



MINISTERIO
DE AGRICULTURA,
PESCA Y ALIMENTACIÓN

- TRIBUNAL CALIFICADOR –
PROCESO SELECTIVO PARA INGRESO, POR EL
SISTEMA GENERAL DE ACCESO LIBRE, EN EL
CUERPO NACIONAL VETERINARIO CONVOCADO
POR RESOLUCIÓN DE 11 DE OCTUBRE DE 2019,
DE LA SUBSECRETARÍA

Biodiversity – the need for urgent action. 2030 Strategy.

From the world's great rainforests to small parks and gardens, from the blue whale to microscopic fungi, biodiversity is the extraordinary variety of life on Earth. We humans are part of, and fully dependent on, this web of life: it gives us the food we eat, filters the water we drink, and supplies the air we breathe. Nature is as important for our mental and physical wellbeing as it is for our society's ability to cope with global change, health threats and disasters. We need nature in our lives.

This is why the European Commission has adopted the new EU Biodiversity Strategy for - a comprehensive, ambitious, long-term plan for protecting nature and reversing the degradation of ecosystems. It aims to put Europe's biodiversity on a path to recovery by 2030 with benefits for people, the climate and the planet.

This Strategy contains specific commitments and actions to be delivered by 2030, including:

- Establishing a larger **EU-wide network of protected areas on land and at sea**, building upon existing Natura 2000 areas, with strict protection for areas of very high biodiversity and climate value.
- An **EU Nature Restoration Plan** - a series of concrete commitments and actions to restore degraded ecosystems across the EU by 2030, and manage them sustainably, addressing the key drivers of biodiversity loss.
- A set of measures to **enable the necessary transformative change**: setting in motion a new, strengthened governance framework to ensure better implementation and track progress, improving knowledge, financing and investments and better respecting nature in public and business decision-making.
- Measures to tackle the **global biodiversity challenge**, demonstrating that the EU is ready to lead by example towards the successful adoption of an ambitious global biodiversity framework under the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Investing in nature protection and restoration will also be critical for Europe's economic future. Biodiversity conservation has potential direct economic benefits for many sectors of the economy. For example, conserving marine stocks could increase annual profits of the seafood industry by more than €49 billion, while protecting coastal wetlands could save the insurance industry around €50 billion annually through reducing flood damage losses. The overall benefit/cost ratio of an effective global programme for the conservation of remaining wild nature worldwide is estimated to be at least 100 to 1. Natural capital investment, including restoration of carbon-rich habitats and climate-friendly agriculture, is recognised to be among the five most important fiscal recovery policies, which offer high economic multipliers and



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positive climate impact. It will be important for the EU to tap into this potential to ensure prosperity, sustainability and resilience in the recovery.

Biodiversity is also crucial for safeguarding EU and global food security. Biodiversity loss threatens our food systems, putting our food security and nutrition at risk. Biodiversity also underpins healthy and nutritious diets and improves rural livelihoods and agricultural productivity.

However, delivering an ambitious global biodiversity framework will require greater cooperation with partners, increased support and financing and phasing out of subsidies harmful to biodiversity. The EU is ready to continue working with its partners and further increase its support. This will be part of its work on biodiversity conservation, restoration, sustainable use and mainstreaming in all development and partnership policies. In addition, by integrating policy coherence for sustainable development in all its policies, the EU will reduce the pressure on biodiversity worldwide. In all of its international cooperation, the EU should promote sustainable agricultural and fisheries practices and actions to protect and restore the world's forests. Particular attention will also be paid to sustainable water resource management, the restoration of degraded land, and the protection and restoration of biodiverse areas with high ecosystem services and climate mitigation potential. A better protection of natural ecosystems, coupled with efforts to reduce wildlife trade and consumption, will also help prevent and build up resilience to possible future diseases and pandemics. The EU will enhance its support to global efforts to apply the One Health approach, which recognises the intrinsic connection between human health, animal health and healthy resilient nature.

The EU will step up support to partner countries across the world to achieve the new global targets, fight environmental crime, and tackle the drivers of biodiversity loss. In Africa, the EU will launch an initiative to protect wildlife and key ecosystems while offering opportunities in green sectors for local populations. Similar projects will be developed in other regions.

In all of its work, the EU will strengthen the links between biodiversity protection and human rights, gender, health, education, conflict sensitivity, the rights-based approach, land tenure and the role of indigenous peoples and local communities.

The EU has legal frameworks, strategies and action plans to protect nature and restore habitats and species. But protection has been incomplete, restoration has been small-scale, and the implementation and enforcement of legislation has been insufficient.

To put biodiversity on the path to recovery by 2030, we need to step up the protection and restoration of nature. This should be done by improving and widening our network of protected areas and by developing an ambitious EU Nature Restoration Plan.



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In conclusion, protecting and restoring biodiversity is the only way to preserve the quality and continuity of human life on Earth. The commitments proposed in the 2030 Strategy pave the way for ambitious and necessary changes – changes that will ensure the wellbeing and economic prosperity of present and future generations in a healthy environment. The implementation of these commitments will take into account the diversity of challenges across sectors, regions and Member States, recognise the need to ensure social justice, fairness and inclusiveness in line with the European Pillar of Social Rights, and will require a sense of responsibility and strong joint efforts from the EU, its Member States, stakeholders and citizens.