



# EU biodiversity strategy to 2020 - towards implementation

## Polish Presidency perspective

In-depth Biodiversity Strategy Conclusions  
*Planning for biodiversity conference conclusions*



## Roadmap for Biodiversity Conclusions

- 3 May 2011 - Communication from the Commission
- 21 June 2011 - Council Conclusions - the Council endorsed the EU Biodiversity Strategy and its six targets, the actions should be further discussed
- 21 October 2011 (WPE) – presentation of the draft of the in-depth Conclusions , start of negotiation process
- 19 December 2011 (ENVI Council) – adoption of the Conclusions



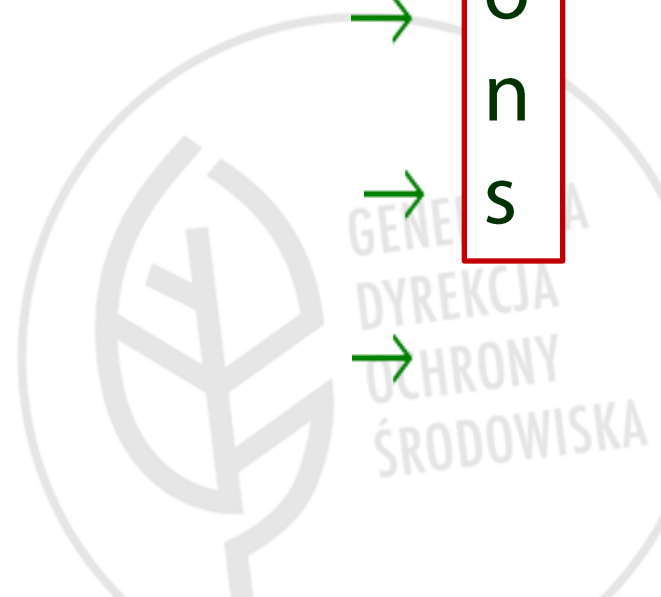
# EU Biodiversity Strategy

the headline target

To halt the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services in the EU and restore them insofar as feasible, and step up the EU's contribution to averting global biodiversity loss

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## Horizontal issues:

- There is a need to integrate and mainstream biodiversity targets in the development and implementation of all relevant national and EU policies.
- It is crucial for all related sectors, both public and private, and other stakeholders to cooperate and contribute in order to achieve the 2020 headline target.
- Actions aimed at protecting, valuing and restoring biodiversity and ecosystem services, within and beyond Natura 2000 sites are essential for meeting Europe's resource efficiency goals and the sustainable growth objective of the Europe 2020 Strategy.



**The Biodiversity Strategy in-depth conclusions do not prejudge the outcomes of the negotiations on the Multiannual Financial Framework for the period 2014-2020 and are intended to feed into the ongoing discussions on the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) in order to promote concrete environmental outcomes.**



# Desirable conclusions – selected aspects

## **Full implementation of the Birds and Habitats Directives:**

- The Member States should complete the establishment of the Natura 2000 network, develop and implement management plans or other equivalent instruments which set out conservation measures for Natura 2000 sites, thereby establishing a solid basis for strategic planning with a view to subsequent implementation of the MFF 2014-2020.

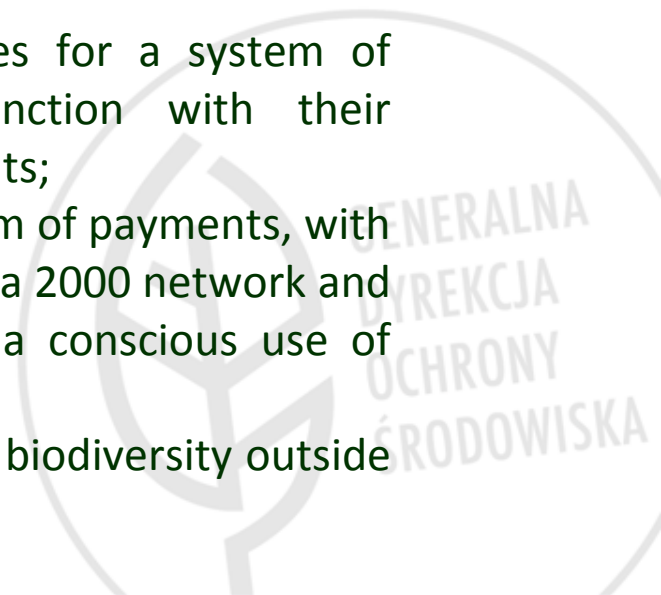
## **Maintain and restore ecosystems and their services:**

- Common approach is needed for the implementation in the EU of the 'no net loss' principle.
- Existing experience on the basis of in-depth discussions with Member States and stakeholders should be taken into account to introduce the clear definition, scope, operating principles, management and support instruments before „no net loss” implementation.



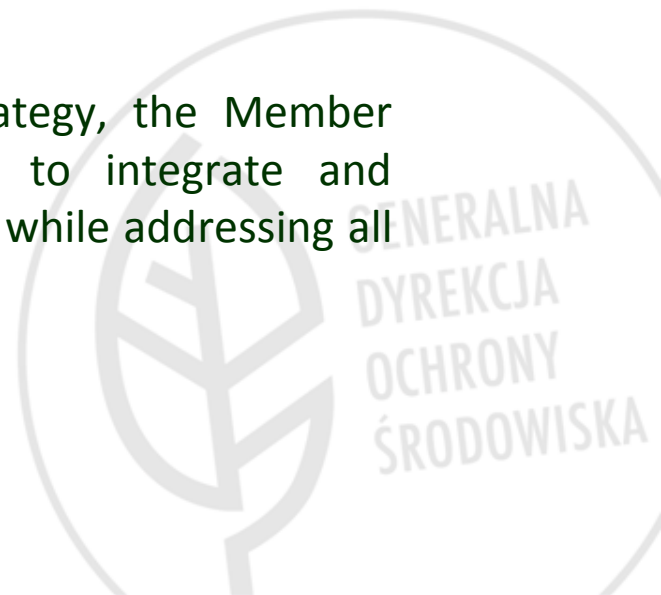
## Increase the contribution of agriculture and forestry to maintaining and enhancing biodiversity:

- In respect of the environmental objectives in the CAP there is a need to underline the importance of:
  - protection and support of permanent grasslands and environmental focus areas at farm level;
  - compensation to farmers and forest holders for the costs incurred and income forgone which result from disadvantages related to mandatory management requirements on agricultural and forestry land within Natura 2000 network;
  - promotion and simplification of the procedures for a system of payments for Natura 2000 sites in conjunction with their management plans or other equivalent instruments;
  - promotion of incentives and rewards in the system of payments, with the aim of increasing public support for the Natura 2000 network and biodiversity within wider landscape facilitating a conscious use of good practices in local communities;
  - contribution to the protection and restoration of biodiversity outside Nature 2000 sites.



## **Increase the contribution of agriculture and forestry to maintaining and enhancing biodiversity:**

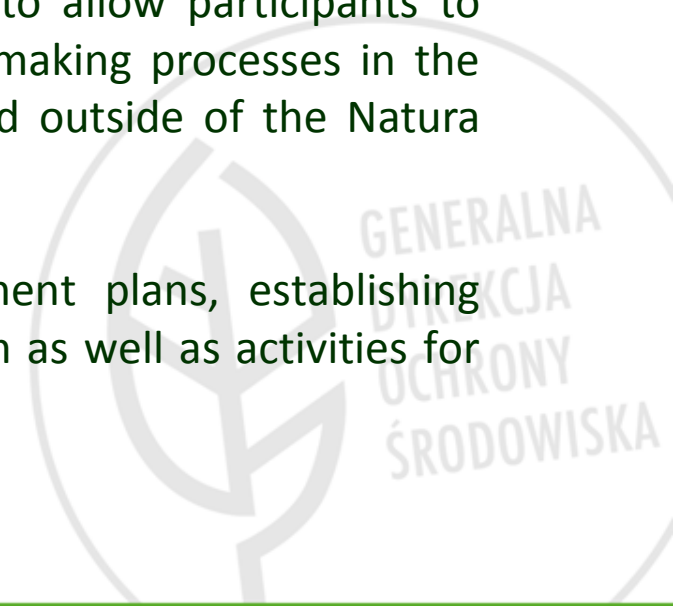
- The Member States are encouraged to widespread adoption and implementation of Forest Management Plans or equivalent instruments, inter alia, through effective application of rural development measures.
- There is the need to include appropriate biodiversity-friendly measures for conservation and recovery of protected species and habitats, in forest management plans or equivalent instruments.
- During ongoing work on the future EU Forest Strategy, the Member States, Commission and stakeholders are invited to integrate and mainstream biodiversity into policies affecting forests while addressing all three pillars of sustainability.





# Planning for biodiversity conference conclusions

- The conference *Planning for biodiversity* took place on 7-9 November 2011 in Warsaw. It was the main event concerning a biodiversity – one of the priorities of environmental sector under Polish Presidency on the EU Council.
- The subject-matter of the conference falls within the scope of EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy.
- Participants have discussed different aspects of spatial planning (both on land and sea) as effective tool in biodiversity conservation. Experiences and best practises from EU countries have been presented to allow participants to evaluate how land-use planning supports decision-making processes in the scope of protecting habitats and species within and outside of the Natura 2000 network.
- Presentations dealt with integration of management plans, establishing green infrastructure, innovative financial mechanism as well as activities for nature conservation and planning of marine areas.



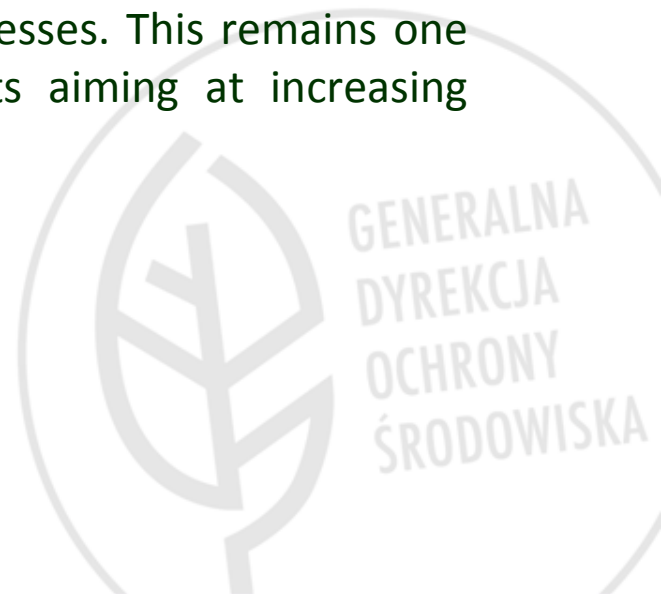
## SELECTED ISSUES:

- There is a need to ensure the continuous deepening of the integration of spatial planning and other policies managing space with nature conservation based on the best knowledge and strengthening the cooperation at national and EU level, through the guidance of implementation exchange of experience and good practices, with particular emphasis on cross-sectoral cooperation.
- Spatial planning in the EU requires incentives within the next financial perspective as a continuous support of green infrastructure planning initiatives and development and implementation of management plans for Natura 2000 sites, and plans for marine areas.



## SELECTED ISSUES:

- It is important to make every effort to strongly promote and support innovative financing mechanisms, particularly aiming at the creation, restoration and strengthening of ecosystems, also in conjunction with the functioning of protected areas.
- Economic, health and cultural natural values of the ecosystems have been underestimated or disregarded in the planning processes. This remains one of the main arguments for continuation of efforts aiming at increasing awareness and public sensitivity about those values.



Thank you!



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