Interreg Europe project BioGov

IMPROVING BIODIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

policy event - 17/11/2021

VLM.be

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VLAAMSE
LAND
MAATSCHAPPIJ

8 Regional Stakeholder Groups work with **Multistakeholder Partnership (MSP) principles**

1. *Embrace systemic change*
2. *Transform institutions*
3. *Work with power*
4. *Deal with conflict*
5. *Communicate effectively*
6. *Promote collaborative leadership*
7. *Foster participatory learning*

towards broad stakeholder support for regional policies through

- **Action Plans** (July 2018 - Oct 2020)
- **Implementation of Action Plans** (November 2020-May 2022)

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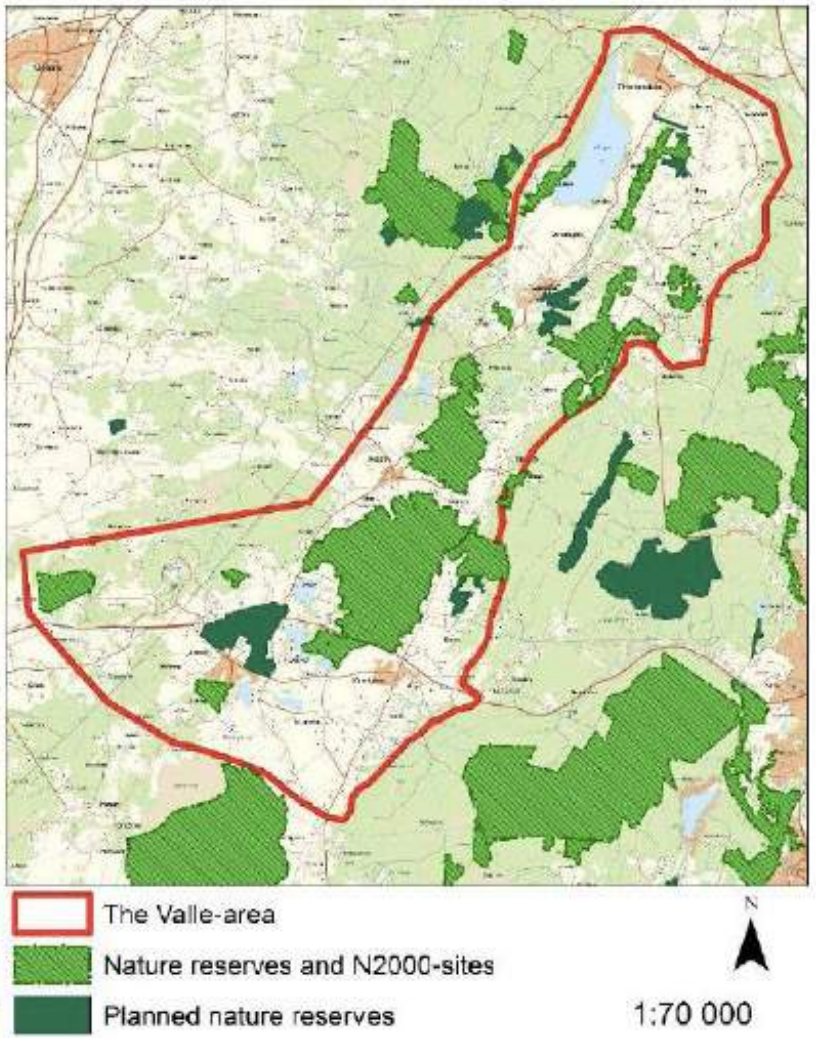
1 Multistakeholder collaboration strengthens both green infrastructure and multifunctional landscapes

The Valle area

Vallebygden



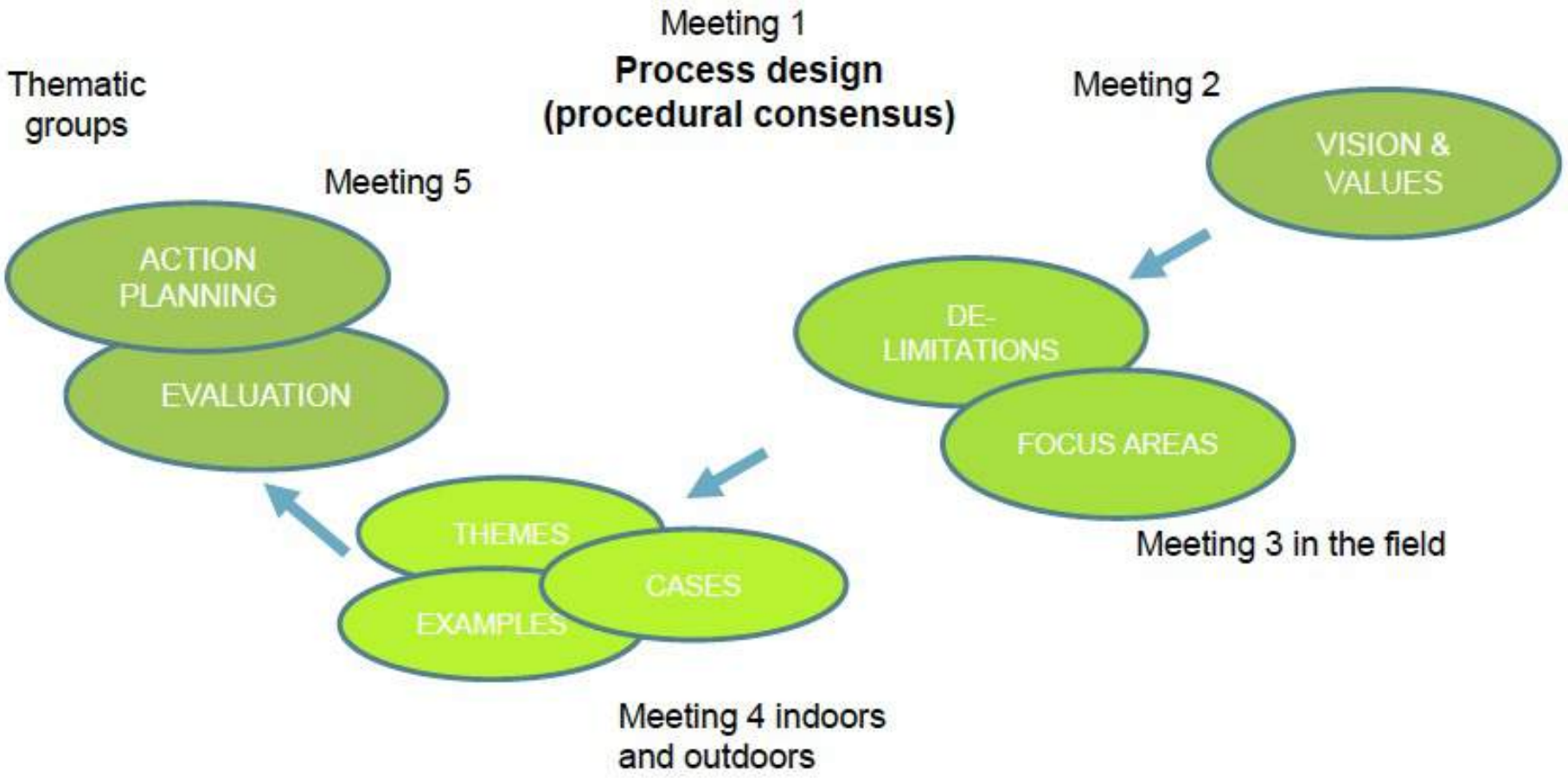
The starting point

The Working Approach

The Knowledge Base

The Regional Stakeholder Group

Overall process design



The SWOT-analysis

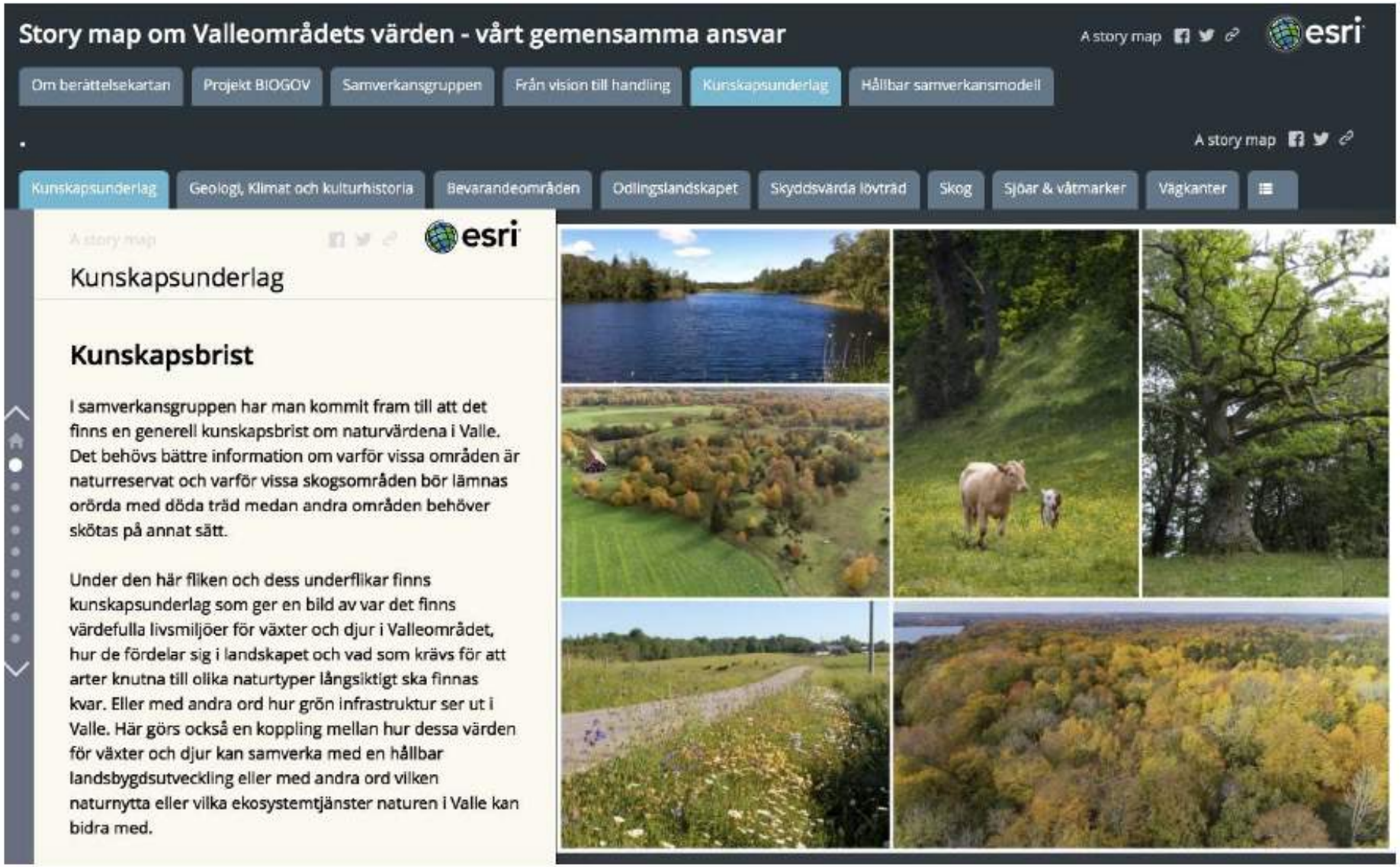
Purpose: **"Review RSG dynamics to implement Action Plan in Phase 2, by means of drafting and discussing a SWOT analysis of the RSG on the basis of the 7 MSP principles."**

SWOT analysis of RSG

1. Rich pictures and adaptive decision making
2. Inter-organisational and -sectorial collaboration
3. Analysis of power both on micro- and macro-level in survey and in dialogue
4. Identifying conflict areas
5. Focus on creating a safe environment for constructive dialogue
6. Learning by doing, establishing principles of collaborative leadership, increasing trust of authorities
7. Mixed methods for learning

"We want to develop a sustainable model of collaboration, joint working method, among a great deal of stakeholders to achieve a more holistic approach of the challenges concerning sustainable landuse"

StoryMap – a platform for communication



Action Plan Sweden

1. Report to SEPA on the model of cooperation
2. Further develop the sustainable model of cooperation
3. An interactive Story Map
4. Biking & hiking trails - Outdoor life
5. Preserve natural grasslands by adding farmers perspectives
6. Holistic management plan for nature reserves within Green Infrastructure
7. Plan for management of public roadsides

BIOGOV LODZKIE, POLAND

1 . Policy improvement for biodiversity protection

2. Define and implement good practices of biodiversity protection

3. Protect traditional fruit trees

4. Create new tourist products based on traditional fruit trees

Action Plan Poland

1. Include provisions for landscape and biodiversity in **Lodzkie Region Strategy 2030**
2. Include provisions in the **Landscape Audit** that traditional orchards are important
3. Landscape Parks as a **regional information centre** on traditional orchards
4. Preserve traditional orchards
5. Create fruit trees in line and field woods

BIOGOV SLOVENIA

1 . Improve governance and planning of the use of forest resources, a.o. in ERDF Operational Programme

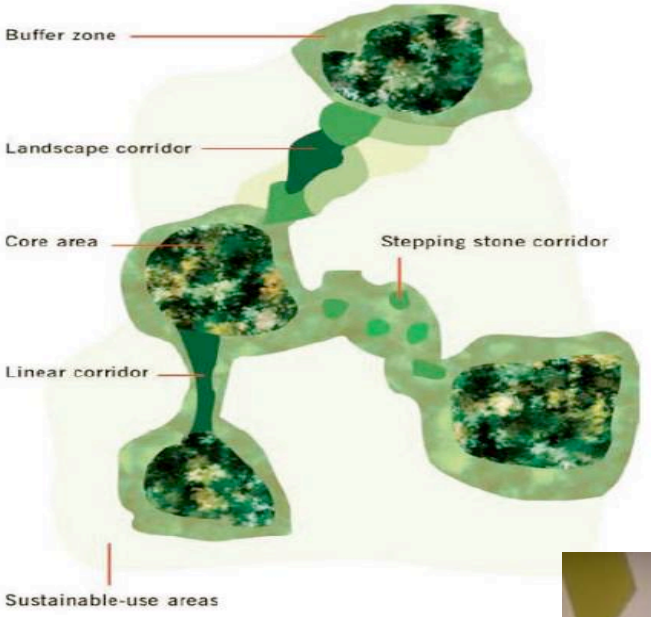
2. Use Multistakeholder Partnership approach to improve biodiversity conservation in forest management

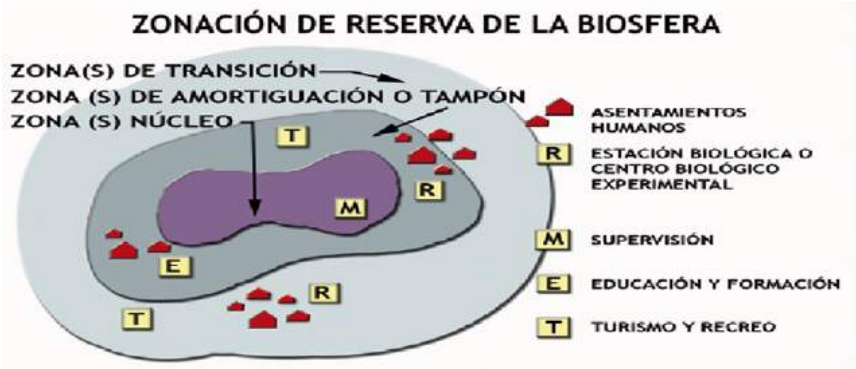
3. Improve national policy documents on biodiversity.

4. Increase species diversity

Action Plan Slovenia

1. Strengthen the institutional and personnel capacity of *participatory planning* for biodiversity in forest management
2. Strengthen the role of biodiversity in the forest management areas
3. Setting up recreational paths separate from zones rich in biodiversity
4. Promote participatory approaches in future forest management practices for conservation of biodiversity





Action Plan Galicia (ES)

1. Develop and implement a ***territorial model*** of a "green infrastructure" with increased connectivity to protect against forest fires for ERDF Operational Program
2. Identify areas of ***high environmental value*** with stakeholders where to implement measures against biodiversity loss
3. Raise awareness among ***youth*** about local traditional wisdom in the fight against biodiversity loss

Action Plan Blagoevgrad (BG)

1. RSG to become member of **Thematic Working Group** for the development of Operating Programme “Environment” 2021-2027
2. RSG to become member of National Consultative Committee for the **Natura 2000 Network**
3. Develop criteria for **environmental excellence** for businesses operating in protected areas
4. Awareness campaign on **environmentally friendly business activities** in protected areas

Recommendations

1. *To make biodiversity conservation and green infrastructure work at regional and local level,* ***coordinated efforts between different policy areas are needed on national and EU level.***
2. ***Stronger EU and Member state assignments*** *for authorities and government agencies to integrate biodiversity, green infrastructure and ecosystem services* ***in their economic assessments and decisions.***
3. *Successful participatory planning requires both institutional and human resources to* ***enable stakeholders improve their knowledge and skills of participatory approaches***

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2 Result Based Schemes provide tailormade solutions for biodiversity and ecosystem services goals

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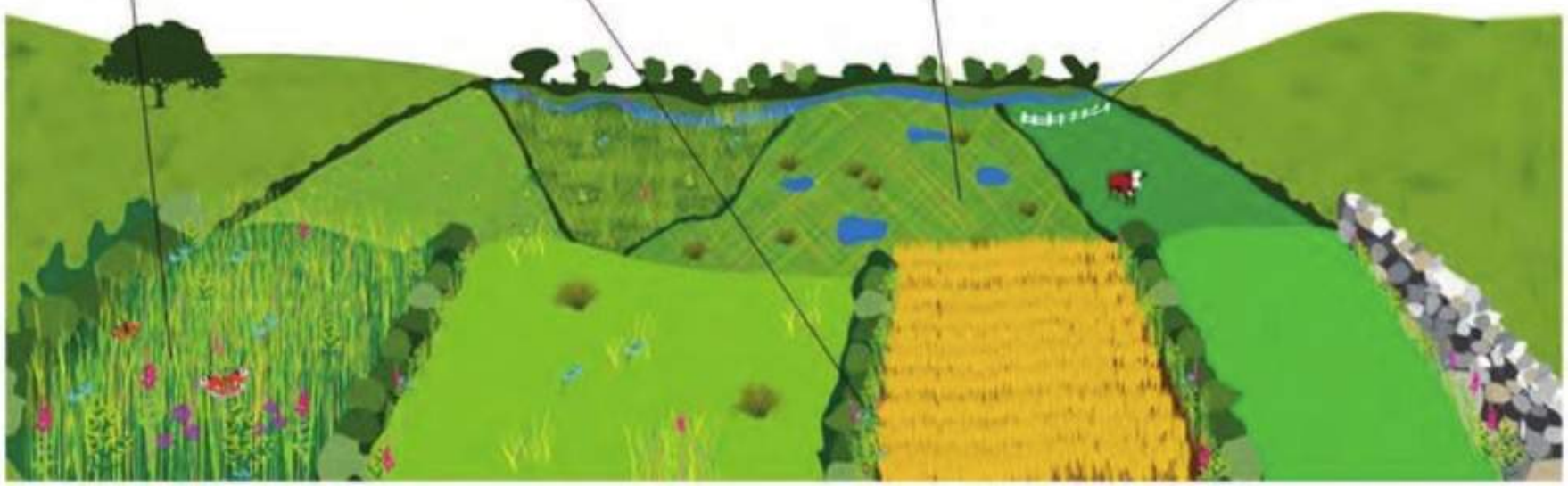
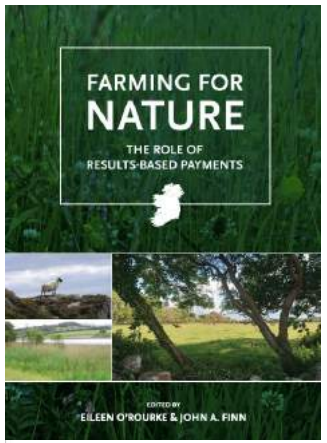
RBPS are essential to maintain and incentivise improvements in quality of semi-natural habitats for range of ecosystem services

RBPS can be used to reward the quality of HNV features such as hedgerows, field margins and wildflower strips for pollination, pest control and associated services

RBPS can be used to reward the quality of vegetation structure and wet features required by target species e.g. breeding waders

Complementary measures such as the creation of buffer strips e.g. fencing a riparian margin, within a hybrid approach can deliver additional benefits





This or That? Defining environmental objectives in the design of a results-based agri-environmental contract: *The case of grasslands in Voeren, Belgium*.

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MSc Thesis in Environmental Sciences

June 2021

Ark Natuur Ontwikkeling, n.d.

Supervised by dr.ir Lenny van Bussel

Course code: ESA-80436

Environmental Systems Analysis group

Wageningen University and Research

Recommendation

4. *More European, national and regional policy organisations can* ***embrace Results-Based Schemes****, since it is yields biodiversity and ecosystem services goals while stakeholders are more responsible and engaged in the governance.*

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Recommendation

5. *To achieve the EU Biodiversity 2030 targets, regional policy organisations need to invest in* ***trustworthy, independent, non-commercial landscape facilitators****, who coordinate among stakeholders, build dialogue, provide interrelated expert knowledge and can act as 'Green Deal' coaches.*

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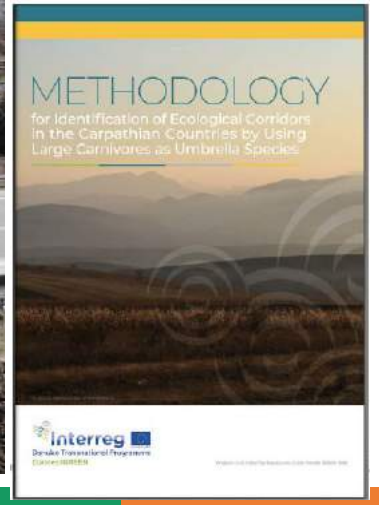
Action Plan Romania

Proposal for National Legislative Package on ecological corridors



Recommendation

6. *Science needs to work with policy in order to materialise the ecological corridors into spatial planning*
especially if clear ***methodologies and guidelines on official designation are absent****.*
International/ transboundary action plans can help to reflect the agreed objectives and steps

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‘Compensation for Services’
A tailormade area-specific stewardship scheme in **Flanders**, with an annual compensation to land users

Grasslands as example of multisectoral funding = different ecosystem services) <- different policy goals & instruments:

Landscape – heritage, tourism & recreation
Biodiversity Erosion control Carbon storage
Water retention Nature-inclusive agriculture

Recommendations

7. *All member states to programme funding in the Prioritized Action Framework for N2000 on* ***bufferzones and multistakeholder partnerships.***

8. *There should be more room and flexibility within EU legislation and funding schemes to* ***combine different funding programmes***

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