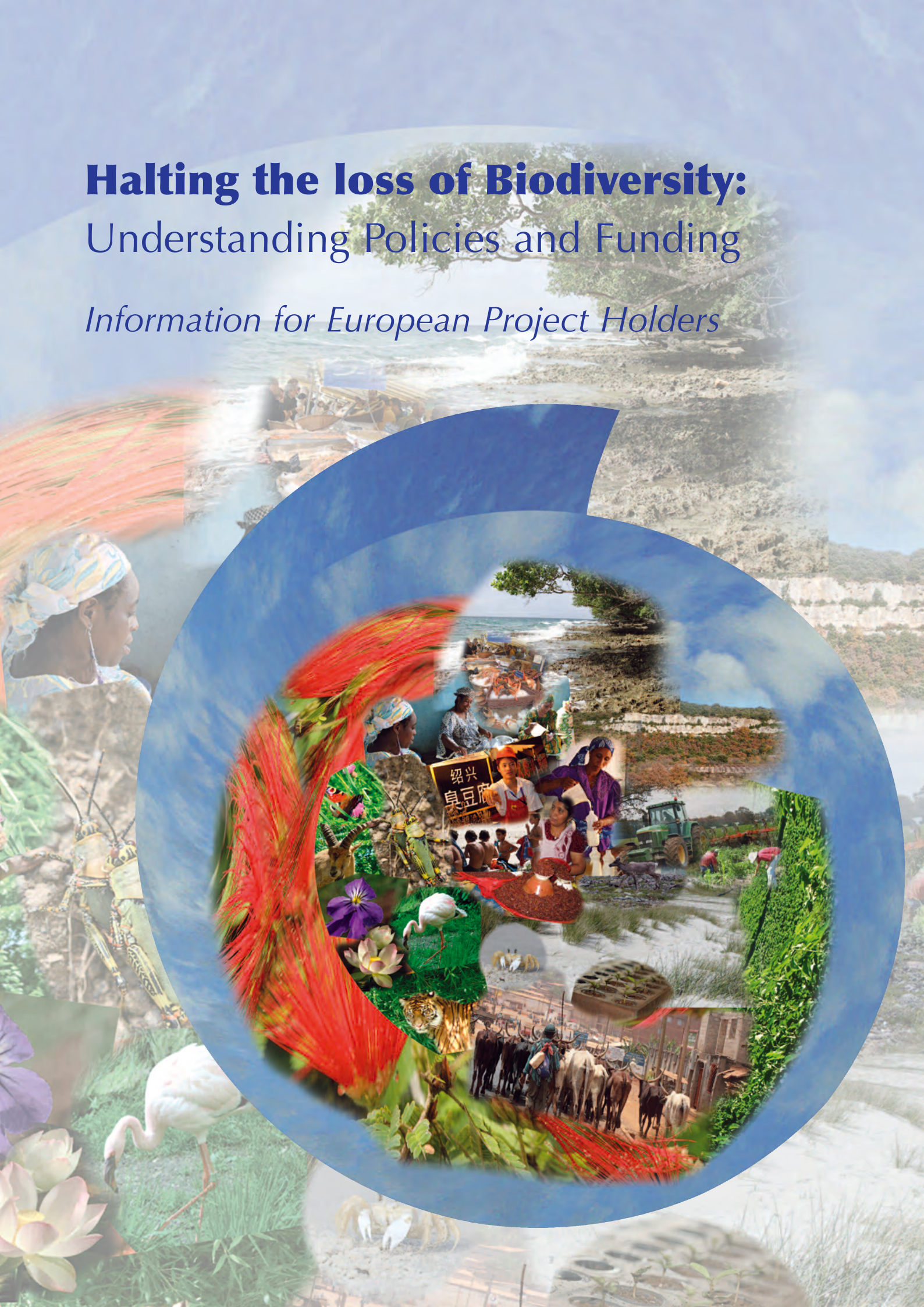










# **Halting the loss of Biodiversity:**

## Understanding Policies and Funding

*Information for European Project Holders*



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## Foreword

Biodiversity has become a major political priority over the past years. Actors from all sectors now realize the importance of incorporating biodiversity considerations into development strategies and other policies. In addition, there is now an abundance of programmes that fund the protection and sustainable use of biodiversity. This is wonderful news from an ecological perspective, but from a project holder's point of view, such an array of possibilities may be daunting. Organisations may not realize that their projects could qualify for funding under biodiversity themes, or may be too overwhelmed to apply.

This brochure is aimed at the various actors contributing to the fight against biodiversity loss and working towards its sustainable use. It is divided into two sections: the first gives a brief overview of biodiversity policy at the world, European, national and local levels. The second section highlights some of the major programmes that fund biodiversity projects in the European Union. A few examples of organisations that fund biodiversity projects in France and in the world are also presented. The objectives and characteristics of these programmes are explained, as well as a summary of funding procedures.

Organisations interested in the details of the programmes presented should consult their respective websites (see page 16) for specific information about how to obtain a grant.

# Meanings, issues and approaches to biodiversity



## WHAT IS BIODIVERSITY, AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

The United Nations (Convention on Biological Diversity – CBD) defines it as *"the variability among living organisms from all sources including inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic sources and the ecological complexes of which they are a part: this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems,"*

where ecosystems are defined as:

*"a dynamic complex of plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit."*

The terms "nature" and "biodiversity" are often used interchangeably and the distinction between the two is unclear to many. Biodiversity is to be understood as a **broader, more complex concept that has economic, social, political and ethical implications**. The fight against biodiversity loss includes, but is not limited to, nature protection and takes place at both the global and local levels. It also includes **research on and management of diversity**, whether at the ecosystem, species or genetic resources level.

However one prefers to define biodiversity, it has become increasingly apparent that its loss will profoundly impact life on earth and entail significant costs. A study published in 2008 indicated that an unchanged course of action would cost **7% of the world's GDP by 2050**.<sup>1</sup>

## HOW DO PROJECTS ADDRESS BIODIVERSITY?

These concerns have spurred people from various backgrounds into action to address biodiversity issues, either directly or indirectly. Most projects concern five major axes: understanding biodiversity, protecting it, promoting its sustainable use, assigning a value to it and ensuring the fair and equitable sharing of its resources and benefits.

**There are several approaches** to biodiversity action:

- scientific, such as research on specific species or genetic resources;
- technical, such as in ecological engineering;
- economic or financial, as in creating market tools to manage biodiversity;
- social, political or legal, such as in the concept of environmental responsibility.

In short, biodiversity protection and management is a field that encompasses a variety of approaches and considerations. These have in turn influenced the policies presented on the following pages.

## Biodiversity Policies at the Global, European, National and Local levels



### REDUCING THE RATE OF BIODIVERSITY LOSS AND PROMOTING ITS SUSTAINABLE USE IN THE WORLD

Fighting the loss of biodiversity has become a priority for governments around the world. Numerous multilateral environmental agreements have addressed biodiversity, though one in particular is focused on this issue. The **Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)** was launched at the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro as part of a larger strategy for sustainable development; 191 countries have since signed it. This Convention sets three goals:

- the conservation of biological diversity
- the sustainable use of its components
- the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits derived from the use of genetic resources.

Every two years, a **Conference of the Parties (or COP)** gathering the governments that have signed the Convention, is held to discuss the CBD's implementation and progress. In 2002, the COP decided on the objective of **significantly reducing the current rate of loss of biodiversity by 2010**. Seven thematic work programmes were established to guide the Convention's work:

- agricultural biodiversity
- inland waters biodiversity
- forest biodiversity
- dry and sub-humid lands biodiversity
- island biodiversity
- marine and coastal biodiversity
- mountain biodiversity

The 9<sup>th</sup> COP was held in Bonn (Germany) in May 2008. COP10 is scheduled to take place in Japan in October 2010.

Also at the world level, the **Food and Agriculture Organisation** coordinates a global policy, science and cooperation framework on plant and genetic resources under the aegis of its **Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture**. The goal of this Commission is to ensure the conservation and sustainable utilisation of genetic resources for food and agriculture, as well as the fair and equitable sharing of benefits derived from their use. The framework encompasses numerous other treaties and initiatives, such as the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.



### HALTING THE LOSS AND PROMOTING THE SUSTAINABLE USE OF BIODIVERSITY IN EUROPE BY 2010

The European Union's (EU) biodiversity policy has its origins in the **1979 Birds Directive** and the **1992 Habitats Directive**, which together form the basis of the **Natura 2000 network**: 26,000 sites housing some of the most valuable and endangered European species and habitats and benefitting from special protection. In 1993 the EU signed the CBD and in 1998, established its first Biodiversity Strategy.

Since 2006, the EU's Biodiversity policy has been defined by a communication entitled **"Halting the loss of biodiversity by 2010 – and beyond."** This communication outlines the pressures of biodiversity loss – habitat fragmentation, degradation and destruction,

over-exploitation, the spread of invasive alien species and others. The drivers cited include population growth, growing per capita consumption, government failures and climate change. The EU declares its commitment to not just reducing, but *halting* the loss of biodiversity on its territory.

The communication highlights the need to better incorporate biodiversity considerations into all of its policies and programmes, such as in its agricultural and trade policies. The 2006 communication establishes a **Biodiversity Action Plan**, which focuses on four policy areas:

- protecting biodiversity in the EU (within and outside of the Natura 2000 network)
- protecting biodiversity in the world (through international governance, external assistance and trade),
- adapting to climate change,
- improving the knowledge base (i.e. by funding biodiversity research).

A report published in January 2008 on the state of the EU's Action Plan highlights some progress in areas such as the continued extension of the Natura 2000 network and the reinforcement of international environmental governance. However, the Commission found that progress was slow towards many of the objectives, such as integrating biodiversity in other sectoral policies or in bilateral cooperation and trade.

Biodiversity is one of the three main environmental priorities announced by the European Commission for 2009. The Commission aims to publish an **intermediary report** on its biodiversity strategy in 2008, as well as reinforce links between business and biodiversity and announce a **directive on invasive alien species**.

## STOPPING THE LOSS OF BIODIVERSITY AND PROMOTING ITS SUSTAINABLE USE IN FRANCE

France signed the CBD in 1992 and developed its own **National Strategy for Biodiversity** in 2004. The strategy is part of the larger **National Strategy for Sustainable Development** as well as the Environment Charter (2005).

The goal of the French biodiversity strategy is to stop the loss of biodiversity by 2010. To achieve this goal, it aims to conserve genes, species and habitats, maintain and develop connectivity between sites and ensure that ecosystems are functioning properly. Four strategic orientations have been identified to guide its implementation:

- mobilizing stakeholders to respect and preserve biodiversity;
- recognizing the value of biodiversity services;
- integrating the conservation of biodiversity into all public policies;
- increasing scientific understanding and perfecting the transparency and reliability of public information.

In addition to the national strategy, the government has adopted **ten biodiversity action plans** by sector. With regard to genetic resources, they build upon the policy first established in 1998 (national Charter for the management of genetic resources) and implemented through networks, associating public and private stakeholders in the creation and management of **National collections** (plant and microbial genetic resources) and of a **National Cryobank** for animal genetic resources.

Since 2005 France has been the main supporter of a consultation towards an **International Mechanism of Scientific Expertise on Biodiversity**, modelled on the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), whose goals would be to improve scientific understanding of biodiversity issues. In addition, the importance of stopping the loss of biodiversity was one of eight environmental issues discussed during the "**Grenelle de l'environnement**" in 2007.

The **French Foundation for Research on Biodiversity** was created in February 2008 with the goal of uniting researchers, businesses and civil society to take on the fight of biodiversity loss.

## **INTEGRATING BIODIVERSITY INTO REGIONAL AND LOCAL STRATEGIES**

Biodiversity actions can also be found at the regional and local levels. Some regions in France, for example, have designed specific biodiversity strategies. Cities, towns and other local authorities have incorporated biodiversity into their territorial strategies, including decentralised cooperation. Many have created **centres for the conservation of genetic resources** for local varieties and breeds.

The protection of biodiversity has become a priority for a variety of actors at a variety of levels. Indeed, biodiversity is an issue that goes beyond geographical and institutional borders, so in order to achieve the objectives set up through the various conventions and strategies, these approaches are all complementary and necessary.

## Biodiversity: the business of businesses



It is increasingly accepted that environmentalists and governments are not the only actors who have a stake in biodiversity protection, but that **the private sector is concerned as well**. Enterprises depend on the goods and services rendered by biodiversity and often contribute to its loss. Declining biodiversity thus represents a risk for enterprises; on the other hand, **protecting biodiversity can provide new opportunities**.

The terms employed vary:

- business and biodiversity,
- industry and biodiversity,
- enterprises and biodiversity...

While each signifies a slightly different approach, they all seek to involve the private sector in the fight against biodiversity loss.

The CBD encourages partnerships between businesses and governments; this subject was first addressed at COP8 and had an important role during COP9 in May 2008. In addition, the CBD Secretariat publishes a series of newsletters called **"Business.2010."** Also at the world level, the **UNEP Finance Initiative** aims to explore ways to use financial systems to contribute to the CBD.

Under the Portuguese Presidency in 2007, the European Union organised a conference called the **"European Initiative on Business and Biodiversity"** in cooperation with the IUCN. The "Message from Lisbon" issued from this conference espoused the importance of biodiversity for businesses and vice-versa, and recommended the development of market-based tools such as those developed for climate change.

Organisations such as the WWF, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development and the IUCN have also played an important role in promoting the links between enterprises and businesses. The latter has published numerous guides and newsletters on the subject and created the platform **"Countdown 2010,"** which tracks progress towards reducing the current rate of loss of biodiversity and offers a special section for businesses.

In France, numerous businesses and other organisations are committed to incorporating biodiversity into their development strategies. Examples can be found around several themes: with regards to genetic diversity, for the last ten years industries and associations with an interest in the diversity of one or several species have been participating in the respective French networks in charge of their inventory, characterisation and conservation. The **restoration, management, valuing or compensation** of biodiversity has also received a lot of attention in France with the launch of the CDC Biodiversité in 2008; similar to conservation banking systems, it can carry out such measures on behalf of businesses, communities, contractors and public authorities.

These are but a few of the many initiatives that have emerged over the recent years. What's more, **programmes such as the Seventh Framework Programme increasingly encourage enterprises of all sizes, but in particular Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), to submit biodiversity proposals.**



# Funding Biodiversity

## Funding Biodiversity in European programmes



European policies are managed by thematic Directorate Generals of the European Commission. Each policy is implemented through a corresponding programme, equipped with a budget. The objectives and budgets of these policies are programmed by seven-year periods. The current period is from 2007-2013 and will be re-evaluated starting 2010.

Biodiversity (and the environment more broadly) are transversal subjects. The European Union has made it a priority to incorporate biodiversity considerations throughout the totality of its policies. As such, it would be a heavy task to attempt to identify every programme that addresses biodiversity in some way or another. The following pages highlight the characteristics and funding procedures (for the 2007-2013 period) of some of the policies that are most likely to provide funding for biodiversity projects: the environment, research, cohesion, agricultural and rural development and external policies.

## ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND LIFE+

### OBJECTIVES AND STRUCTURE

"Nature and Biodiversity" constitutes one of the four priorities of the European Community's **6<sup>th</sup> Environmental Action Programme**, the framework for environmental policy-making for the period 2002-2012. **LIFE+** is the financial instrument for European environmental policy. This instrument is divided into three components:

- **Nature and Biodiversity,**
- Environmental Policy and Governance,
- Information and Communication.

The total budget for the current period is about €2.14 billion. Each Member State has an indicative national allocation (e.g. €18,154,000 for France in 2009). LIFE+ funds are open to public and private bodies, actors and institutions registered in the European Union and projects on the territory of the Member States.

The maximum co-financing rate for LIFE+ projects is 50% of the total eligible project costs, except for LIFE+ Nature proposals focusing on priority species or habitat types of the Birds and Habitats Directives (in which case a co-financing rate of up to 75% may be granted).

### FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR BIODIVERSITY IN LIFE+

Biodiversity is a major priority of LIFE+: at least 50% of its budgetary resources for action grants shall be allocated to support the conservation of nature and biodiversity.

LIFE+ Nature projects contribute to the implementation of the **Birds and/or Habitats Directives** including at the local and regional levels and support the further development and implementation of the Natura 2000 network, including coastal and marine habitats and species. LIFE+ Nature projects must be "best practice" or "demonstration" projects.

LIFE+ Biodiversity projects contribute to the implementation of the objectives of the **Communication "Halting the loss of biodiversity by 2010 and beyond."** LIFE+ Biodiversity projects must be demonstration or innovation projects.

In addition, projects focusing on Nature and Biodiversity but involving information and communication objectives and tools can be found within the LIFE+ Information and Communication component.

Each year, Members States may submit a list of **national priorities** selected from the European multi-annual strategic programme. France and 10 other European countries published such priorities for the Nature and Biodiversity component.

### APPLICATION PROCEDURES

There is an **annual call for proposals**. Applicants must submit their proposals to the relevant national authority (in France, the Ministry of Ecology) that will forward the proposals to the Commission. Each Member State has a National Contact Point (NCP) for LIFE+ who can guide project holders.

## RESEARCH POLICY AND THE SEVENTH FRAMEWORK-PROGRAMME

### OBJECTIVES AND STRUCTURE

The European Union's research policy is based on its [Lisbon strategy](#) to become *"the most dynamic competitive knowledge-based society in the world."* It is implemented through the Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Development, or FP7.

The FP7 has a budget of **€54 billion**. It is organised into five main categories:

- Cooperation (supports transnational research activities in a minimum of 3 member states).
- Ideas (funds "frontier research").
- People (focuses on human resources in research and technology in Europe).
- Capacities (aims to enhance research and innovation capacities throughout Europe).
- Nuclear Research.

The Cooperation programme is divided into 10 themes:

- Health
- Food, Agriculture, Fisheries, Biotechnology
- Information and communication technologies
- Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies, Materials and New Production Technologies
- Energy
- **Environment (including climate change)**
- Transport (including aeronautics)
- Socio-economic sciences and the Humanities
- Space
- Security

### FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR BIODIVERSITY IN THE FP7

Several of the FP7 themes could fund biodiversity projects depending on their approach, but two in particular target this field: Environment and Agriculture.

The Environment theme (with a budget of **€1.9 billion**) focuses on four activities:

- Climate change, pollution and risks
- **Sustainable management of resources**
  - Conservation and sustainable management of natural and man-made resources and biodiversity.
  - Management of marine environments.
- Environmental technologies
- Earth observation and assessment tools for sustainable development

The Food, Agriculture, Fisheries and Biotechnology theme (also with a budget of **€1.9 billion**) is built around 3 activities:

- **Sustainable production and management of biological resources from land, forest and aquatic environments**
  - Research on land-based biological resources;
  - Research on aquatic-based biological resources;
- Fork to farm: Food (including seafood), health and well-being;
- Life sciences, biotechnology and biochemistry for sustainable non-food products and processes.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Annual [calls for proposals](#) are published with accompanying [work programmes](#) that specify the subjects to be funded under each activity. Project holders are then invited to submit proposals to the Commission. Funding is generally up to [50% of the total cost](#) of the project, but this rate can be up to 75% for some types of organisations such as SMEs and non-profit research centres.



### BiodivERsA

BiodivERsA is an [ERA-net project](#) funded by the European Union's Sixth Framework Programme for Research and Development (FP6). BiodivERsA is made up of **19 major research funding agencies from 15 countries in Europe**. It is coordinated by the French Foundation for Research on Biodiversity (formerly the French Biodiversity Institute).

The aim of BiodivERsA is to achieve efficient research cooperation in the field of biodiversity research funding within Europe, with a view to establishing a [European Research Area \(ERA\) for Biodiversity](#). This includes:

- Enhancing cooperation in the field of biodiversity research, at strategic and management levels;
- Improving coordination of biodiversity research funding policies of the Member States in cooperation with developing countries;
- Implementing one or several joint programmes;
- Building a platform for sustained co-operation between funding agencies.

Launched in May 2005, BiodivERsA is scheduled to last for four years. The ["first Pan-European call to support international biodiversity research linking scientific advancement to policy and practice"](#) was published in November 2007, with a **€21.5 million** budget. The call sought projects that focused on the following topics:

- Global change and biodiversity dynamics;
- Ecosystem functioning;
- Ecosystem services.

A second call is scheduled for 2009, which will focus on cooperation between European teams and teams from Sub-Saharan African countries.



## COHESION POLICY AND STRUCTURAL FUNDS

### OBJECTIVES AND STRUCTURE

The European cohesion policy aims to **reduce the gap in the different regions' levels of development**, in order to strengthen economic and social cohesion. European Community strategic guidelines have been written, according to which Member States design their own national strategic reference frameworks. Based on these documents, countries and regions then write **operational programmes** that establish objectives and allocate the funds.

With a combined budget of €347 billion, the cohesion policy financial instruments focus on the European Union strategy geared towards growth and employment (The Lisbon Strategy) with the following major priorities: research and technological development, innovation, knowledge based society, transport, energy, protection of the environment, human capital, etc.

Three Objectives:

- **Convergence** – for the least developed regions.
- **Regional competitiveness and employment** – for the other regions.
- **European territorial cooperation**: cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation (often called **INTERREG IV Programme**) – for all regions.

Three financial instruments (called **Structural funds**):

- **ERDF**: European regional development fund.
- **ESF**: European social fund.
- **Cohesion Fund**.

### FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR BIODIVERSITY IN THE COHESION POLICY

**The ERDF is the main fund available for co-financing Nature and Biodiversity projects.** In this field, the priorities are:

- for the **Convergence** objective: Promotion of biodiversity and nature protection, including investments in NATURA 2000 sites, mitigation of climate change effects, rehabilitation of the physical environment;
- for the **Competitiveness** objective: Promotion of the development of infrastructure linked to biodiversity and investments in NATURA 2000 sites where this contributes to sustainable economic development and/or diversification of rural areas;
- for the **Cooperation** objective: Protection and management of river basins, coastal zones, marine resources, water services and wetlands, environmental protection activities with a clear transnational dimension.

### APPLICATION PROCEDURES

The co-financing rate for projects may be between 50% (for competitiveness regions) to 85% (for convergence regions and cooperation proposals). Some regions function by calls for proposals; others receive proposals on a year-round basis.

More information about regional operational programmes can be found at **national or regional authorities** (for Convergence and competitiveness objectives) and at the **managing authorities** (for the Cooperation objective).

## AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY AND THE EAFRD

### OBJECTIVES AND STRUCTURE

European agricultural policy aims to create a market-oriented, competitive European farm sector that improves living conditions and employment opportunities in rural areas and lives up to good environmental practices and maintain habitats, biodiversity and landscapes.

Rural development is an integrated part of the agricultural policy. It has a budget of €88.3 billion, of which at least 25% must be spent on projects that support land management and improve the environment. **The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)** is the financial instrument for the rural development policy. It has a budget of €6.4 billion, supplemented by national contributions.

European rural development policy for the 2007-2013 period focuses on three axes:

- Improving the competitiveness of the agricultural and forestry sector.
- **Improving the environment and countryside.**
- Improving the quality of life in rural areas and encouraging diversification of the rural economy.

A fourth, methodological axe known as "LEADER" allows local actors to design rural development strategies along these three axes.

### FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR BIODIVERSITY IN AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

**Most biodiversity projects will fall under the second axis of the rural development policy.** Measures under axis 2 should be used to:

- integrate environmental objectives;
- contribute to implementing the agricultural and forestry Natura 2000 network, reversing biodiversity decline by 2010;
- achieve the objectives of the Water Directive and the Kyoto protocol targets for climate change mitigation.

In addition, rural development policy rewards farmers for providing more environmental services in rural areas than what is required of them by law through **agri-environmental measures**. They receive annual payments compensating for additional costs and loss of income that arise as a result of altered farming practices. The protection of endangered breeds and the preservation of endangered plant resources are two eligible areas.

Aside from the rural development and agriculture policy, the **European Fisheries Fund (EFF)** involves the priorities of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP). It has similar objectives and implementation as the EAFRD, adapted for fishery activities and coastal areas. Nature and Biodiversity projects related to marine, aquatic and coastal development areas can be funded by the EFF.

### APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Each Member State has produced a **National Strategic Plan and Rural Development Programmes (RDP)** involving the three axes and LEADER approach at the national and/or regional levels. Details of the EAFRD, including concerning actions related to nature and biodiversity, may be found in each RDP at the managing authority. Co-financing rates vary depending on the axes and the regions involved.

## EXTERNAL POLICY FUNDS

### OBJECTIVES AND STRUCTURE

In addition to the programmes that support the European Union's internal policy, the EU also has a number of external policy programmes, most of which target developing and emerging countries. The financial instruments that support these programmes include, among others:

- **Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)** for Turkey, Croatia, FYROMacedonia, Albania, Serbia, Montenegro and Bosnia-Herzegovina.
- **European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI)** for 17 Mediterranean countries and Newly Independent States (NIS).
- **European Development Fund (EDF)** based on the Cotonou agreement, which provides the basis of EU co-operation with African, Caribbean and Pacific countries, the EDF supports assistance to the Union's 78 ACP partner countries and the overseas countries and territories of Member States.
- **Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI)** provides assistance to South Africa and 47 developing countries in Latin America, Asia and Central Asia, and the Middle East (countries not covered by the ENPI or the EDF)
- **Financial instrument for cooperation with industrialised countries.**

### FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR BIODIVERSITY IN EXTERNAL POLICY FUNDS

The preservation of biodiversity abroad is an important component of the EU's Biodiversity Action Plan. Such action abroad mostly takes place within the framework of EU development policy; the 2005 "**EU Consensus on Development**" stresses the importance of sustainable management and preservation of natural resources. It complements the 2001 "**Strategy to promote environmental integration in development cooperation.**"

At the "**Integrating Biodiversity into EU Development Cooperation,**" Conference held in Paris in 2006, the EU outlined four challenges:

- helping developing countries integrate biodiversity issues into all their policies;
- improving governance to reduce poverty and ensure sustainable use of biodiversity;
- strengthening existing instruments and policy consistency;
- recognising biodiversity in overseas countries and territories.

Any of the aforementioned instruments may potentially fund biodiversity actions. In particular, the DCI includes the **ENRTP, or "Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources including Energy Thematic Programme."** This programme has a budget of €804 million and funds biodiversity projects, among other environmental themes.

### APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Procedures vary by programme; many of them function by calls for proposals, published on the **EuropeAid** website. For others, countries write Operational Programmes (potentially including nature and biodiversity priorities) in cooperation with the EU and establish managing authorities in charge of allocating the funds at the national or regional levels.

## Funding Biodiversity in France



### NATIONAL RESEARCH AGENCY (ANR)

The **ANR** is an organisation that exists to fund scientific research projects. Its goal is to increase the number of research projects from the whole of the scientific community, and to provide funding based on calls for proposals and peer review selection processes. For the year 2008, the ANR had a total budget of €955 million for research projects having a maximum duration of four years.

From 2005-2007, the ANR launched a specific annual call for biodiversity proposals. Numerous biodiversity-related subjects are also funded under its other programmes, particularly the "**Ecosystems and Sustainable Development Programme**."

In addition, in 2009 a new programme entitled "**6<sup>th</sup> Extinction**" will fund projects that focus on quantifying the loss of biological diversity as well as understanding and taking action against the ecological, economic and social processes behind it.



### MINISTRY OF ECOLOGY, ENERGY, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND SPATIAL PLANNING (MEEDDAT)

The **MEEDDAT** is the French institution responsible for the development and implementation of environment and energy policies.

In terms of biodiversity, the main missions of the MEEDDAT include:

- Understanding and monitoring of the evolution of ecosystems.
- Coordinating the implementation of the French National Biodiversity Strategy.
- Protecting biological diversity, nature and landscapes; preserving fauna and flora.
- Monitoring hunting and managing wild fauna.
- Controlling the use and the trade of animal and vegetable species.
- Monitoring natural reserves, regional natural parks and national botanical conservatories.

The MEEDDAT supports biodiversity research along several themes: for example, the "**DIVA**" programme funds research on public action, agriculture and biodiversity.

At the local level, project-holders should address their DIRENs (Directions régionales de l'environnement) for more information about funding for biodiversity projects.



### FRENCH FOUNDATION FOR RESEARCH ON BIODIVERSITY (FRB)

The **FRB** was launched in February 2008. It fuses two organisations, the French Biodiversity Institute and the Bureau of Genetic Resources, bringing together public research organisations, environmental associations, conservationists and businesses in order to take on the challenges posed by biodiversity loss.

The FRB's main mission will be to **support and lead research activities and disseminate their results**, as well as to carry out other information and communication activities and awareness raising. It will also fund biodiversity projects through calls for proposals.

## Funding Biodiversity in the World



In addition to these European and French funds, there are numerous other structures that fund biodiversity projects or use financial instruments to protect biodiversity in the world. Below are two examples of such funds that could be of interest to project holders.

### GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF)

The GEF, or [Global Environment Facility](#) was created in 1991 with the goal of helping developing countries finance projects and programmes that aim to protect the world environment. It is the "funding mechanism" of four international environmental conventions, including the Convention on Biological Diversity. The GEF funds support projects in the fields of biodiversity, climate change, international waters, soil degradation, ozone depletion and organic pollutants.

The GEF's budget is provided by donor countries. Thirty-three countries contributed \$3.13 billion to the current budget, which covers the period 2006-2010.

Projects are funded according to their size: [Full-Sized Projects](#) (projects over €1 million), Medium-Sized Projects (projects up to €1 million) and the [Small Grants Programme](#) (initiatives at the community level that contribute to the preservation of world biodiversity).

### FONDS FRANÇAIS POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT MONDIAL (FFEM)

The [Fonds français pour l'environnement mondial](#) is a bilateral public fund created in 1994 by the French government following the Earth Summit. Its objective is to favour world environmental protection through sustainable development projects in developing and transition countries. Biodiversity is one of the seven fields funded by the FFEM.

Projects are funded in the following areas:

- Conservation: endangered ecosystems, species, races and varieties.
- Sustainable management of natural resources.
- Giving a value to biodiversity so as to make it a bonus for economic and social development.

And two major axes:

- Involving local populations in biodiversity conservation.
- Integrating biodiversity protection in a development approach, favouring "reasoned use".

The FFEM has also launched the "[Small Initiatives Programme](#)," destined for NGOs and SMEs in developing countries. Projects selected must be focused on nature protection and income building. They may receive a maximum contribution of €50,000 over a period of two years. This programme functions by calls for proposals.

## Links and references

### **CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

Home page: <http://www.cbd.int/>

French Clearing House Mechanism Focal Point: <http://biodiv.mnhn.fr/>

### **BUSINESS AND BIODIVERSITY**

Convention on Biological Diversity – Business Partners: <http://www.cbd.int/business/>

UNEP Finance Initiative: [http://www.unepfi.org/work\\_streams/biodiversity/index.html](http://www.unepfi.org/work_streams/biodiversity/index.html)

### **BIODIVERSITY IN THE EUROPEAN UNION**

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY:**

DG Environment: [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/index_en.htm)

Biodiversity Website: [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature\\_biodiversity/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature_biodiversity/index_en.htm)

European Environmental Agency:

<http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/biodiversity/policy-context>

LIFE+ Guidelines and application forms:

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/funding/lifeplus.htm>

For French applicants, the MEEDDAT website:

<http://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/-Financements-europeens-.html>

#### **RESEARCH POLICY:**

DG Research: <http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.html>

Seventh Framework Programme homepage: [http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home_en.html)

French National Contact Points Platform for FP7: <http://www.eurosfaire.prd.fr/7pc/>

Biodiversa website: <http://www.eurobiodiversa.org/>

#### **COHESION POLICY:**

DG Regio: [http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/index_en.htm)

#### **AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY:**

DG Agriculture website: [http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rurdev/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rurdev/index_en.htm)

DG Fisheries website: [http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp_en.htm)

#### **EXTERNAL POLICY:**

DG External Relations: [http://ec.europa.eu/external\\_relations/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/external_relations/index_en.htm)

and [http://ec.europa.eu/europaid/what/universal-issues/environment/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/europaid/what/universal-issues/environment/index_en.htm)

EuropeAid:

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome>

### **BIODIVERSITY IN FRANCE**

French Ministry of Ecology, Energy, Sustainable Development and Spatial Planning:

<http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/>

MEEDDAT website for biodiversity research:

<http://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/-Biodiversite-et-patrimoine-naturel-.html>

French National Research Agency: <http://www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr/Accueil>

French Foundation for Research on Biodiversity: <http://www.fondationbiodiversite.fr>

ATEN (Atelier technique des espaces naturels): <http://www.espaces-naturels.fr/>

CDC Biodiversité: <http://www.cdc-biodiversite.fr/>

### **WORLD FUNDS**

GEF: <http://www.gefweb.org/default.aspx>

FFEM: <http://www.ffem.fr/jahia/Jahia/accueil>

### **OTHER LINKS**

Countdown 2010 Initiative: <http://www.countdown2010.net/>

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