

Financing Natura 2000: Investing in Europe's Green Infrastructure

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Natura 2000 – an unique tool

- Unique cooperation of EU MS
- Largest network globally (26000 sites, 18% territory)
- Modern and ambitious, science based approach
- Cornerstone of EU biodiversity policy

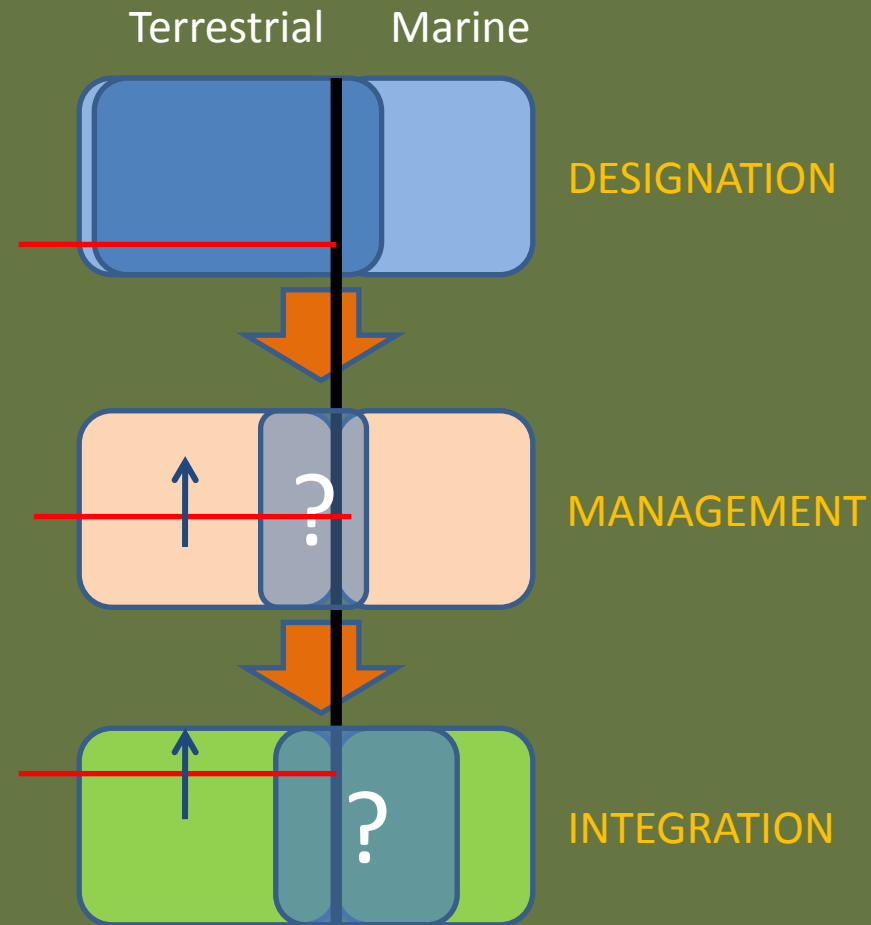
Natura 2000 and Green Infrastructure

- Concept of Green Infrastructure (new strategy subtarget)
- Key: Ecosystem functions and services (TEEB study: ES underpinned by healthy ecosystems)
- Natura 2000 as integral part of GI
 - Connectivity
 - Biodiversity support (function, efficiency)



State and future of Natura 2000

- Designation phase over (in terrestrial part)
- Phase of management starting
- Art. 17 report: 17% in favourable status
- Important part of biodiversity baseline
- Separate subtarget for new biodiversity strategy (EEA)



Natura 2000: financing

- Responsibility: member states
- Art. 8: link to the provision of EU funding
- Spring 2010 Council Conclusions: demand to put in place adequate finance and effective management and restoration measures, and
- Asses whether integrated approach for the financing has been adequate

Future financing: aims of the conference

- Finalised options for financing not yet possible
- Questions:
 - Why has the uptake of funds not been more successful?
 - What are the main obstacles to successful integration?
 - Can new integration approaches to enhance the uptake of funds/ do we need a stand alone fund?
 - What will be the role of any future LIFE instrument?
 - Should we develop a programmatic approach?
 - What is the potential of market based instruments, including private funding?