



# Information event on NATURA 2000 guidance documents and on the project about possible impacts of renewable energy developments on NATURA 2000

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# The context

- **Fitness check of nature legislation** (Habitats and Birds Directives) – Commission conclusions of fitness check from December 2016
- The Nature Directives are **fit for purpose** but improvement is needed in their **implementation**

# Action Plan for Nature, People and the Economy

- Response of the Commission to the fitness check of nature legislation
- Action plan with 4 priorities areas and 15 concrete actions (2017-2019)

**A: Improving guidance and knowledge and ensuring better coherence with broader socio-economic objectives**

B: Building political ownership and strengthening compliance

C: Strengthening investment in N2000 and improving synergies with EU funding instruments

D: Better communication and outreach, engaging citizens, stakeholders and communities

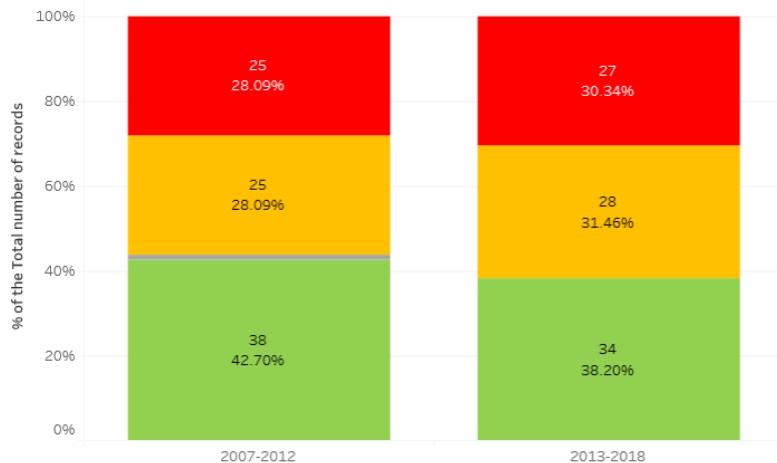


# State of nature/biodiversity decline

Proportion of assessments in each category of conservation status for 2007-2012 and 2013-2018 reporting periods - **DRAFT**  
*(based on data as reported by Member States prior final harmonisation)*

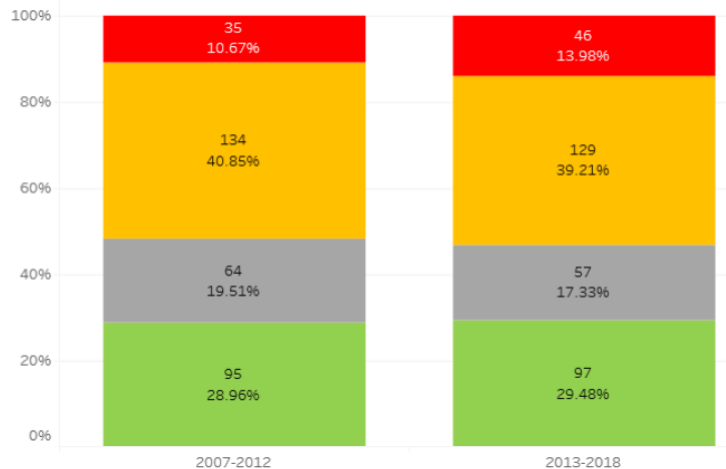
Member state(s) selected: **SI**

% of assessments - habitats



Member State(s) selected **SI**

% of assessments - species

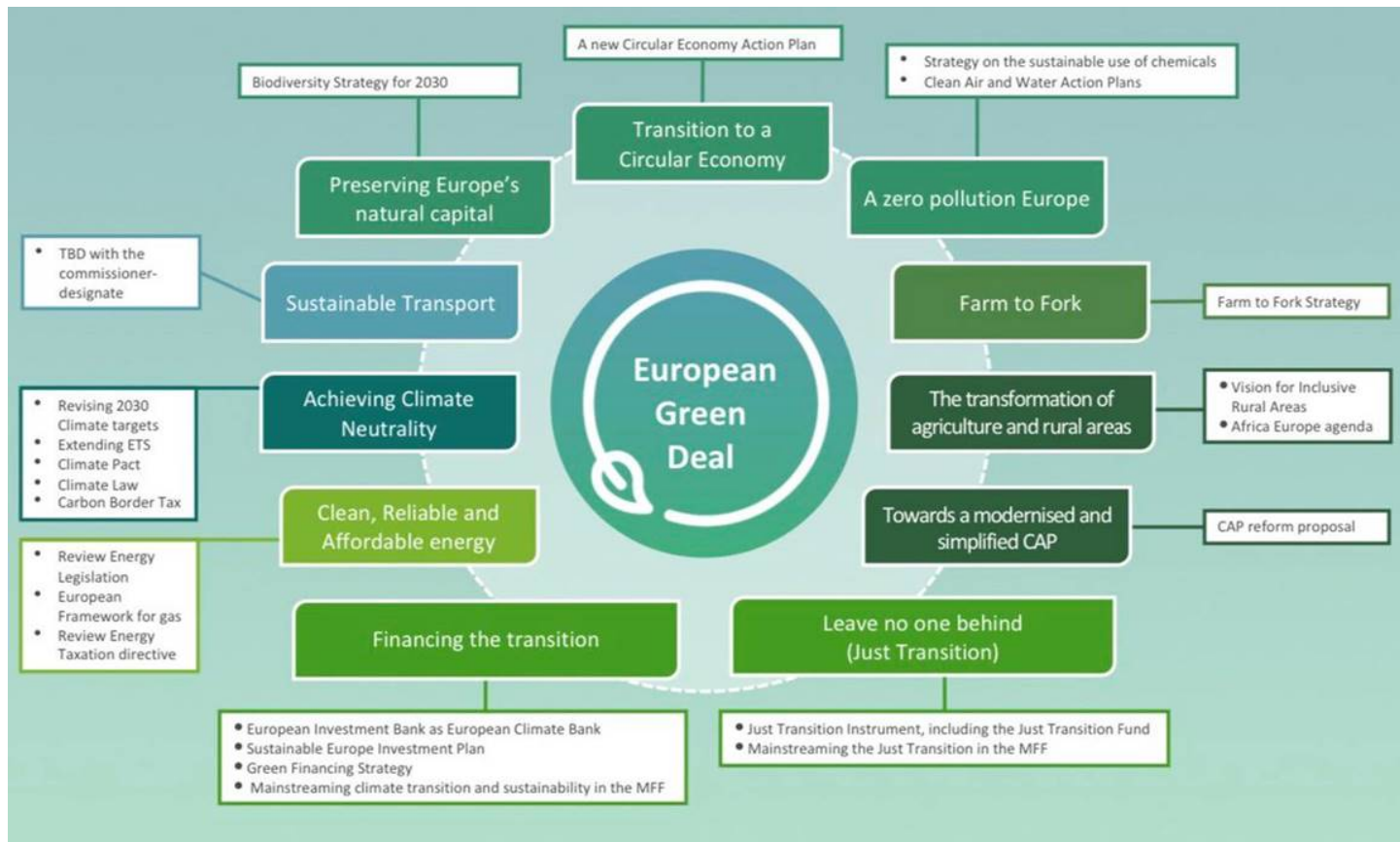


The figures shown for 2007-2012 and 2013-2018 are not necessarily directly comparable because changes in Member State's conservation status may be due to changes of methods or to better data rather than reflecting genuine changes.

Only habitats & species assessments flagged as 'Use for statistics' in '3. List of habitats&species reports' are included.

# The future

- The new European Commission
- The **European Green Deal**
- The **Biodiversity strategy to 2030**
- Sustainable development goals
- The integration approach
- The full implementation of existing rules and new ambitions for **biodiversity and climate**



# European Green Deal



European Commission

## Attitudes of Europeans towards Biodiversity



### ALMOST ALL EUROPEANS CONSIDER THAT HALTING BIODIVERSITY LOSS IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE...



### MOST EUROPEANS ARE NOT WILLING TO TRADE DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION TO NATURE IN PROTECTED AREAS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



### EU CITIZENS CONSIDER THAT BIODIVERSITY IS THREATENED BY:



### WHAT SHOULD THE EU DO TO PROTECT BIODIVERSITY



Source: Special Eurobarometer 481 – Attitudes of Europeans towards Biodiversity



European Commission

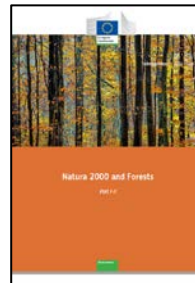
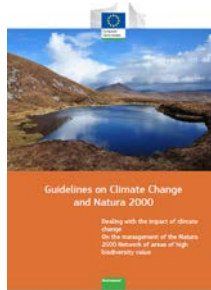
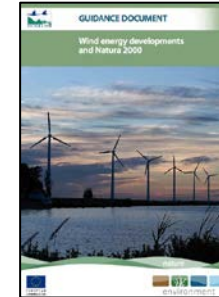
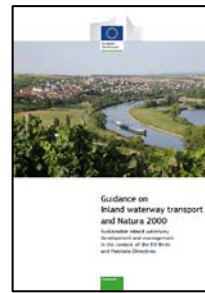
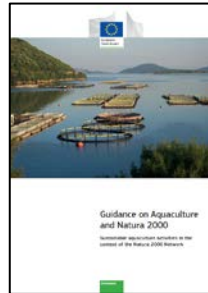
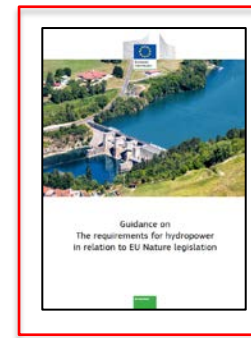
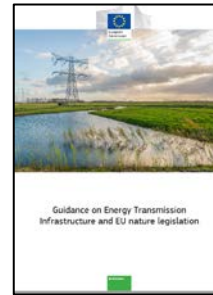
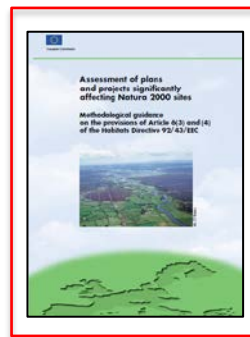
# Public opinion in Slovenia

- **62%** of Slovenians are **aware of the Natura 2000 network** (2013), which is more than double the European average, and rising.
- When asked about efforts to help preserve biodiversity, **92%** respondents in Slovenia say they **make personal efforts**, this being the highest rate in the EU and still rising.
- The public support in Slovenia to further increasing the number of protected areas in the EU is very high (**86%**).



# This event

- PART 1: Commission guidance on the management of Natura 2000 sites focusing on the appropriate assessment
- PART 2: Reviewing and mitigating the impacts of renewable energy developments on habitats and species protected under the Birds and Habitats Directives (contract)



[https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/management/index\\_en.htm](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/management/index_en.htm)

# “Renewables project”

- European Parliament funds / 2018-2019
- Aims: understand better **the impacts of RE** on protected species and habitats (mainly birds, bats, marine mammals), provide **guidance to MS and stakeholders** for the specific sector, **update existing guidance on wind energy and Natura 2000** (2011), **help MS in overcoming obstacles** related to permitting procedures
- Contractors: Arcadis (IEEP, NIRAS, Ecosystems Ltd, Birdlife Europe, Stella consulting, expert on marine mammals)