

“Why enhancing biodiversity financing through EU funded regional and sectoral policies”

Peter Torkler, Solsona 14.06.2016

The example of Natura 2000 funding with EU funds



Content

1. Background
 2. Natura funding
 3. Experience from Natura 2000 Guidance development
 4. How can biodiversity be prioritised in financing
-



Background

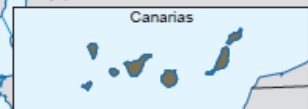
Financing Natura 2000:

A political commitment...

**1. EU Biodiversity Strategy:
Target 1, Action 2**

**2. Multiannual Financial
Framework 2014-2020**

**3. Prioritized Action
Frameworks – a strategic
approach to funding needs**





Background

...in a strategic framework

EUROPE 2020 STRATEGY

thematic approach, introducing 7 flagship initiatives



Resource Efficient Europe

flagship initiative: umbrella for EU environmental objectives, including protection of ecological assets



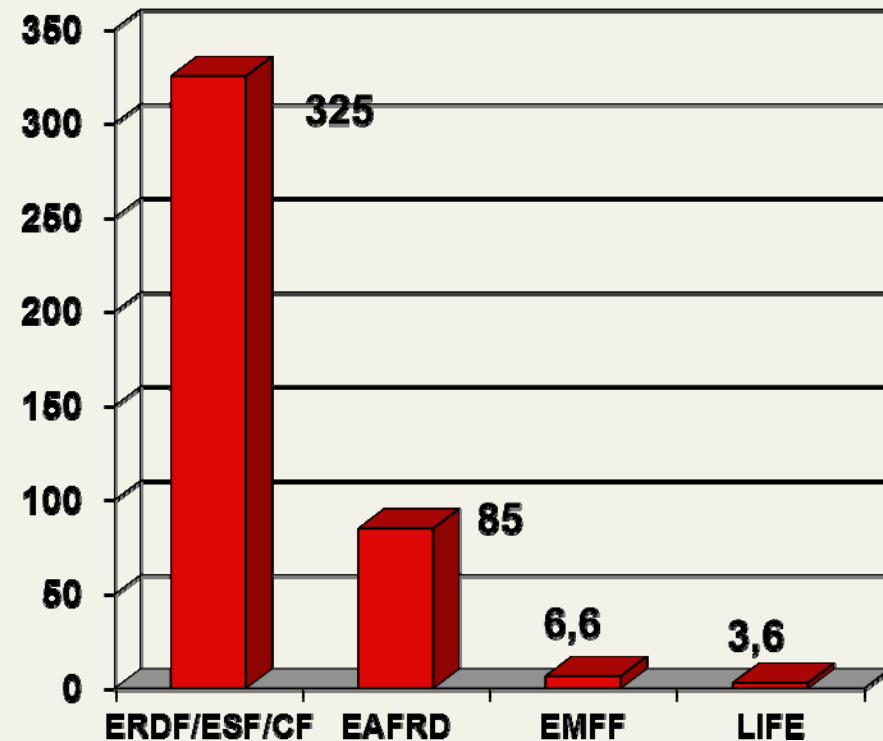
EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020

Identifies measures for action in the mid-term

Natura Funding

Funding needs of Natura 2000

- Funding needs for Natura 2000
€5,8 billion per year
- Benefits from Natura 2000:
€200-300 bn per year
- Funding sources:
 - National budget
 - EU funds, including EAFRD, ERDF, EMMF, LIFE
 - innovative funding sources



> Only 2-3% of EU Budget needed

Natura Funding

EU funding sources:

- **ERDF** – focus on growth and jobs, infrastructure and business support → investment in and the value of nature receives limited attention
 - **EAFRD** – beneficiaries restricted to agricultural sector, Natura payments rather low, measures often not site specific
 - **LIFE** – small budget, co-financing rate high
 - **EMFF** – limited budget, spending traditionally not very environmentally oriented
- => Only 10-20% of Natura 2000 are covered**
-

Natura Funding



Natura 2000 Guidance



Step 1 - Strategy	Analysis: keyword search or verification of overview tables in the OP	Level of recognition for Natura 2000	The level of Natura 2000 recognition is very good the following conditions apply:
	SWOT and identification of needs >> PLEASE ADD CHAPTER OF AN		
	Search for keywords: biodiversity, Natura 2000, protected areas, natural resources, conservation priorities, ecosystem services, Prioritized Action Framework.	Very good Moderate Minor None	The objective of the OP is to improve conservation status of the habitats or species and/or recognise economic or recreational importance of natural areas and their potential to minimize natural risks such as floods and/or help adapt to climate change in synergy with nature conservation (e.g. through ecosystem adaptation).<
Step 2 - Measures	Strategy >> PLEASE ADD CHAPTER OF ANALYSED OP<<		
	Check overview table of the programme investment strategy for ERDF; are biodiversity related investment priorities and specific objectives included?	Very good Moderate Minor None	Strategy sets biodiversity and ecosystem services as a priority axis of the programme or biodiversity and Natura 2000 as an investment priority integrated in other axes which address environmental indicators (e.g. through sustainable land development).
	Investment priorities 6(d) and 6(e) ERDF >> PLEASE ADD CHAPTER		
	Check specific objectives and actions under Thematic Objective 6(d) and 6(e). To which extent do they relate to Natura 2000 (check Handbook for details).	Very good Moderate Minor None	Positive if relevant number of measures exist and if they indicate a large variety of possible interventions (check detailed analysis takes place in PAF – OP checklist).

Handbook

Toolkit







WORKSHOP

FINANZIARE NATURA 2000





I FONDI COMUNITARI 2014 – 2020 PER L'ATTUAZIONE DELLE DIRETTIVE UE PER LA BIODIVERSITÀ

Giovedì 7 novembre 2013 – Ore 9.30

Auditorium del Ministero dell'Ambiente della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare
ROMA - Via Capitan Bavastro, 174



Workshops



WWF

REPORT

EU

2012



A MORE STRATEGIC APPROACH TO FINANCING NATURE

The Prioritized Action Frameworks (PAFs) are the national and regional planning tools that help to secure financial resources for the management of Natura 2000 and ensure that the funding available meets the needs of the network.

PAFs are planning and financing tools in which the Natura 2000 investments are prioritized, costs are identified and matched with the appropriate funding source (EU and national funds). There is a legal basis for PAFs under Article 8 of the EU Habitats Directive.

Our Natural Capital

A Profitable Investment In Times Of Crisis

Experience from Natura 2000
Guidance development

Habitats Directive art 8

Determines:

EU co-financing for management of Natura 2000 network

Development of *Prioritized Action Framework – PAF*

Natura 2000 financing

2004 EC Communication on financing of Natura 2000 – integrated approach or using different EU funds

2007–2013 integrated approach, problem – small use of funds

Solution – better planning – development of PAF

Prioritized Action Framework 2014-2020

Objective:

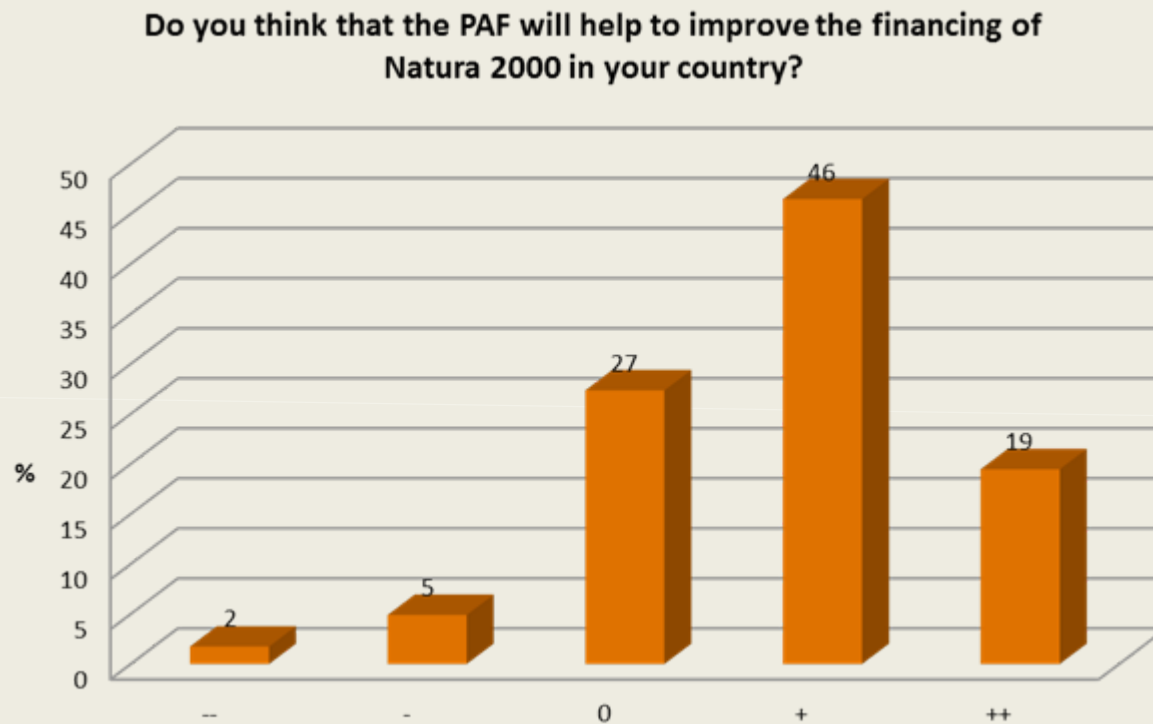
- Setting strategic objectives**
- Defining measures for achieving the objectives**

**Deadline for Member States end 2012 –
beginning 2013**

The structure of PAF

- A. Overview of Natura 2000 network**
- B. Conservation status of habitats and species**
- C. Management of Natura 2000 network**
- D. Use of EU funds in 2007–2013**
- E. Financing needs for Natura 2000 network**
- F. Strategic objectives of Natura 2000 network**
- G. The main measures for achieving the objectives**
- H. Monitoring, assessment and review/updating**

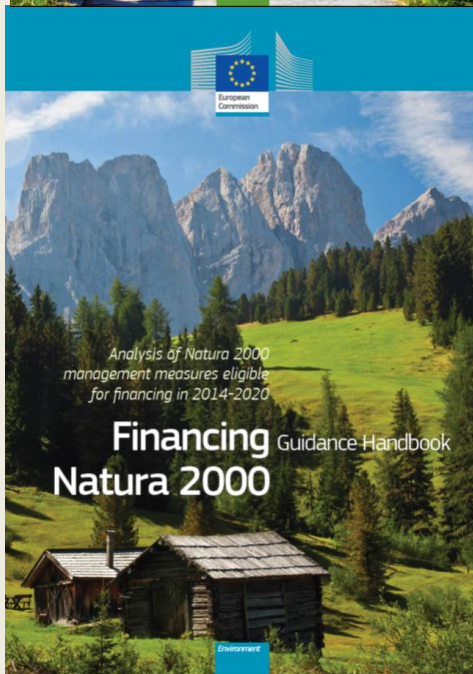
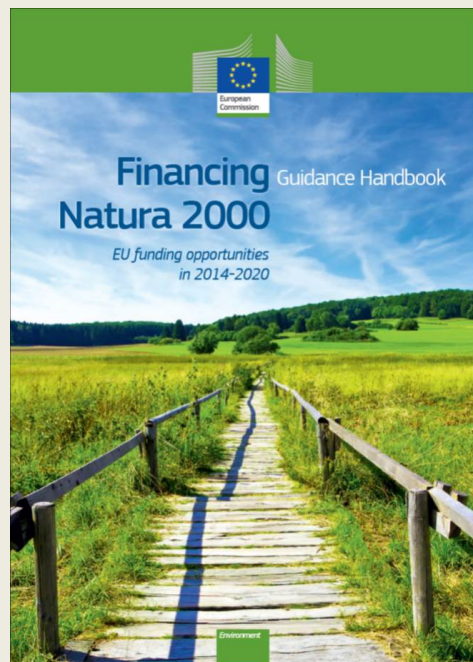
Summary of workshop results



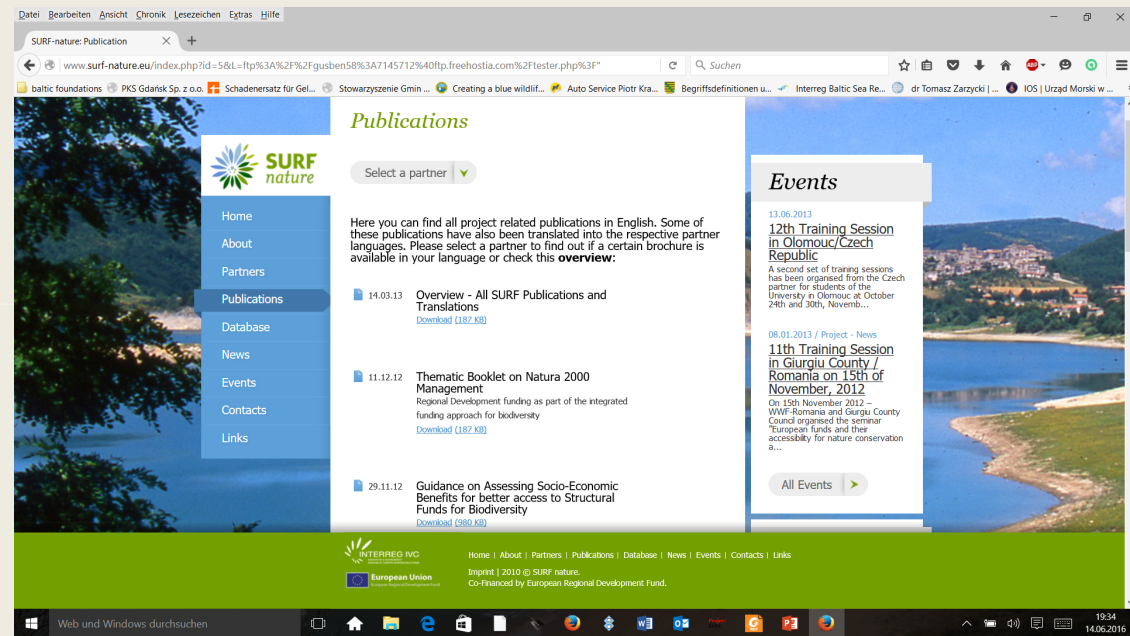


Summary of workshop results

- **Integration clearly considered as the right way forward**
=> as a large biodiversity fund has no political support
 - **Sceptism remains that funding situation will improve**
=> as environmental arguments cannot compete with jobs and growth...unless ecosystem services are accounted properly
 - **PAFs are clearly seen as a very helpful instrument**
=> but they are not legally binding, were implemented to late during budget negotiation...but can be a strategic tool for next financial perspective
-



Getting inspired by the Guidance Handbook and SURF outcomes



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



EAFRD

- Germany and Austria strong emphasis on Art. 18 and/or 21
- Natura payments seen as only instrument by some MoA

- Ensure green AECP!
- LEADER approach
- Diversification of rural areas
- Alternative income

Ensure clear green measures under Agri-Env-Climate payments
Natura payments must become more attractive to farmers



ERDF

- New MS with priority axis on biodiversity
- Pressure for concentration in Old MS

- Ecosystem services
- Green Infrastructure
- Opportunities through European Territorial Cooperation

Defending old budget allocations is priority

Linking climate funding with peatland restoration, only innovative approach

The background image shows a coastal town with white buildings and a prominent church with a blue dome, situated at the foot of large, rugged mountains. In the foreground, several fishing boats are docked in a harbor with blue water. An orange semi-transparent box is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing text.

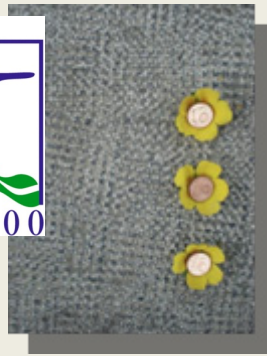
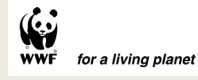
EMFF

- „EMFF too small to really consider Natura 2000”
- Art. 38 on biodiversity and management often not used
- Environmental activities through aquaculture pillar and fisheries pillar possible
- Stronger link to environmental friendly practices



How can biodiversity be prioritised in financing

- Guidance Handbook and SURF opportunities – as funds are more directed towards economic development, there is lack of convincing information about biodiversity values, threats and risks
=> BID – REX to check what is already possible?
 - Legislative hooks –sectoral or regional programmes mention biodiversity as a topic but do not take concrete action to preserve it as there is often lack of convincing data
=> BID-REX to engage in future ERDF discussion to identify potential for change?
 - PAF was developed as a strategic tool for Natura 2000 funding and needs a stronger impact in decision making based on reliable data!
=> BID-REX to identify the weakness of the process and consider lessons learned from this process for prioritisation
-



Thank you!

Peter.torkler@baltcf.org



baltcf
Baltic Sea Conservation Foundation