

4th Natura 2000 Biogeographical Seminar for the Continental region  
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Italy's approach to the target of non deterioration and improving the conservation status of habitats and species

Daniele De Angelis, *Italian National Institute for Environmental Protection and Research - ISPRA*

Francesca Pani, *Italian Federation of Parks and Natural Reserves – Federparchi*



**Conservation status target of the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2030: non deterioration and 30% conservation improvement of species and habitats in unfavorable / non-secure status.**

No official pledges submitted by Italy on this target yet

Two connected ongoing processes:

Preliminary lists drawn up by ISPRA



Identification of conservation objectives and measures by the regions for all SACs

Given that the pledges must be implemented through the realization of the measures and the achievement of the conservation objectives, the final version of the lists will be produced at the end of the current work on conservation objectives and measures at site-level

# Preliminary Lists

The lists of species and habitats protected by the two Directives have been defined with the technical support of ISPRA.

Habitat and species were included into the 4 sections defined by the European format for submitting national pledges:

1. 30 % target for improving status and trends
2. target of non-deterioration
3. non-deterioration unlikely to be achieved
4. reducing unknowns

ISPRA working group: S. Ercole, A. Aradis, S. Agnesi, P. Angelini, L. Casella, E. Carli, V. Giacanelli, A. Grignetti, G. La Mesa, V. La Morgia, G. Mo, R. Nardelli, I. Prisco, M. Scalisi, L. Serra

Reg_Bioge _Habitat	PROPOSTA TARGET 1=MIGLIORAMEN TO (30%) 2=NON- DETERIORAMEN TO 3=NON	motivazio ni per successiv a valutazio ne con Region A ed	RANKING finale (ranking parziale + ranking di raggiungib ilità	Eur ope an Red List	IV rep ort _co ncl usi	IV rep ort con clu sio	IV rep ort con clu sio	IV rep ort _co ncl usi	IV Re por t_0 VE RA
ALP_9220	1	ranking alto,	854	NT	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1
CON_5330	1	ranking alto,	827,4	VU	FV	U1	FV	FV	U1
ALP_9210	1	ranking alto,	823,5	NT	FV	U1	FV	FV	U1
CON_9540	1	ranking alto,	584	LC	FV	FV	U2	XX	U2
CON_1420	1	ranking alto,	476	NT	U1	FV	FV	U1	U1
ALP_9510	1	ranking alto,	279,5	LC	U1	FV	U1	U1	U1
MED_8320	1	ranking alto, solo	246,25	LC	U1	FV	FV	FV	U1
MED_6130	1	ranking alto,	245,5	EN	FV	U2	U1	U1	U2
MED_9510	1	ranking alto,	202,75	LC	U1	U1	U1	XX	U1
MED_8110	1	ranking alto, FV	197,375	LC	FV	U1	FV	FV	U1
CON_1240	1	ranking alto,	194	LC	U1	FV	FV	U1	U1
CON_5210	1	ranking intermedi	119	LC	FV	U1	FV	U2	U2
MED_8240	1	ranking intermedi	116	LC	U1	FV	XX	FV	U1
CON_6170	1	ranking intermedi	102,8	LC	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1
ALP_4090	1	ranking intermedi	86,25	LC	XX	U2	FV	FV	U2
MED_8120	1	ranking intermedi	84,125	LC	FV	U1	FV	FV	U1
MED_5430	1	ranking intermedi	83	LC	FV	U1	FV	FV	U1
CON_8120	1	ranking intermedi	81,5	LC	FV	U1	FV	FV	U1
CON_2270	1	ranking intermedi	78	LC	U1	U1	FV	U1	U1
MED_7230	1	ranking intermedi	74,8	EN	U1	FV	FV	FV	U1
CON_8110	1	ranking intermedi	67,775	LC	FV	U1	FV	FV	U1
CON_8130	1	ranking intermedi	66,125	LC	FV	U1	FV	FV	U1
MED_4030	1	ranking	66	VU	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1

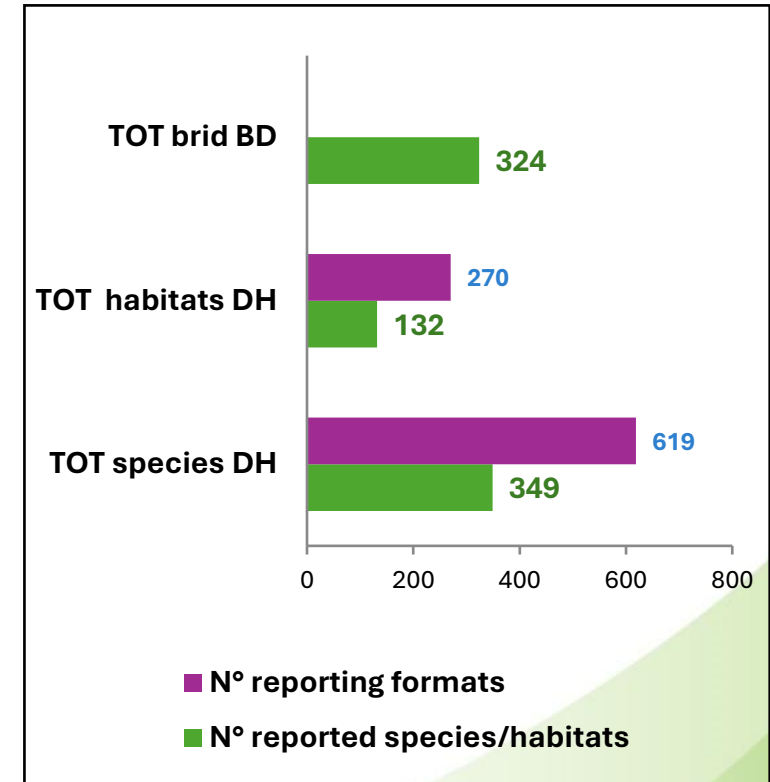
# National responsibility and effort

For Italy, the responsibility for conservation and the commitment required by the Strategy are very high, being influenced by:

- ✓ Number of species and habitats of unional interest present in the MS, very high in Italy (349 species and 132 habitat types of HD and 324 bird pop. reported in 2019)
- ✓ Endemism rate (approx. 40% for flora and 30% for terrestrial and inland water fauna of HD)
- ✓ Number of unfavourable and unknown
  - ✓ 322 “cases” for species
  - ✓ 239 “cases” for habitats
  - ✓ 124 birds populations

«case» = species/habitat + Reg Bio

**Number of species/habitat reported in HD and BD and related formats**  
(data from ISPRA 349/2021 Report)



## Criteria used to assemble the preliminary lists

- The proposed method is based on **a prioritization system based on criteria and specific indicators:**
  - 4 criteria (CE criteria + additional criteria to refine the analysis)
  - Specific indicators have been developed for each criterion, with scoring scales tailored around the peculiarities of each group
  - The final ranking is the overall score obtained for each case, which defines its priority

Species	Reg Bio	Criterion1 indicator 1.1	Criterion1 indicator 1.2	Criterion1 indicator 1.3	Criterion2 indicator 2.1	...	Final Ranking $\Sigma$
Species 1	MED	2	2	2	2	...	8
Species 1	CON	2	1	0	1	...	4
Species 2	CON	...	...	...	...	...	...

# Criteria used to assemble the preliminary lists

## ✓ Criteria proposed by EU Commission:

- Biodiversity criteria
- Synergy with other environmental or climatic targets
- «Low hanging fruit» approach



## ✓ Integrated criteria (CE criteria + ISPRA criteria)

- **Vulnerability** (includes the CE extinction risk criteria)
- **Responsibility** (includes National responsibility and Distribution)
- **Feasibility** (includes LHF)
- **Reachability** (includes LHF)

# Indicators used for each criterion

## ✓ Vulnerability

- Conservation status and overall trends
- Inclusion in IUCN red lists (for species)
- Inclusion in HD Annexes as priority habitat/species

## ✓ Responsibility

- Number of Member States with the species/habitat
- Number of Natura 2000 network sites at national level compared to European level
- Regional responsibility (N° Italian Regions/PA)

## ✓ Feasibility

- Coverage of the species distribution within the Natura 2000 network
- Inclusion in Life projects (from 2010 to present) or Prioritized Action Frameworks (PAFs)
- Is the trend increasing?
- Is the “area” param. FV (for habitats)?

## ✓ Reachability

- Number of parameters (ex.Art 17) unfavorable (IV Report)
- Number of NAT2000 sites with species/habitat
- Specific critical aspects (e.g. long generation times)

# Criteria and indicators: an example for animal species

code	species name	REG BIO	<b>Vu1</b> <u>Vulnerability</u> Overall CS U2=4; U1=2; XX=4	<b>Vu2</b> <u>Vulnerability</u> Overall TREND D=3; S=1; I=1; UNK=1,5	<b>Vu3</b> <u>Vulnerability</u> Priority species HD (*) *=2 no*=1	<b>Vu4</b> <u>Vulnerability</u> IUCN category CR=5 EN=4 VU=3 NT=2 LC=1 DD=3 NE and NA=0,5	<b>Re1</b> <u>UE Responsibility</u> N° Member State 1 MS (End IT)=2; 2 MS =1; 3 - 7 MS=0,5; > 7 MS=0.2	<b>Re2</b> <u>Responsibility</u> % sites IT/EU >90%=4 89-75=3 74-60=2 <59=1	<b>Re3</b> <u>National Responsibility</u> N° italian Region 1 REG=3; 2 REG=2; 3 REG=1; <= 4 REG=0,5	<b>Fa1</b> <u>Feasibility</u> Overall Trend (Stable and Increment) I=2; S=1.5 if CS1/2 <=2; S=1 if CS1/2 >2; D e XX=1	<b>Fa2</b> <u>Feasibility</u> NAT2000 population coverage 4 >=95%; 3= tra 94-80%; 2=tra 79 e 60%; 1=< 60%	<b>Fa3</b> <u>Feasibility</u> LIFE - Best practices with LIFE=2 without LIFE=1	<b>Fa4</b> <u>Feasibility</u> PAF sufficiente=4 minimo=3 scarso=2 nullo=0,5	<b>Ra1</b> <u>Reachability</u> : N. unfavourable CS 1 CS U=4; 3 e 4 U=0,5; resto =1	<b>Ra2</b> <u>Reachability</u> N of B/C NAT2000 sites 1-7 = 4; da 8 a 14= 2; da 15 a 35 = 1.5; da 36 a 64 =1; >65= 0.5
5828	Salmo fibreni	MED	4	3	1	5	2	4	3	1	4	1	0,5	0,5	4
1220	Emys orbicularis	MED	4	3	1	4	0,5	1	0,5	1	2	2	4	0,5	0,5
5357	Bombina pachypus	MED	4	3	1	4	2	4	0,5	1	3	1	4	0,5	0,5

**Emphasise most critical cases**

**Emphasise cases of higher responsibility at National and Regional level**

**Emphasise cases where improvements are expected due to planned/ongoing conservation projects**

**Emphasise cases with lower number of unfavorable parameters and smaller distribution**



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1220	Emys orbicularis	MED	4	3	1	4	0,5	1	0,5	1	2	2	4	0,5	0,5
5357	Bombina pachypus	MED	4	3	1	4	2	4	0,5	1	3	1	4	0,5	0,5

**Emphasise most critical cases**

**Emphasise cases of higher responsibility at National and Regional level**

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**Emphasise cases with lower number of unfavorable parameters and smaller distribution**

**Final ranking = Vulnerability + Responsibility + Feasibility + Reachability**

# Preliminary lists

## TARGET 1 (30% IMPROVEMENT)

- ✓ 24 plants\*
- ✓ 63 animals\*
- ✓ 2 marine animals\*
- ✓ 75 habitats\*
- ✓ 38 bird pop.

## TARGET 2 (NON-DETERIORATING)

- ✓ 43 plants\*
- ✓ 141 animals\*
- ✓ 1 marine animals\*
- ✓ 114 habitats\*
- ✓ 86 bird pop.

## TARGET 3 (NON-REACHABLE)

- ✓ 6 plants\*
- ✓ 1 animals\*
- ✓ 1 marine animals\*
- ✓ 6 habitats\*
- ✓ 5 bird pop.

## TARGET 4 (REDUCTION OF XX)

- ✓ 8 plants\*
- ✓ 7 animals\*
- ✓ 22 marine habitats and species\*
- ✓ 19 habitats\*
- ✓ 93 bird pop.



## FINAL STEPS

A review of the preliminary lists drawn up by ISPRA in the light of the outcomes of the objectives and measures standard form will provide a second draft of the pledges to be submitted to the regions for their technical review and final approval.



### Final lists, realistic approach

- Then it is envisaged to submit the pledges to the Committee for the National Biodiversity Strategy for a vote
- Finally the lists will be transmitted to the Commission

This road map would not end before the first half of 2025. In the meantime Italian regions, in line with the PAFs, are implementing active restoration measures with EU funds, especially the ERDF.

Furthermore, to speed up the process and to provide additional financial support, **the Ministry has allocated a fund** (15 million euros over 2023 and 2024) **focused primarily on the implementation of restoration measures in N2000 sites**, inviting the regions to concentrate their activities in a coordinate manner on habitats and species included in the preliminary list n.1 (30% improvement).

A wide-angle photograph of a mountain valley. The foreground shows a dense forest of evergreen trees on a slope. The middle ground is a deep valley with a river or stream winding through it, surrounded by green slopes and patches of forest. The background features high, rugged mountain peaks under a clear blue sky.

**Thank you for your  
attention!**

[daniele.deangelis@isprambiente.it](mailto:daniele.deangelis@isprambiente.it)  
[pani.francesca@mase.gov.it](mailto:pani.francesca@mase.gov.it)