



European Commission
DG Environment
Unit B3 Natura 2000

**Natura 2000 -
beyond 2010**

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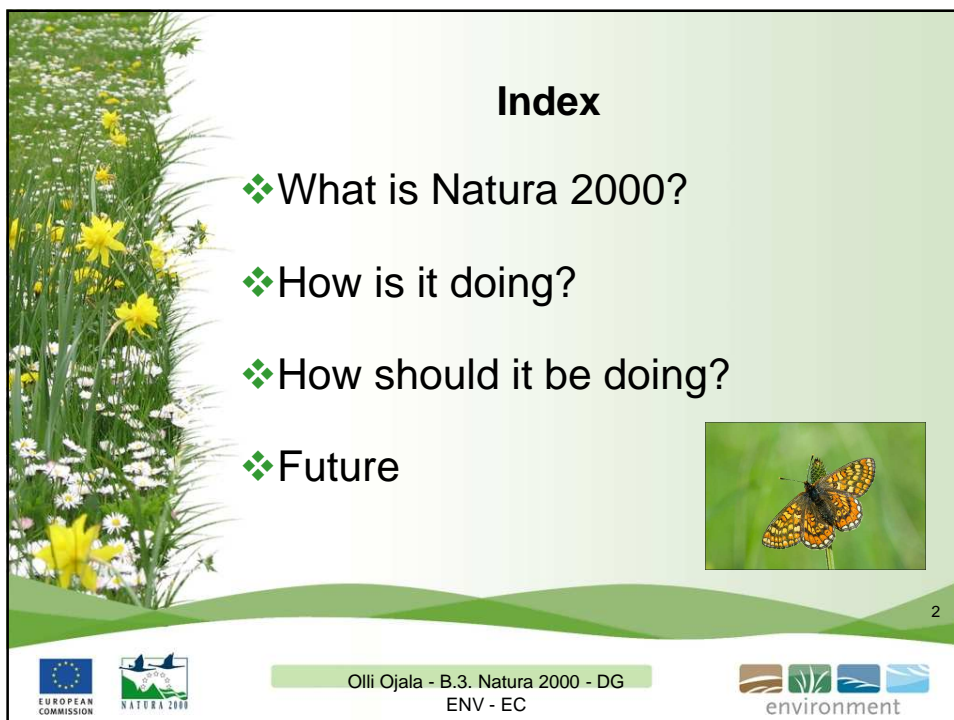
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environment

This slide features a decorative border on the left side with a vertical strip of green grass and yellow and white flowers. The background is a light green gradient with a wavy green line at the bottom. The text is centered and includes the European Commission and DG Environment logos at the bottom left, and the 'environment' logo at the bottom right.



Index

- ❖ What is Natura 2000?
- ❖ How is it doing?
- ❖ How should it be doing?
- ❖ Future



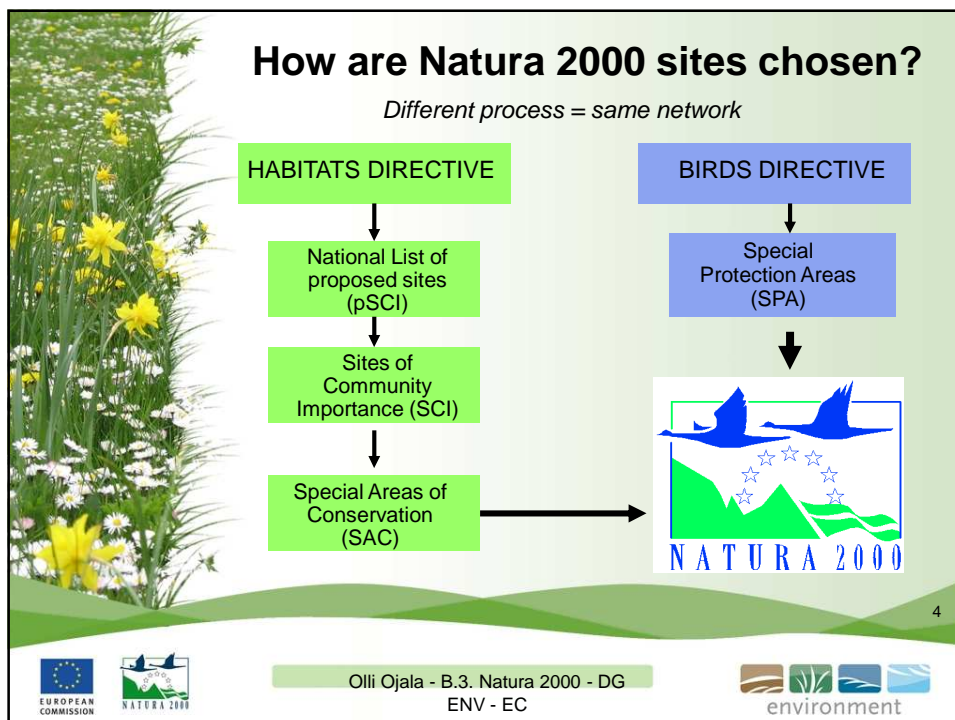
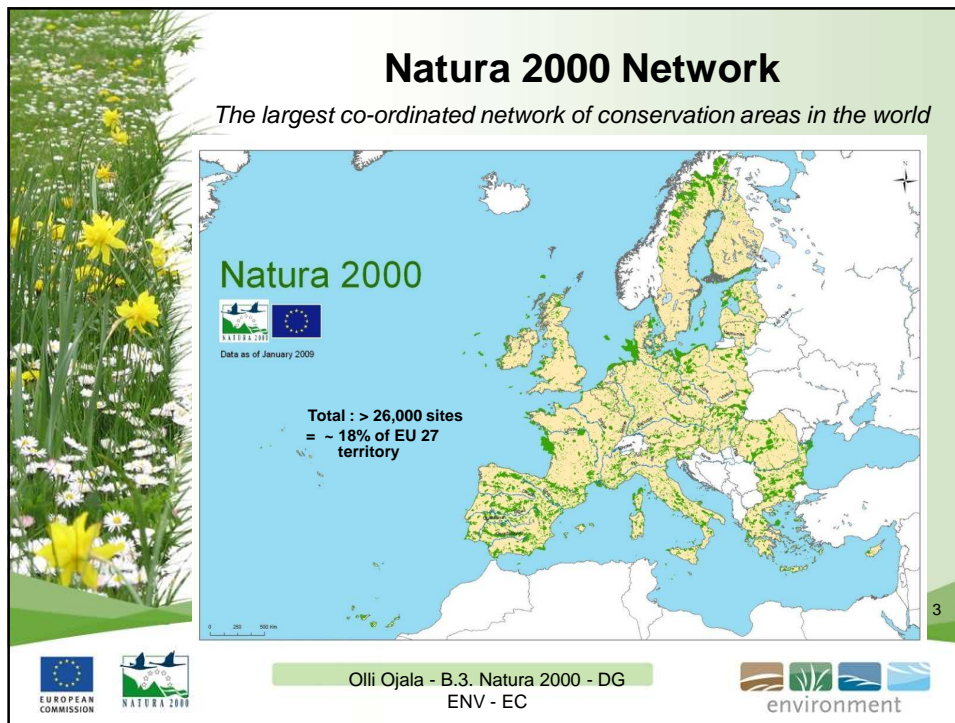
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Habitat types of European importance

Aapa mires
Pannonic salt steppes
Ravine woods
Limestone pavements
Posidonia beds
Calcareous grasslands

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Species of European importance


Lynx pardinus
Euphydryas aurinia
Grus grus
Vipera ursinii rakosiensis
Onosma tornensis
Salmo salar

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Important features of Natura 2000

- ❖ Selects sites using the same scientific criteria;
- ❖ Conserves species & habitats across entire natural range in EU;
- ❖ Not limited to nature reserves;
- ❖ Works in collaboration with land owners & users, business and NGOs;
- ❖ It works...



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Success of Natura 2000

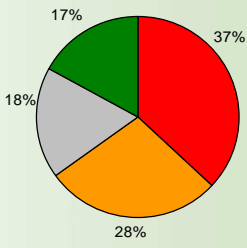
- ❖ A true EU integration achievement, unique co-operation of Member States to protect species and habitats across entire natural range;
- ❖ The cornerstone of EU policy for biodiversity protection;
- ❖ Covers almost 1/5 of the EU territory;
- ❖ Legally enforceable, strong legal protection;
- ❖ Flexible system allows sustainable economic growth;
- ❖ Scientific evidence
 - ❖ E.g. Donald P. F., Sanderson F. J., Burfield I. J., Bierman S. M., Gregory, R. D. & Waliczky Z. 2007: *International Conservation Policy Delivers Benefits for Birds in Europe*. *Science* vol. 317. pp. 810-813.

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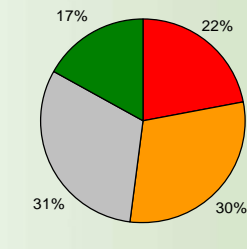
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Current status



- ❖ Composite Report on the Conservation Status of Habitat Types and Species, June 2009;
- ❖ Key findings:
 - ❖ Only 17% deemed to be in favourable conservation status;
 - ❖ Grasslands, wetlands & coastal habitats most under pressure;
 - ❖ Habitats associated with agriculture show worse conservation status;
 - ❖ Positive development of many target species in parts of EU;
 - ❖ Need for second report for trends analysis




Status of habitats



Status of species

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What needs to be achieved

- ❖ "To halt the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020, restore them in so far as feasible, while stepping up the EU contribution to averting global biodiversity loss" (*Environment council conclusions 15 March 2010*);
- ❖ A significant step-up in restoration and management of Natura 2000 sites:
 - ❖ SCI => SAC (Necessary statutory, contractual and legislative measures)
 - ❖ The management does not always mean active measures
 - ❖ Better implementation Natura assessments
- ❖ The necessary financial investments;
- ❖ A supportive wider EU policy framework – policy coherence

Through more effective implementation and integration to other policy sectors more results can be achieved




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The slide features a vertical photograph of a meadow with yellow and white flowers on the left side. The background is a light green gradient with a wavy pattern at the bottom. The title "Integration to other policy sectors" is in bold black text, followed by the subtitle "What?". A list of upcoming reforms is presented with diamond-shaped bullet points. At the bottom, there are logos for the European Commission, Natura 2000, and the environment department, along with the speaker's name and affiliation.

Integration to other policy sectors

What?

- ❖ Upcoming reforms:
 - ❖ Common Agricultural Policy (CAP);
 - ❖ Common Fisheries Policy (CFP);
 - ❖ Cohesion policy (regional);
 - ❖ Budget 2013-2020

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Implementation to other policy sectors

Why?

- ❖ Natura 2000 is a major tool for climate change mitigation and adaptation;
- ❖ Natura 2000 is an existing framework for sustainable development;
- ❖ Natura 2000 network is an established framework suitable for all EU policies aimed at valuing, protecting, restoring and enhancing ecosystem services;
- ❖ State of conservation status can be used as indicator and baseline for post 2010 biodiversity policy;
- ❖ Natura 2000 can form the core element of green infrastructure;
- ❖ Natura 2000 is a communication tool to communicate the importance of our natural heritage

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Integration to other policy sectors How?

- ❖ Member states and all other stakeholders need to define needs and priorities for the next programming period;
- ❖ 2010 a major opportunity;

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To conclude

- ❖ Full implementation of the EU nature legislation and Natura 2000 needs to be a central element of the EU post 2010 biodiversity policy;
- ❖ Integration to other policy sectors is essential;
- ❖ Available funding potential needs to be fully used by the Member States;
- ❖ Enhanced political will is needed from governments and all stakeholders to achieve these

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For more information go to:
<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature>

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