

The EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030

Bringing nature back into our
lives

European Green Deal - *von der Leyen Commission*



European Union

CLIMATE
PACT AND
CLIMATE
LAW

PROMOTING
CLEAN
ENERGY

INVESTING IN
SMARTER,
MORE
SUSTAINABLE
TRANSPORT

PROTECTING
NATURE

STRIVING
FOR
GREENER
INDUSTRY

The European Green Deal

FROM FARM
TO FORK

ELIMINATING
POLLUTION

LEADING THE
GREEN CHANGE
GLOBALLY

ENSURING
A JUST TRANSITION
FOR ALL

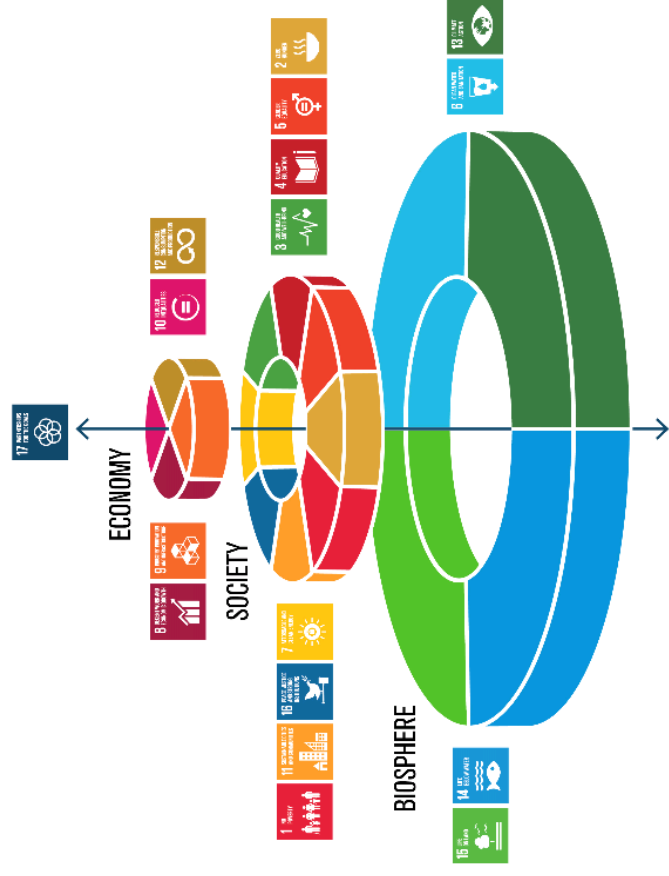
FINANCING
GREEN
PROJECTS

MAKING
HOMES ENERGY
EFFICIENT



Biodiversity underpins sustainable development

- Biodiversity loss: key threats for humanity
- Almost half of global GDP is linked to nature
- Connections between biodiversity loss, climate change and pandemics
- Restoring biodiversity core part of recovery



Graphics by Jerker Lokrantz/Azote

Biodiversity and the pandemics: the issue

- The Covid-19 crisis raised awareness on the links between human health and the health of ecosystems and shows the urgent need to protect and restore nature
- The risk of emergence and spread of infectious diseases increases and nature is destroyed (as stated in the IPBES 2019 report)
- Protecting and restoring biodiversity will lead to a more resilient society



Biodiversity and the pandemics: the recovery

- The business case for biodiversity is compelling: over half of global GDP depends on nature and the services it provides; forestry is entirely dependent on it.
- Natural capital investment (e.g. restoration of carbon-rich habitats, climate-friendly agriculture) is among the most important recovery areas.
- One example: planting 3 billion additional trees by 2030 offers substantial job opportunities linked to seeds, seedlings and planting/monitoring/follow-up.



Elements of the EU Biodiversity Strategy



Protect Nature



Enable Transformative
Change



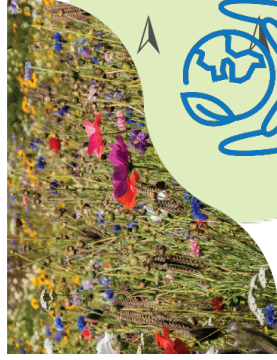
Restore Nature



EU For An Ambitious
Global Agenda



Protect Nature



Protect 30% of EU land and sea

Based on Natura 2000 and nationally designated areas

EU wide target, take into account specific situation in MS

Integrate ecological corridors to build coherent network

Strictly protect a third of these areas

Covering areas of very high biodiversity value & important for mitigation and adaptation to climate change, **including all primary and old growth forest***

*** OGF have to be defined and mapped**



Restore Nature



EU Restoration Plan with 2030 commitments (1):

Legally binding targets to be proposed in 2021

No deterioration of any protected habitats and species by 2030:
trend to be positive for at least 30%

Agroecology: Organic farming >25%

Biodiverse landscape features >10%

reduction by 50% the use & risk of chemical pesticides and reduce
by 50% the use of more hazardous pesticides

Reduction of nutrient losses by at least 50%

Plant 3 billion additional trees respecting ecological principles



Restore Nature



EU Restoration Plan with 2030 commitments (2):

Reverse decline in pollinators

Remediate contaminated soil sites

Restore 25,000km free flowing rivers

New Urban Greening Platform: the Green City Accord

Halve the number of 'red list' species threatened by Invasive Alien Species

Reduction of damage to seabed, bycatch



Enable Transformative Change



Governance framework

Unlocking financing

Business engagement

Knowledge, education

Promotion of Nature-Based Solutions



EU for an ambitious global agenda



EU's position for the post-2020 biodiversity framework

- 2050 goals in line with UN vision: *“living in harmony with nature”*
- Ambitious global 2030 goals and targets
- Improved means of implementation: finance, capacity, research, know-how and technology
- Much stronger implementation, monitoring and review
- A fair and equitable share of the benefits from the use of genetic resources linked to biodiversity.
- Equality, rights of IPLCs, involvement of all stakeholders



EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL

EU BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY FOR
2030

NEW EU FOREST STRATEGY



Forests in the EU Green Deal: the problem

About half of total greenhouse gas emissions and > 90% of biodiversity loss and water stress come from resource extraction and processing of materials, fuels and food.

EU and its global partners need to halt biodiversity loss.

Forest ecosystems are under increasing pressure, as a result of climate change.

The EU's forested area needs to improve, both in quality and quantity, for the EU to reach climate neutrality and a healthy environment.

Sustainable re- and afforestation and the restoration of degraded forests can increase absorption of CO₂ while improving the resilience of forests and promoting the circular bio-economy.



Forests in the EU Green Deal: related actions

- requirements to ensure that all packaging in the EU market is reusable or
- regulatory framework for biodegradable and bio-based plastics
- regulatory and non-regulatory efforts to tackle false green claims
- further legislation and guidance on green public purchasing
- legal requirements to boost the market of secondary raw materials with mandatory recycled content
- ‘renovation wave’ of public and private buildings.



Forests in the EU Green Deal: the actions

Building on the 2030 biodiversity strategy the Commission will prepare a **new EU Forest Strategy**.

Its **key objectives** are: **afforestation, forest preservation and restoration in Europe** in order to:

- help increase CO2 absorption
- reduce the incidence and extent of forest fires
- promote the bioeconomy in full respect for ecological principles favourable to biodiversity
- incentivize forest managers to preserve grow and manage sustainably through the CAP
- promote the import of products that do not involve deforestation and forest degradation



Forests in the BDS (1)

- Increase the **quantity, quality and resilience** of EU forests, notably against fires, pests and other disturbances
- All forests need to be preserved in **good health to retain their functions for biodiversity and climate**, as well as to provide materials, products and services for the **circular bio-economy**
- **EU Forest Strategy in 2021, building on the EU Biodiversity Strategy**
- Further development of the **Forest Information System for Europe (FISE)**, linking all EU forest-data web-platforms



Forests in the BDS (2)

Afforestation, reforestation and tree planting

- **Plant at least 3 billion additional trees** in the EU by 2030 in full respect of ecological principles, special focus on cities and agroforestry
- To be promoted via the CAP strategic plans and the cohesion policy funds + new European Urban Greening Platform and LIFE
- Commission to develop, in parallel with new EU forest strategy, **guidelines on biodiversity-friendly afforestation and reforestation**



Forests in the BDS (3)

Forest management

- The share of forest areas covered by **management plans** should cover all managed public forests and an increased number of private forests
- Biodiversity-friendly practices such as **closer-to-nature forestry** should continue and be further developed
- Commission to develop, in parallel with the new EU Forest Strategy, **guidelines on closer-to-nature forestry practices**



Forests in the BDS strategy (energy generation)

- Continue the approach of the Renewable Energy Directive, extending to **all forms of bioenergy** the shift to advanced biofuels based on residues and non-reusable and non-recyclable waste
- The **use of whole trees** and food & feed crops for energy production, whether produced in the EU or imported, **should be minimised**
- Assessment of EU and global **biomass supply & demand** by end 2020, to be used for the revision of relevant legislation in line with the European Green Deal
- Operational guidance on the new sustainability criteria on forest biomass for energy (2021)



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!



More info at:

https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/biodiversity/strategy/index_en.htm

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- Slide 6-12, 1515; source: www.Gettyimages.com; Slide 3: Source: IPBES Global assessment 2019; Slide 4: graphic by Jerker Lokrantz/Azote

