



Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process

*Forum Natur Euregio-Maas-Rhein, Klever Treffen
Aachen, 28 – 30 April 2016*

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Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process



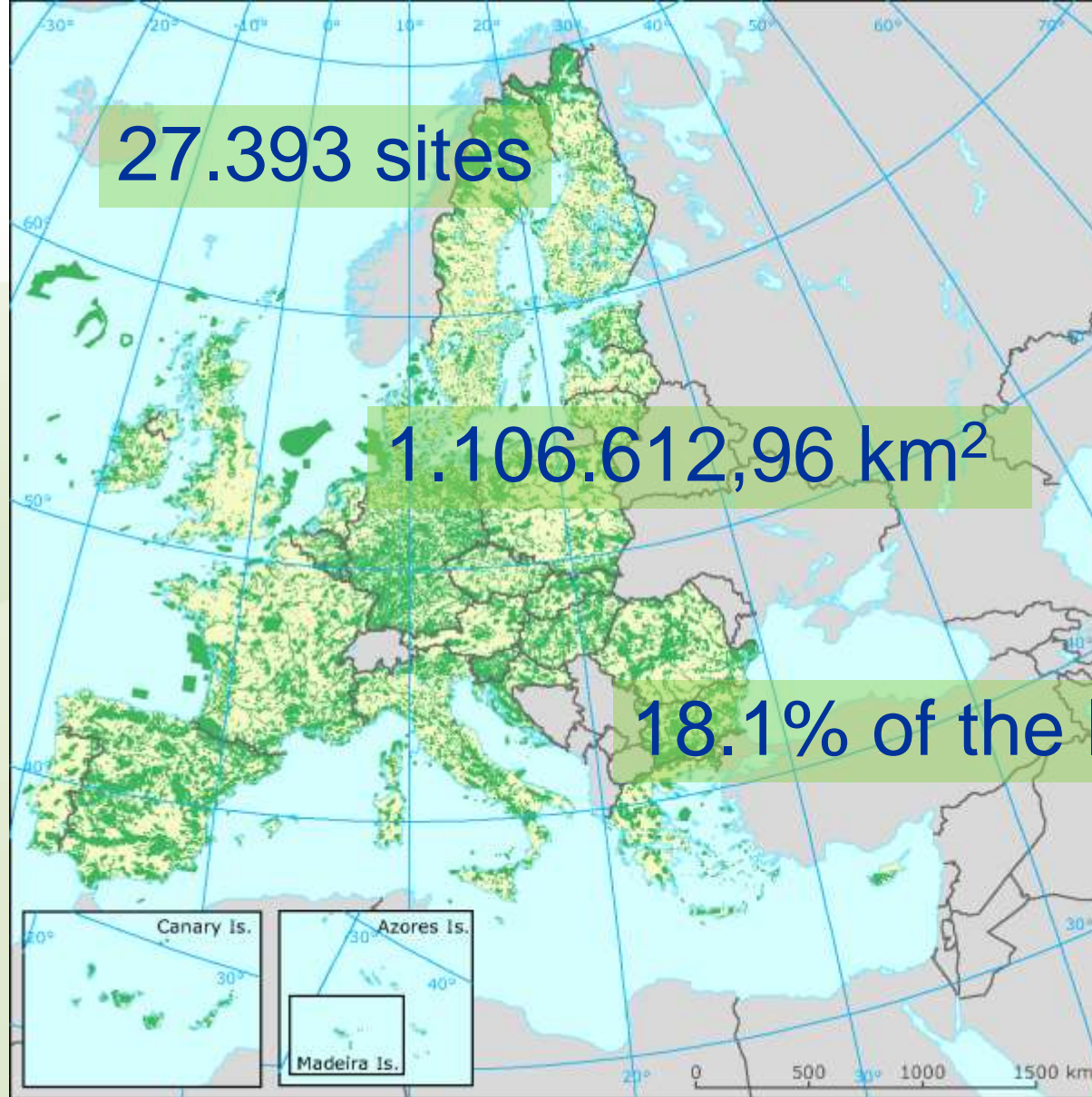
Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process

The Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process



This presentation

- Background and context
- The Process
- The Communication Platform
- Zooming into the Atlantic region: issues and actions
- Future steps and cooperation





Distribution of Natura 2000 sites across the EU, 2013

-  Natura 2000 sites
-  Outside European Union

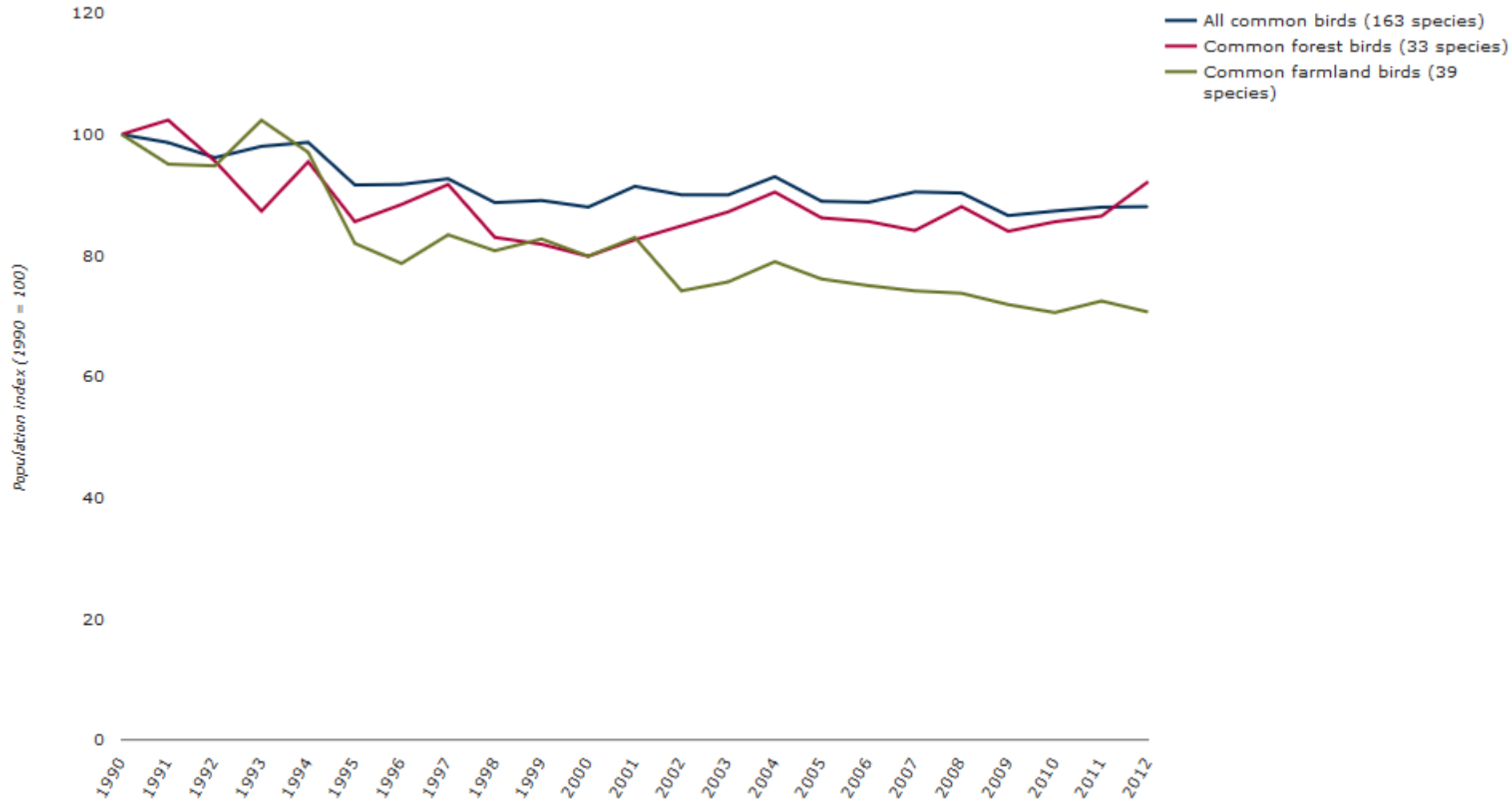
27.393 sites

1.106.612,96 km²

18.1% of the land area



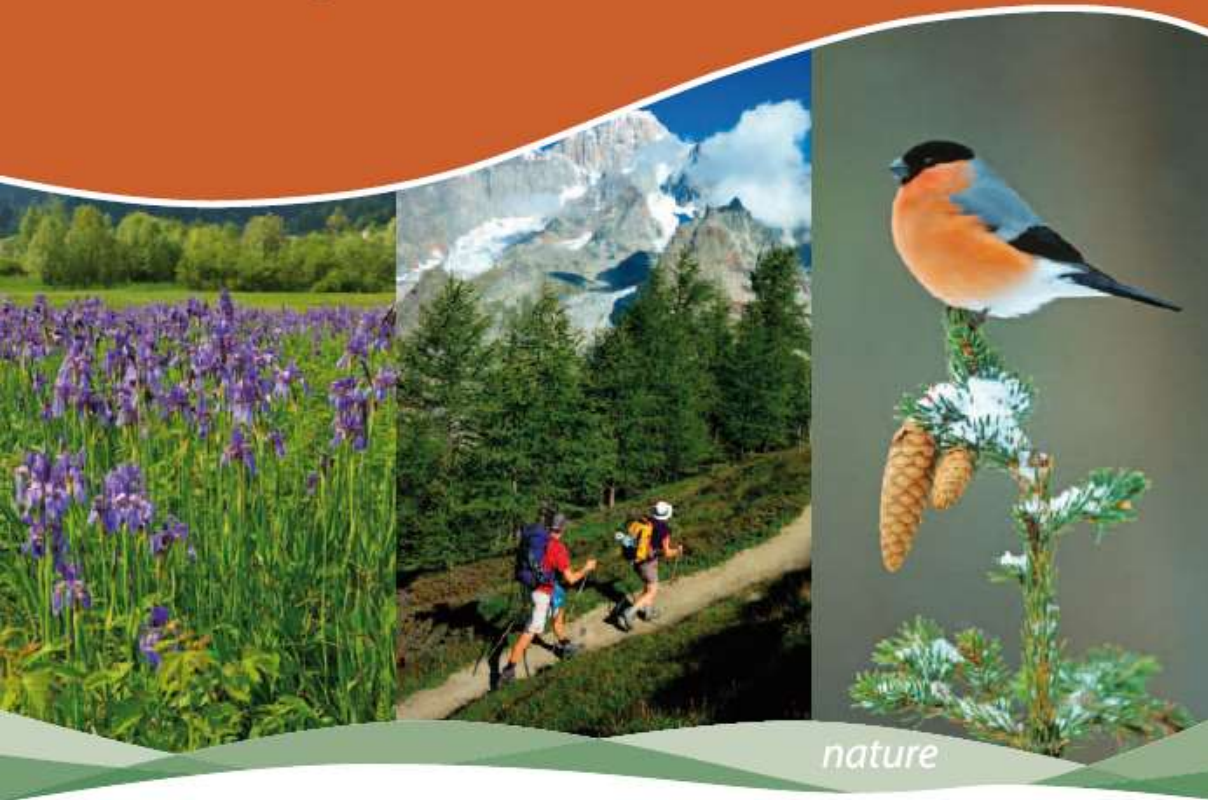
Chart — Common Birds in Europe, population index (1990 = 100)



The EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2020

Protect species and habitats - Target 1

By 2020, the assessments of species and habitats protected by EU nature law show better conservation or a secure status for 100 % more habitats and 50 % more species.



nature



Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process

Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process in a nutshell

- **WHY?** In support of Target 1 of the Biodiversity Strategy
- **WHEN?** Launch in 2011
- **WHERE?** EU, at Biogeographical level
- **WHO?** All Natura 2000 stakeholders
- **WHAT?** Networking, information exchange and cooperation
- **HOW?** **Events** (workshops, seminars, networking events, study tours etc) & **Communication platform** + forum



Governance

Expert Group on Natura 2000 Management

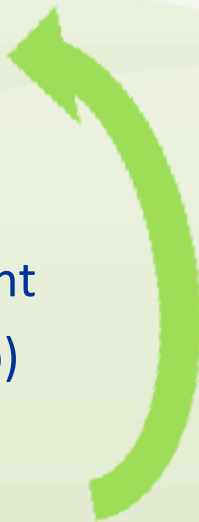
One Steering Committee per biogeographical region:

- Member States
- European Commission
- European Environmental Agency
- European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity
- European Habitats Forum
- Natura 2000 Users Forum



Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process Cycle

- Pre scoping document
- Steering Committee
- Expert consultation
- Seminar Input Document
- (Preparatory Workshop)
- Seminar
- Networking Events



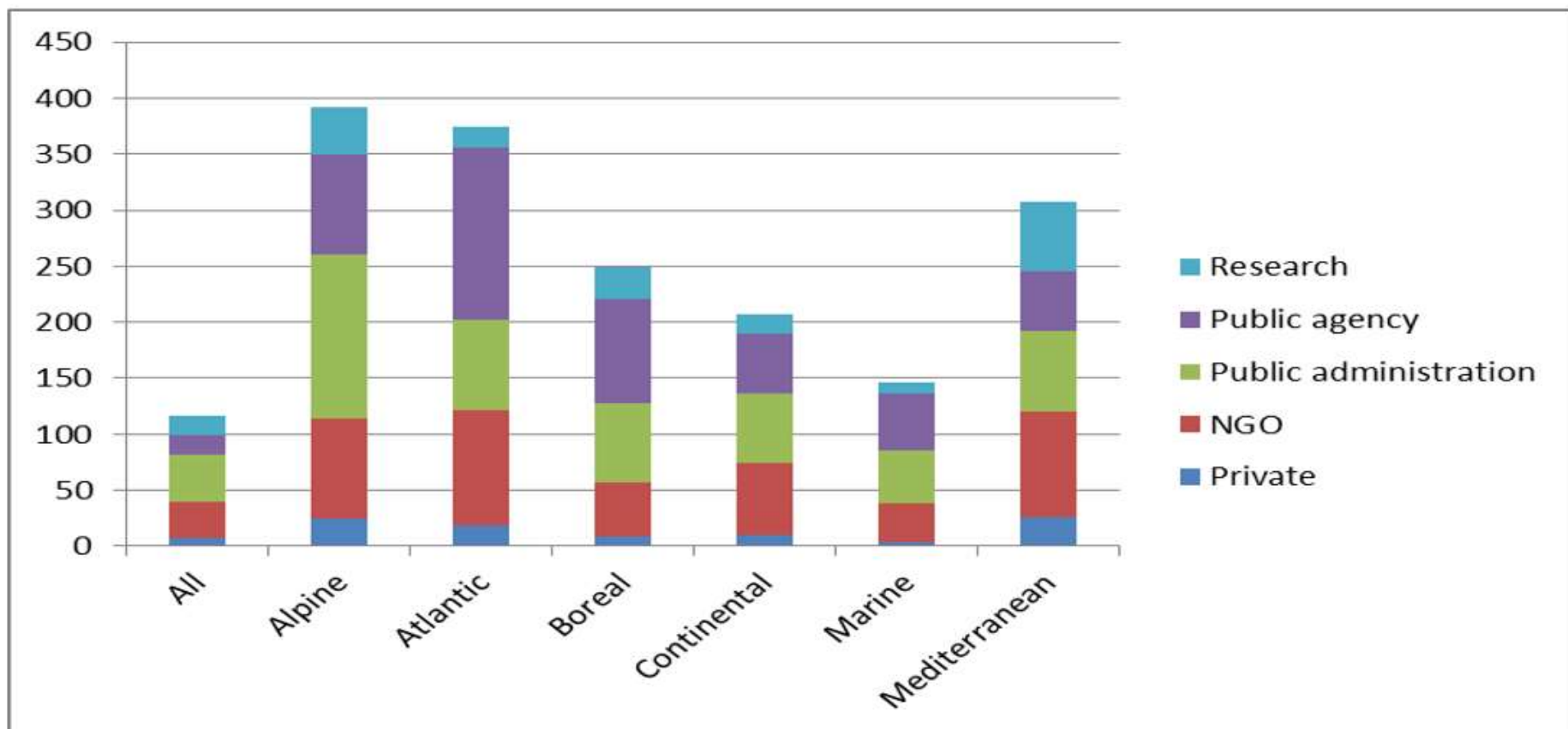


Up-coming follow-up events in the different biogeographical regions

BGR	Title	Place	Dates
Continental	European Workshop on Control and Eradication of IAS	Budapest, Hungary	19 – 21 April
Mediterranean	Workshop on Mediterranean forest management and Natura 2000	Gordes (near Carvaillon), France	May
Atlantic	LIFE Platform meeting on restoration of sand dune habitats	Zandvoort, Netherlands	15 – 17 June
Alpine/Continental	Forest management and Natura 2000 in the Alpine and Continental region	Padova, Italy	21 – 23 June
Boreal	Grand Tour on Restoration	Finland, etc	August
Atlantic	Management of Nature 2000 sites in Estuaries and Sea Ports	Hamburg, Germany	15 – 16 September
Atlantic/All	Bosland 10 Years Conference – people and Nature in Partnership	Lommel, Belgium	12 – 14 October
Marine	Workshop linked to MedPAN Forum	Morocco	28 November – 1 December
Marine	Event linked to LIFE MarPro project final conference	Portugal	Tbc
Atlantic	Thematic Twinning Project	Tbc	Tbc



Figure 1: Number of active participants in the Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process events per institution type

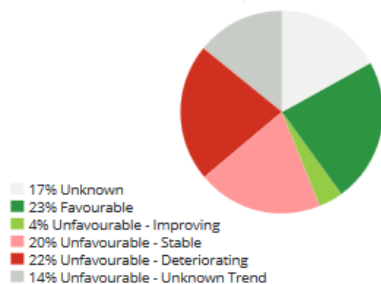


Poor conservation status

Species

Overall, 23% of the EU-level species assessments are favourable and 4% are unfavourable but improving; 20% are stable, 22% are deteriorating and 17% are unknown.

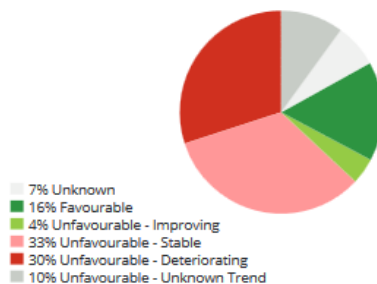
Conservation status and trends of species



Habitats

Overall, 16% of the EU-level habitat assessments are favourable and 4% are improving; 33% are unfavourable but stable. A further 30% are still deteriorating, which is a serious cause for concern. Only 7% of the assessments are unknown.

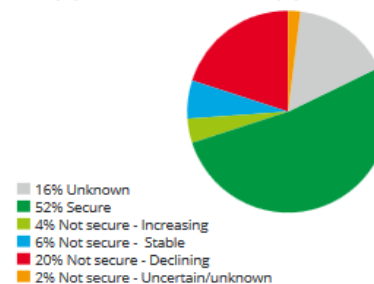
Conservation status and trends of habitats



EU bird population status and trends

Over half (52%) of the bird species assessments have a secure population status. Short-term trends indicate that some 4% of all bird species are non-secure but increasing, and 6% are stable, even if a further 20% are declining.

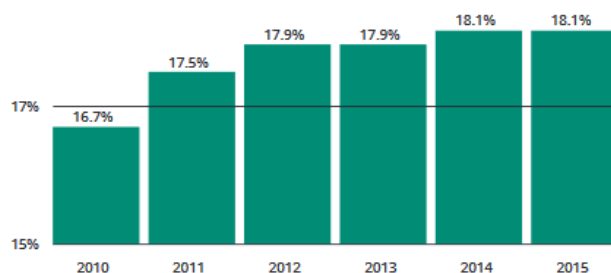
Birds' population status and short-term population trends



Natura 2000 network extended

Since 2010, the network of Natura 2000 sites has progressed and is largely completed for terrestrial and inland water habitats covering about 18% of the land surface. The coverage of the marine network has increased to more than 300.000 km² in 2014.

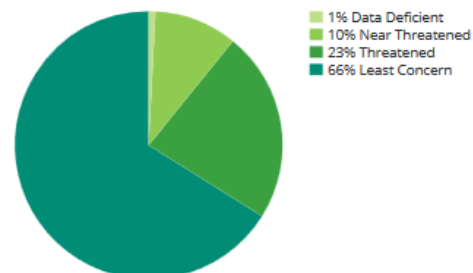
Share of EU land area covered by Natura 2000 sites.



Many species threatened with extinction

Overall, at least 23% species are threatened in EU. Freshwater species - mollusc (55%) and freshwater fish (43%) - are the groups with the highest proportion of threatened species, together with marine mammals (43%), followed by amphibians (22%), reptiles (21%) and birds (18%).

Species facing the risk of extinction which have had a complete assessment at EU level between 2007 and 2015.



Midterm Review

Target 1

Fully implement the Birds and Habitats Directives

Progress but at insufficient rate

The latest report on the state of nature in the EU shows that the number of species and habitats in secure/favourable or improved conservation status has increased slightly since the 2010 baseline. However, many habitats and species that were already in unfavourable status remain so, and some are deteriorating further. While much has been achieved since 2011 in carrying out the actions under this target, the most important challenges remain the completion of the Natura 2000 marine network, ensuring the effective management of Natura 2000 sites, and securing the necessary finance to support the Natura 2000 network.



Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process

Future Developments

The main elements concern:

- Stronger focus to meeting the EU 2020 Biodiversity Objectives;
- Biogeographical level favourable reference values;
- Strengthening the Marine aspects of the process;
- Analysis of the Article 17 reporting;
- Identified National Priorities (PAFs);
- Identifying 'low-hanging fruit': habitats and species identified for priority consideration as well as more challenging issues;
- Appropriate measures for conservation status according to scale.



The Second Atlantic Seminar (22 – 25 October 2016, Ireland)

- First seminar organised according to new strategic orientations;
- Joint working with ETC/BD – Article 17 analysis/State of Nature Report;
- Themes and topics for specific focus to be defined;
- Expert consultation process (May to June) > Seminar Input Document by end of September;
- Programme to follow model of previous seminars, adapted according to recent discussions.



Natura 2000 Platform

- http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/platform/index_en.htm

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European Commission

ENVIRONMENT

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Natura 2000 Communication Platform

This communication platform supports Natura 2000 site managers, policymakers, civil society organizations and land managers in their efforts to achieve favourable conservation status of Europe's most precious habitats. It offers access to available management knowledge, relevant contacts, a forum for discussion, as well as relevant events, documents and news.

[Read more...](#)

Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process Newsletter

Issue 6 of the Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process Newsletter is online now!
View this latest edition (October 2015) [here](#).

The newsletter will be circulated bimonthly to provide you with an overview of progress within the Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process. It contains relevant Natura 2000 developments within each of the biogeographical regions, the latest news items, forthcoming networking events and links to other useful resources. Previous editions of the newsletter are available in the [newsletter section](#).

If you would like to receive the Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process Newsletter in your mailbox as soon as it comes out, [please subscribe here](#).

Latest news

[Natura 2000 Monitoring workshop was a success!](#)

[The 2016 edition of the Natura 2000 Award is open!](#)

[Natura 2000 Thematic Networking Event: "How can we make the Water Framework Directive and the Birds and Habitats Directives work together?"](#)

[Final report of the Continental Biogeographical Region Kick-off Seminar online](#)

[Natura 2000 Farming and Biodiversity Conference](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Life in all forms - Cool Summit](#)

[Follow up event of the Natura 2000 annual for the Contaminated, Black, Sea and Steep Regions](#)

[Europe's most polluting countries committed to a slow death by the CAP?](#)

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Platform statistics

Content uploads to date:

- 445 documents
- 69 news items
- 105 relevant links
- 7 Funding opportunities
- 195 listed experts ([link](#))
- 816 listed organisations ([link](#))
- 126 Expert Input Pages ([link](#))
- 8 regular and 1 special edition Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process Newsletters ([link](#))



Natura 2000 Platform – important developments



- An advanced document and information management system has been developed
- Digital newsletter developed and circulated (bi-monthly)
- Facility for users to submit expert and organisational profiles
- Access to information through an interactive biogeographical map
- Page with Natura 2000 funding opportunities
- Links developing with LIFE database
- REQUEST - please, promote & participate > share your details!



Developments in progress



- Further integration of the LIFE Database into BGR info pages is being developed
- New specialised BGR info pages tailored at providing specific information on indicated habitat types
- An image library is under development
- Individual feedback pages for platform users are being developed
- REQUEST - please, get involved & participate > you are each others' resource!



Natura 2000 Platform forum



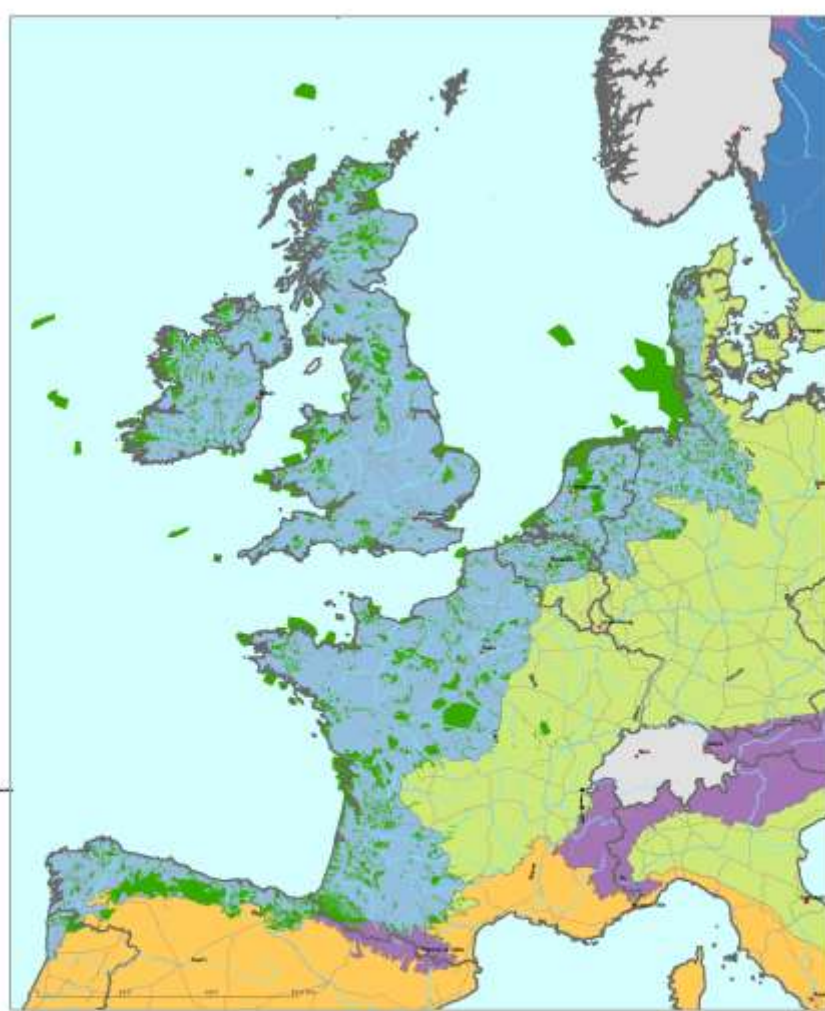
The screenshot displays the Natura 2000 Platform forum interface. At the top, there is a blue header with the forum's name and logo. Below the header, there is a search bar and a navigation menu. The main content area features a table with columns for 'TOPIC', 'POSTS', and 'LAST POST'. The table lists several topics, including 'Natura 2000 Platform', 'Natura 2000 Communication Platform', 'Add to process', 'Assessment of biogeographical regions', and 'Biogeographical regions'. Each topic has a corresponding number of posts and a date for the last post. Below the table, there is a search bar with a 'Find' button and a 'Go' button. At the bottom, there is a footer with the text 'The last communication of member 13 at 11:00'.

- 65 members
- 18 topics
- 35 posts
- >50 000 views
- Ideal place to post questions and issues regarding Natura 2000 and the Process. Please be engaged!



Atlantic Biogeographical Region

- UK
- Ireland
- Denmark
- Germany
- Netherlands
- Belgium
- France
- Spain
- Portugal





© Steven Lek

20 - 21 June 2012



Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process



© Edward van Vliet

3 – 5 December 2012



Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process



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Management of Natura 2000 sites in Estuaries and Sea Ports
Hamburg (DE), 15 – 16 September 2016



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LIFE Platform meeting on restoration of sand dune habitats
Zandvoort (NL), 15 – 17 June



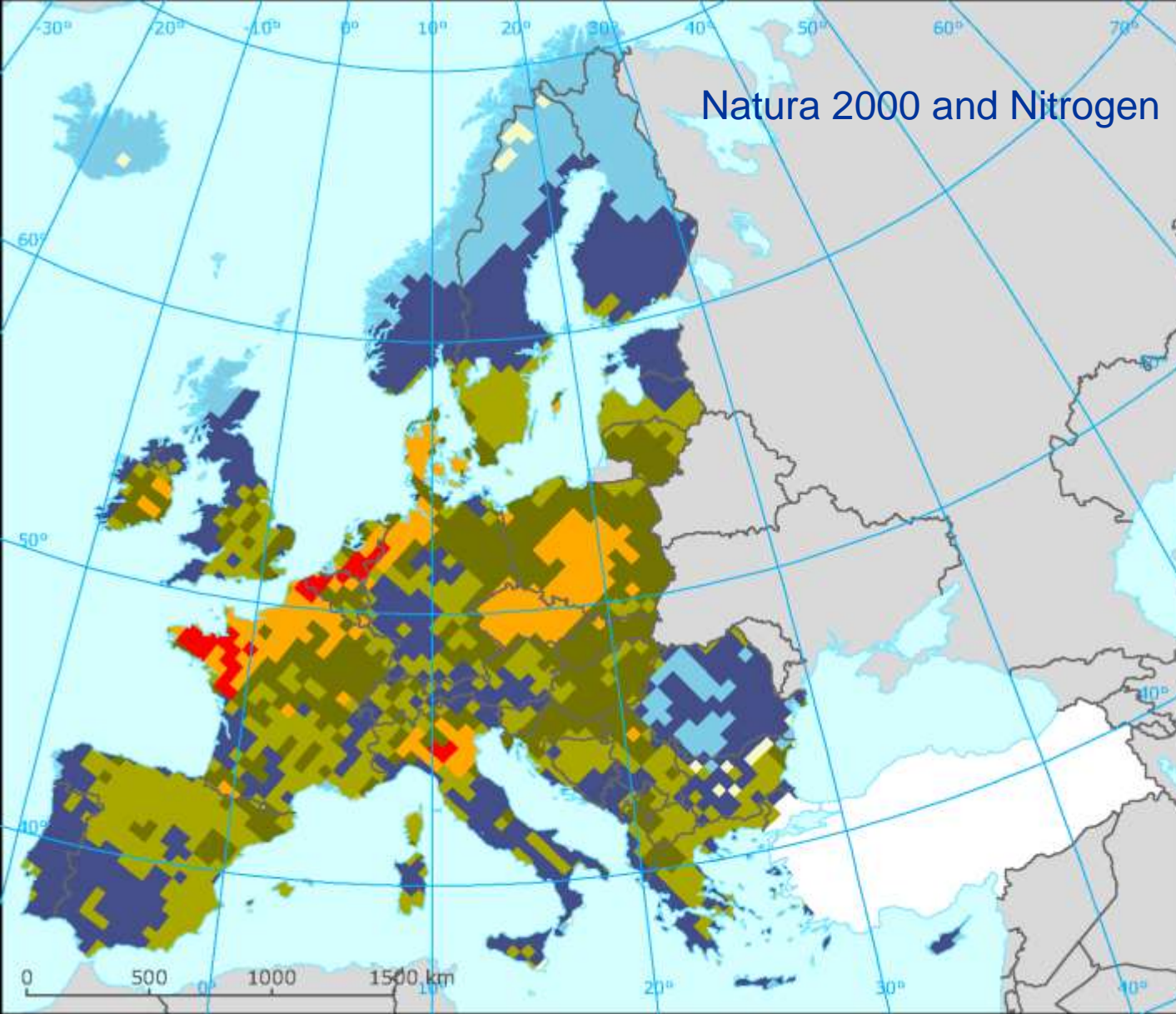
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Cross cutting issues

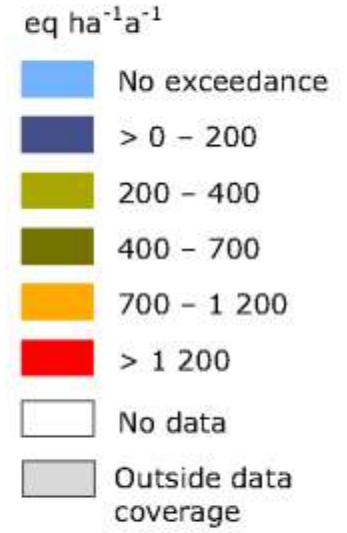
- Climate change
- Habitat fragmentation / connectivity
- Stakeholder involvement
- Cross-border cooperation
- Eutrophication



Natura 2000 and Nitrogen



Exceedance of nutrient critical loads, 2010





© Agrifoto

Nitrogen Deposition and the Nature Directives Impacts and Responses: Our Shared Experiences.

Workshop, Peterborough, (UK), 2-4 December 2013



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Dutch Nitrogen Tour
Drenthe (NL), November 2015

Dutch Nitrogen Tour

- Share experiences with regards to:

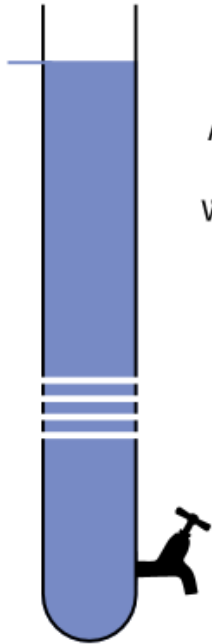
The Dutch Approach to Nitrogen

(Programmatische Aanpak Stikstof, PAS)

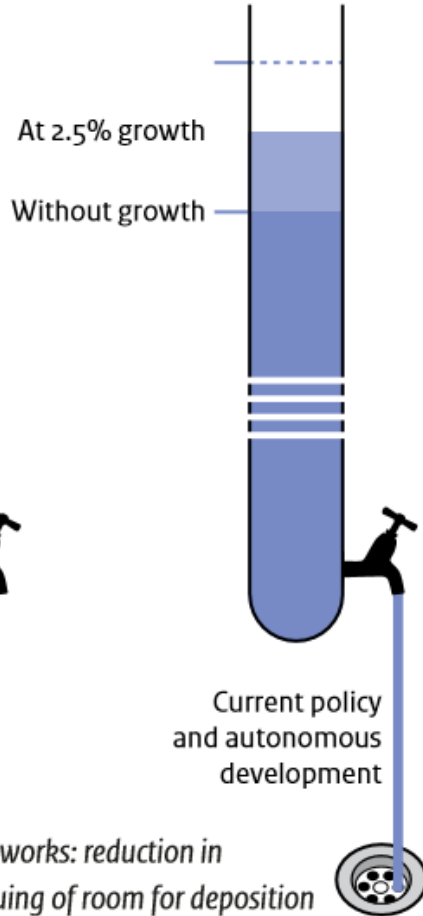


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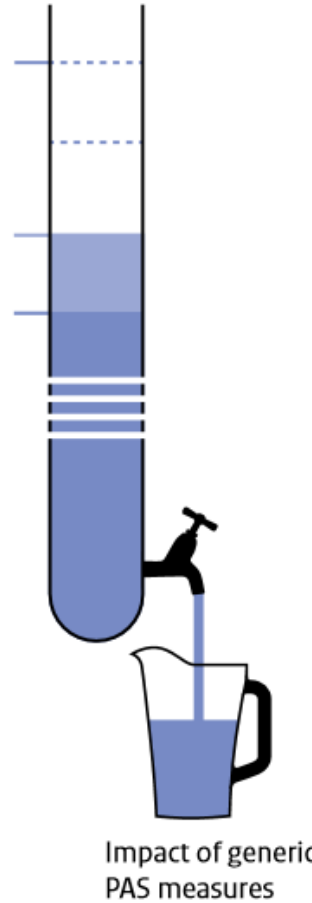
1. Total deposition in PAS base year (time of programme implementation)



2. Reduction of deposition without the PAS



3. Reduction of deposition with generic agricultural measures



4. Reduction of deposition with the PAS

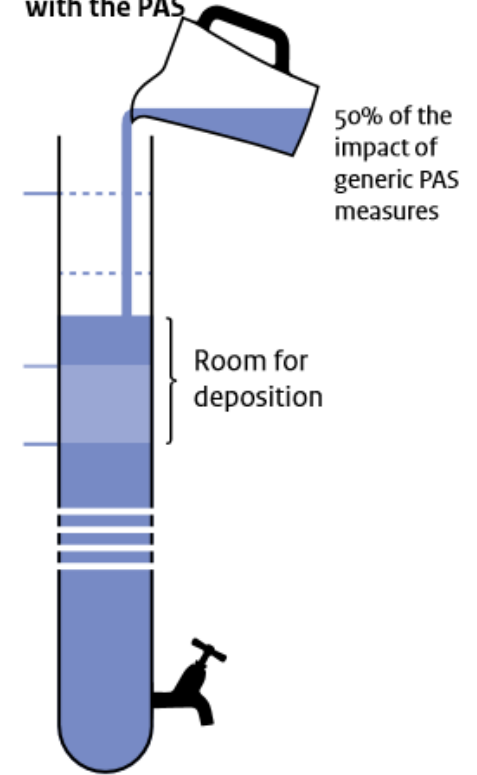


Figure 1: How the PAS works: reduction in deposition and the issuing of room for deposition



Autonomous
growth

Below limit value

without permit

with permit

Room for
development
for high priority projects

Freely available
room for development



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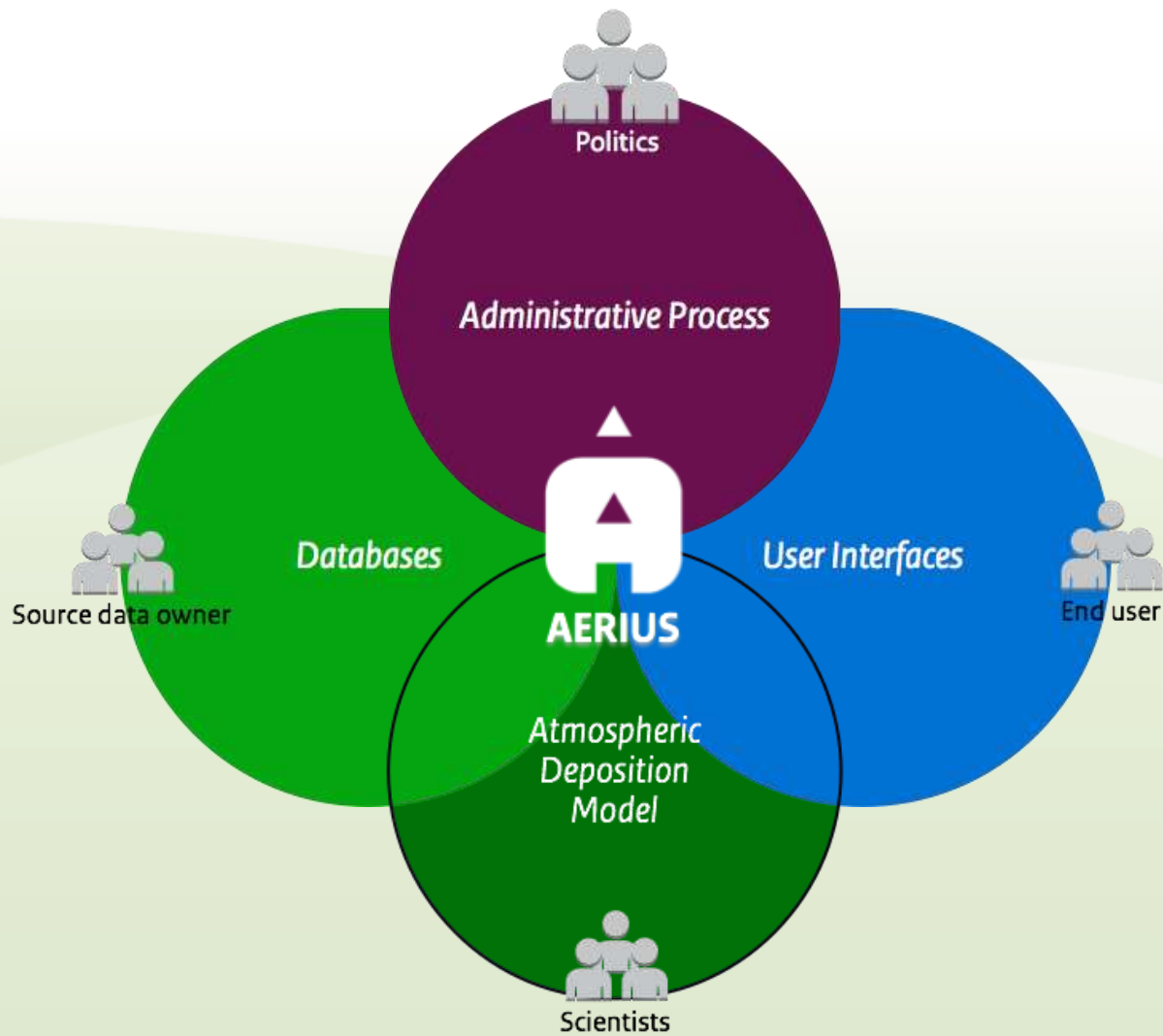


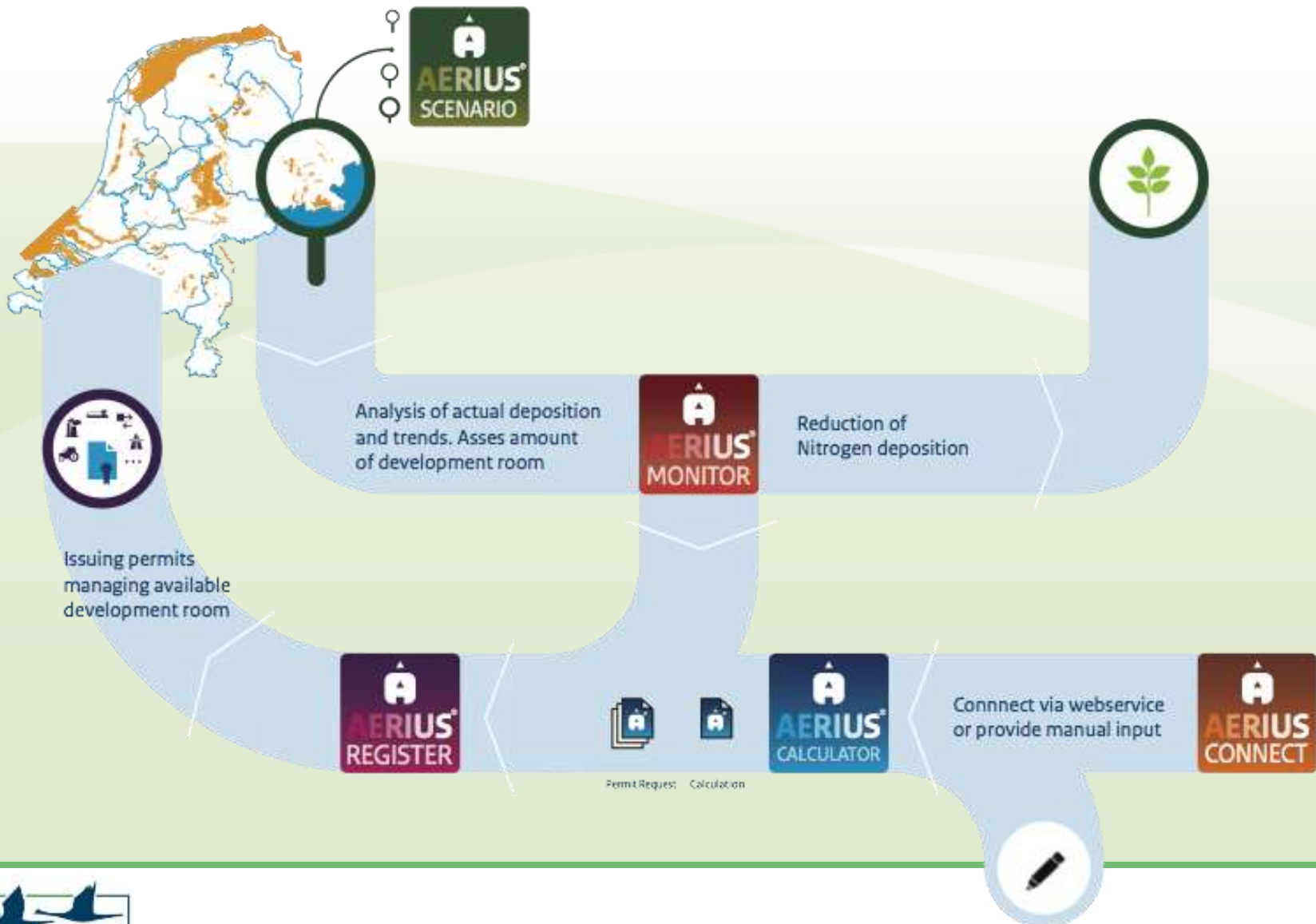
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AERIUS 

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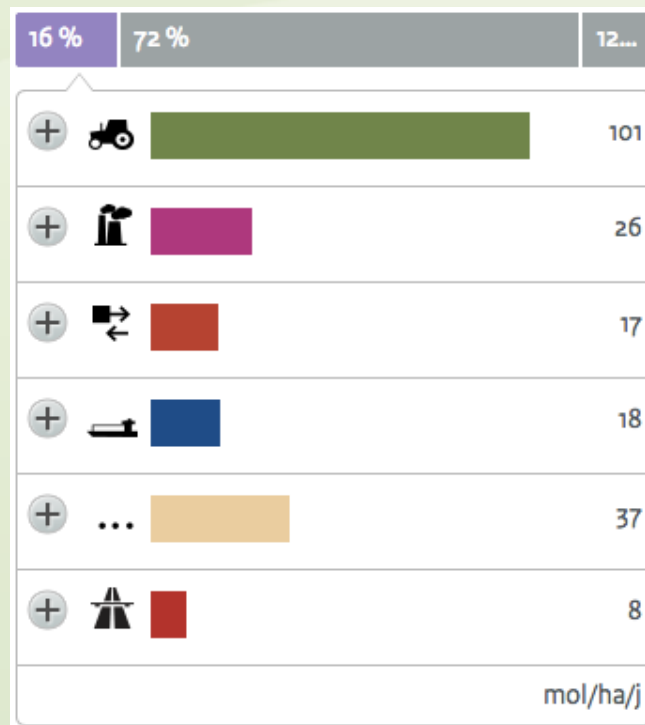
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Trend Analysis N-deposition

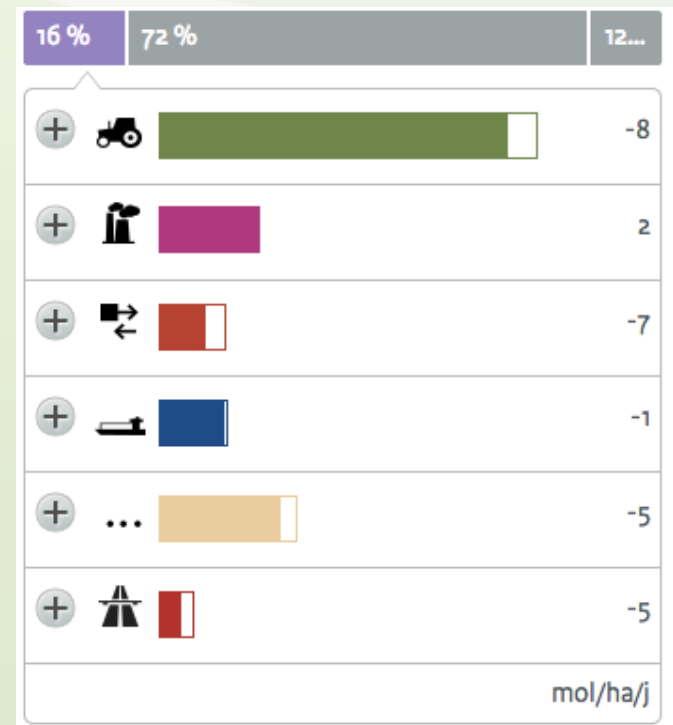
- Location in the field



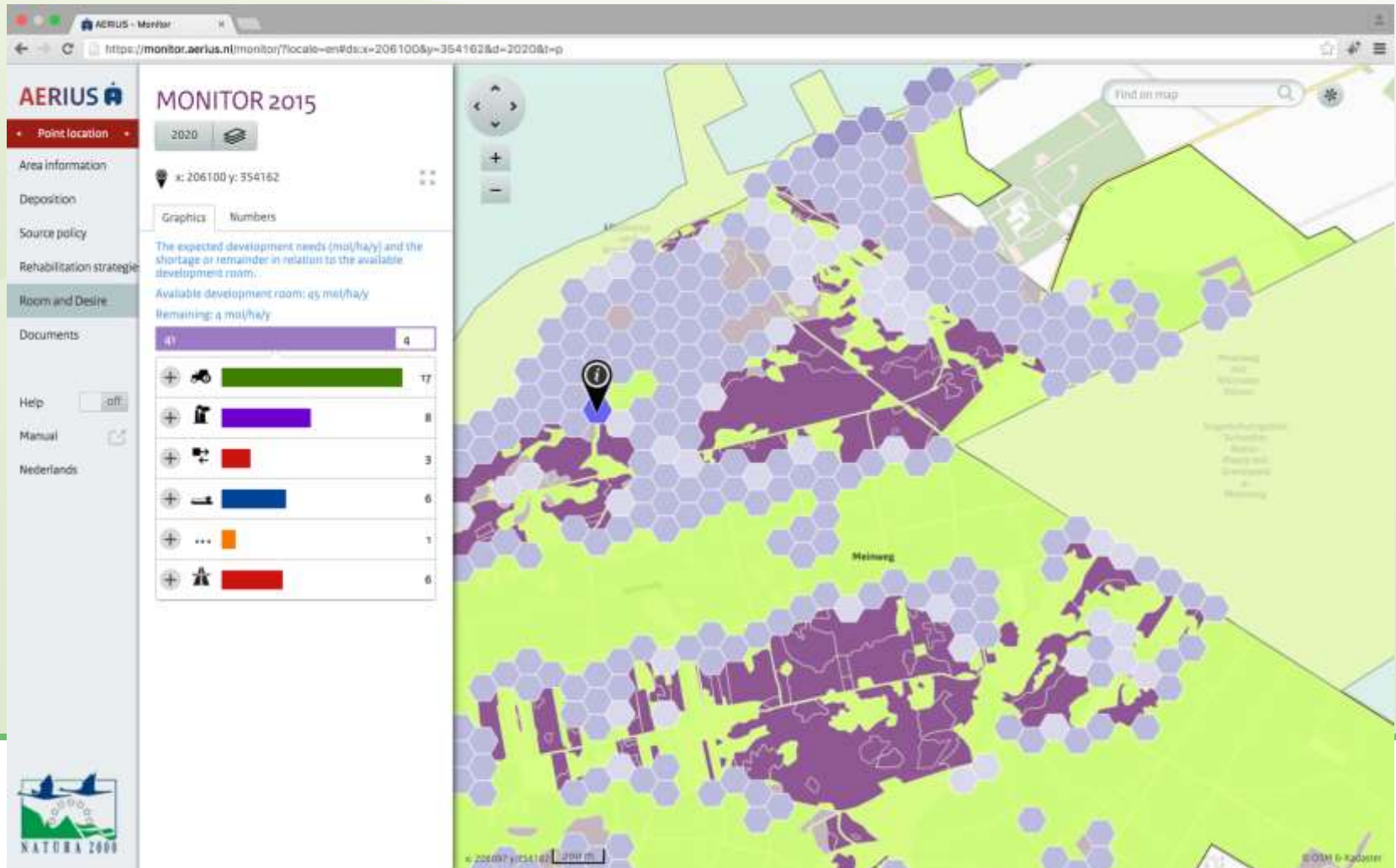
- Current



- Prognosis



Room for development and habitats





Thank you very much

Natura2000Platform@ecnc.org

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/platform/index_en.htm