

What can the European Union and other stakeholders do for ecosystem restoration?

Working Group



Biodiversity strategy: Maintain and restore ecosystems -
Target 2: By 2020, ecosystems and their services are maintained and enhanced by establishing green infrastructure and restoring at least 15 % of degraded ecosystems.

| Frequency | Response |
|-------------|--|
| Most often | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge/experience exchange, case studies Devoting more money/subsidies |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Simplify the public acquisition process Awareness raising/training for stakeholders/engineers |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legislative improvements More suitable planning |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active stakeholder involvement Capacity building Develop a global, integrated approach (ecosystem approach) |
| Least often | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review or simplify the funding system Better communication Matching CAP or private sector money Improve Natura 2000 implementation Cooperation across sectors Risk management for unsuccessful restorations Learning from mistakes Reducing bureaucracy |

POTENTIAL ACTIONS

- (i) policy clarity
- (ii) funding
- (iii) gathering and disseminating knowledge of restoration
- (iv) science and climate-change adaptation
- (v) language and communications



What should be done?

Short-term options

- Fostering the uptake of existing EU funds
- Establishing systems for knowledge gathering
- Better use of existing knowledge (communication efforts, language change)
- Research into the socio-economic benefits of restoration
- Informing policy and decision-makers of the socio-economic benefits

Medium term options:

- Using evidence on the environment and socio-economic impacts of ecosystem restoration to link it more clearly to the overarching EU 2020 policy framework (growth and jobs agenda, EU 2020 targets)
 - resource efficiency
 - circular economy
- Increase funding for restoration in the next EU Budget, (reform of the CAP, CFP, regional policy funding allocations)
- Research into how to better integrate ecosystem restoration into the review of the Climate Adaptation Strategy
- Developing supporting policy targets to reflect the influence of diffuse pressures on ecosystem degradation
- Innovative funding mechanisms (e.g. the Natural Capital Financing Facility, Global Green Climate Fund) and business models (PES, ETS)

Long term options:

- Better integration of restoration towards the achievement of EU 2030/ 2050 policy targets
- Part of the transition towards ‘a green, low-carbon economy/society in which key sectors are transformed, natural capital is protected and enhanced, and the health and well-being of citizens is safeguarded’
- 7th Environmental Action Plan Vision
- Water Blueprint
- Biodiversity 2050 Vision
- Climate targets

Over to you!

