

Innovative solutions for financing Natura 2000



Innovative solutions – what could they be?

“Traditional” solutions for financing Natura 2000:

- Public: EU & national budget
- Private / public: NGOs, foundations, trusts ...
- Market-based: entrance fees & revenue from tourism

Innovative solutions - everything else than above !

Why innovative instruments?

- They can help to bridge the financing gap for Natura 2000
- They can engage a new set of stakeholders





Examples: innovative use of public funds

Allocating & earmarking public funds

- Using Natura 2000 as a criteria for allocating public funds, e.g. to balance out opportunity costs between different regions
- E.g. fiscal transfers in Portugal

Environment-related taxes

- Dedicating tax revenues to support the management of Natura 2000
- E.g. tax on plastic bags used to support environmental projects in Ireland

Reforming subsidies

- Reforming environmentally harmful subsidies and directing some of the funds to support management of Natura 2000 & related public goods
- E.g. public funded PES schemes





Example: creation of more versatile markets & payment schemes

Creating new markets:

- New markets for sustainable rural / local products from Natura 2000 areas (organic, certified)
- Trade on natural values / “nature” auctions
- E.g. Metso Programme in Finland for natural values trading

Payments for ecosystem services (PES)

- Creating markets or public / private payment schemes to pay for ecosystem services originating from Natura 2000 areas
- E.g. provisioning and purification of water, maintenance of pollination ...

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development
biodiversity
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nature
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Example: engaging with the private sector

Public-private & business-public-NGO Partnerships

- Establishing different public-private partnerships to support Natura 2000
- Sponsoring Natura 2000 sites / protected species
- Creating Natura 2000 related business opportunities
- E.g. public-private partnerships for financing Natura 2000 in Poland, Hungary and Bulgaria



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**Successful funding of
Natura 2000 requires
a diverse income portfolio**

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Lets think outside the box !