Strictly protected areas

Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process

Main common challenge

Central concepts must be clear for all MS. They cannot be matter of interpretation.



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How to ensure that national pledges for protected area will actually be implemented?

Sandra Mesquita 11 people (5+6)

- Efforts must be put on explaining people what strict protection means.
- Long-term funding is required, including easements and stewardship agreements for the protection of private areas.
- The increase in protected areas should be planned from the regional scale/authorities to the national scale/authorities.



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How to identify the best areas to improve the coherence and connectivity of the protected areas target?

Sandra Mesquita 11 people (5+6)

- Data on species movements and sensitivity analysis are necessary for defining priorities and planning connectivity.
- Moving from theory to practice and from national to regional will be challenging.
- Connectivity planning must consider its cons, e.g., in human-wildlife interactions, the spread of alien species, and other unpredictable adverse effects.



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How to identify the best areas for strict protection

Carlos Sunyer 21 people (8+7+6)

What to strictly protect

- Remote areas/But not only
- Key criteria for identification:
 - vulnerability and irreplaceability of habitats and species
 - ecological processes and ecosystem integrity should dominate
 - ecosystem services
 - connectivity



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Constraints and barriers to consider

- Economic and social interests
- Land ownership
- Existing Natura 2000



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What management in strict protection areas

- ecological integrity and processes is not the same as wilderness and naturalness. Sometimes ecological integrity and ecosystem processes are maintained by human uses. Whereas the wilderness vision is related to minimum human presence and reduction of human intervention on the system.
- Active management implies biodiversity conservation as the ultimate goal of an action.
 - (Purists) Activities are only acceptable when its purpose is strictly for conservation.
 - (Practicals) If the result of an existing activity has a positive effect, then it could justify its maintenance regardless of the purpose of the activity



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What are OECM and how can they become important for the targets

Irene Bouwma 6 people (6)

- Several Member States are hesitating to put OECMS forward as a way to reach the target as there is uncertainty whether they would qualify
- Also investing time and energy in OECMs is difficult as resources even for the protection of Natura 2000 areas in several Member States are limited
- But OECMs can be beneficial if there are developed by other sectors and also can generate additional funding for biodiversity protection.



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Thank you!!



Title

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Template report, Outcome Theme x:

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Short report (max half page)

- No. of participants
- Question discussed
 - 1 paragraph, with main points discussed (3?)
 - Joint suggestions, solutions, ideas
 - Conclusion, as follow-up?
- 2nd Question



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- How to manage strictly protected areas for management-dependent species and habitats?
- Main issues raised
- Solutions / best practices / suggestions



Thank you!

Natura2000platform@wur.nl

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