



EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020

Context and current priorities and next steps





The continuing need for an EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020

- Only 17% of habitats and 11% of species protected under EU legislation are doing well (in favourable conservation status).
- Many ecosystems have declined significantly since 1990,
- up to 25% of European animal species are at risk of extinction. 22% of endemic species are threatened by invasive alien species.
- since 1990, common farmland birds have declined by 20–25% and common bird populations have decreased by around 10%.
- 88% of fish stocks are over-exploited or significantly depleted. 46% fall outside safe biological limits.
- Most of the ecosystem services are 'degraded' – below optimal quality and quantity e.g. crop pollination, clean air and water, and control of floods or erosion.
- Although the strategy is based on rigorous science, there are still knowledge gaps. The conservation status of 18% of habitats and 31% of species is unknown, for example.



‘Political’ context for early years of EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020



- Failure to meet 2010 target (as on previous slide)
- Success at CBD in Nagoya (after failure of UNFCCC in Copenhagen) regained political momentum among environment ministers
- difficult to maintain biodiversity on EU agenda beyond the environment (made even worse by current economic conditions)
- Focus on ecosystem services (and economic values) but link to biodiversity not always recognised – double edged sword!
- Council Conclusions (June 2011 and again Dec 2011)
- Parliament Resolution (20 April 2012)
- Up to 2014, scope for integration: MAFF, CAP, CFP, CP, (Territorial Cohesion), Research, Resource Efficiency, Climate Change and on-going work e.g. Beyond GDP and TEEB
- Relevance to almost all policies and as part of ‘green’ economy (proxy for Sustainable Development?)
- Relevance to business – mixed views among different sectors



EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 what is different from before



- Not starting from scratch, despite failing to meet 2010 objective
Wider and better understanding of the issues - greater sense of urgency
- Simpler and more focused approach
2020 Strategy has six targets, as opposed to the 160 different actions in the previous strategy and no real baseline
- Targets more obviously related to existing policies or issues that politicians and the public are aware of
- Greater focus on ecosystems and their services provides the means to make a more obvious link to economic and social benefits
- Many of the indicators for 2020 are already in place as is a baseline (2010)
- More closely linked to the global strategic action plan
'easier' for the EU and Member States to plan national strategies and approaches to meet both commitments

Structure of Global and EU Strategies

CBD: Global Strategic Plan 2011-2020

Strategic Goal A:

Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society

Targets: 1 - 4

Strategic Goal B:

Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use

Targets 5 – 10

Strategic Goal C:

To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity

Targets 11 - 13

Strategic Goal D:

Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services

Targets 14 – 16

Strategic Goal E:

Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building

Targets 15 – 20

(5 Strategic Goals and 20 targets)

EU: Biodiversity Strategy to 2020

Target 1:

Fully Implement the Birds and Habitats Directives

Actions: 1a-d, 2, 3a-c, 4a-b

Target 2:

Maintain and Restore Ecosystems and their Services

Actions: 5, 6a-b, 7a-b

Target 3:

Increase the Contribution of Agriculture and Forestry to maintaining and Enhancing Biodiversity

Actions: 8a-b, 9a-b, 10, 11a-b, 12

Target 4:

Ensure the Sustainable Use of Fisheries Resources

Actions: 13a-c, 14a-b

Target 5:

Combat Invasive Alien Species

Actions: 15, 16

Target 6:

Help Avert Global Biodiversity Loss

Actions: 17a-c, 18a-b, 19, 20

(6 Targets and 37 Actions)

Linkages and gaps between Global and EU targets

EU Targets

No Direct Link, Direct Link, Partial Indicator, No Indicator,

GT1 Awareness, GT5 Loss Habitats, GT6 Fish Inv & Aquatic Plants, GT7 Agric Aqua Forest, GT11 PAs, GT12 Threatened Species

Target 1: Fully implement the Birds & Habitats Directives

GT2 Nat. Acc, GT5 Loss Habitats, GT6 Fish Inv & Aquatic Plants, GT7 Agric Aqua, Forest, GT10 CC & Ocean Acidification, GT11 PAs, GT14 Ecosystem Services, GT15 Resilience & restoration

Target 2: Maintain and restore ecosystems and their services

GT3 Harmful incentives, GT4 Sust. Prod. & Cons., GT7 Agric Aqua Forest, GT8 Pollution, GT13 Genetic, GT14 ES, GT15 Resilience

Target 3: Increase the contribution of agriculture & forestry to maintaining & enhancing biodiversity

GT3 Harmful incentives, GT4 Sust. Prod. & Cons., GT6 Fish Inv & Aquatic Plants, GT10 CC & Ocean acidification

Target 4: Ensure sustainable use of fisheries resources

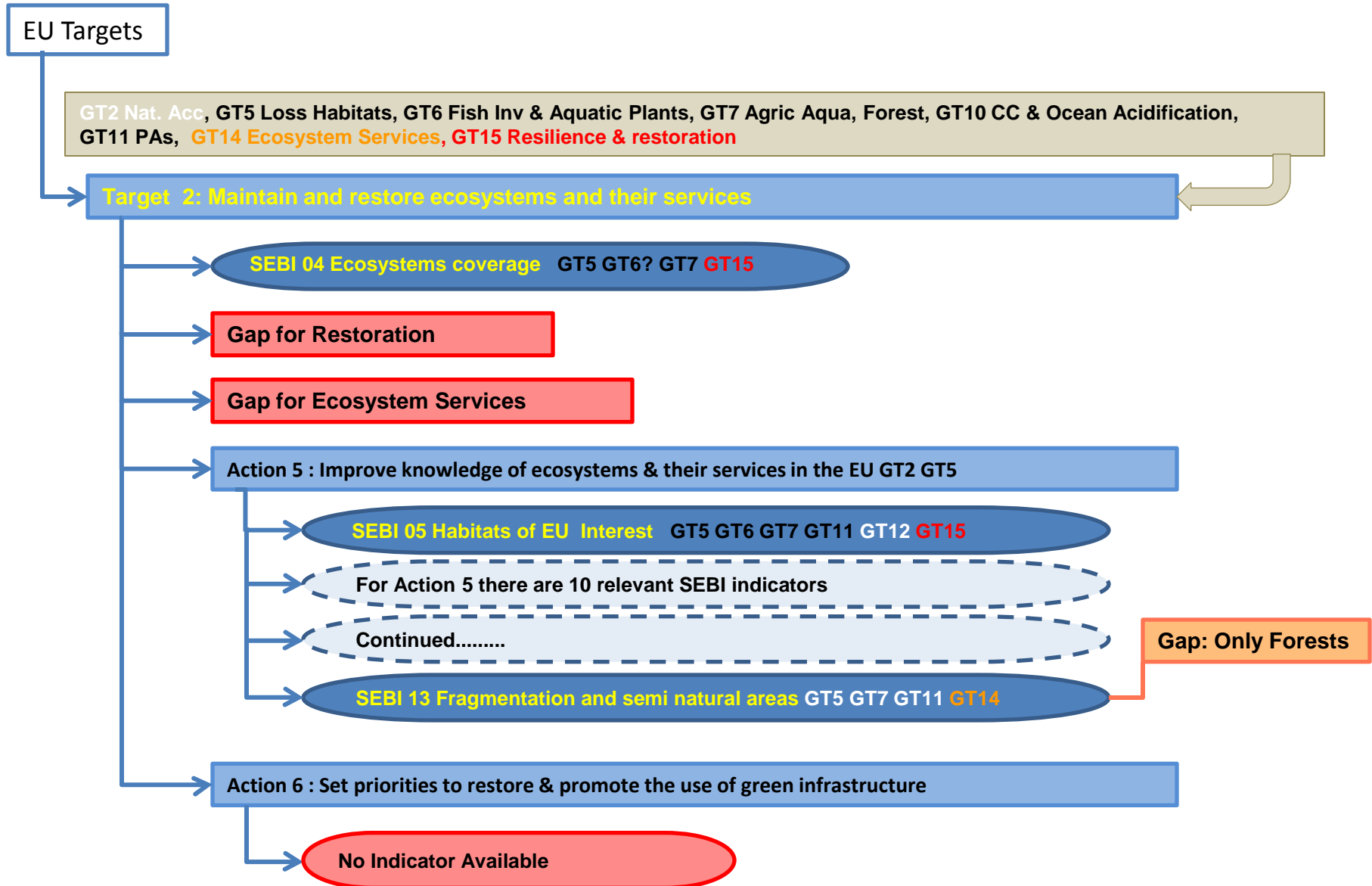
GT9 IAS

Target 5: Combat Invasive Alien Species

GT2 National Acc, GT3 Harmful incentives, GT4 Sust. Prod. & Cons., GT14 ES, GT16 ABS, GT18 Trad Knowledge, GT20 Finances

Target 6: Help avert global biodiversity loss

Partial detail of analysis for EU Target 2



Scope for Integration

Year	Planned Action by DG Environment	Related milestones / initiatives
2011	Sets out views on Natura 2000 financing (2014-2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proposal on new MAFF, CFP (post 2012) , CAP (post 2013) , Cohesion/Regional Policy, and other key policies - Fitness check of water-related policies - Communication (Roadmap) on Resource Efficiency
2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agree an EU Common Implementation Framework (Governance of Biodiversity Strategy) - Establish (with MS) Priority Action Frameworks for Natura to integrate in Common Strategic Frameworks - new EU bird reporting system developed - Dedicated data tool under BISE - Green Paper on Green Infrastructure - Commission legislative proposal on IAS - More biodiversity in revised EU Plant & Animal Health Regimes - Commission proposal on Access & Benefit Sharing - Global resource mobilisation targets (CBD COP-11) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Natura network establishment to be completed - N2K bio-geographical process established - Integrated monitoring, assessment and reporting framework developed - Blueprint to safeguard EU waters - Marine Strategy Framework Directive initial assessment of and definition of Good Environmental Status - UNFCCC COP-18 - CBD COP-11, 8-19 October (Hyderabad, India) - Rio + 20 - IPBES established and 1st plenary meeting
2013	Communication campaign on Natura 2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EU strategy on adaptation to climate change
2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ecosystem services mapped and assessed - Develop strategic framework to prioritise restoration - Methodology to assess biodiversity impacts of EU funded projects, plans and programmes developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mid-term review of EU Biodiversity Strategy - Updated Article 17 assessments - Update of Biodiversity Baseline - CBD COP-12
2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - initiative on no net loss of ecosystems and ES - Maximum Sustainable Yield achieved for all fish stocks - Commission consider WFD within Cross-compliance - EU ratifies Nagoya Protocol on ABS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Good Ecological Status under the WFD achieved - EU Fifth National Report to CBD due