



Countdown 2010: The role of local authorities

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Curitiba, Brazil

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What is Countdown 2010?

A powerful network of active partners
working together towards the 2010 biodiversity target



Save Biodiversity!

www.countdown2010.net

The 2010 Biodiversity Target



“to achieve, by 2010, a significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss at the global, regional and national levels as a contribution to poverty alleviation and to the benefit of all life on earth”

Decision VI/26 CBD Strategic Plan 2002

“that biodiversity decline should be halted with the aim of reaching this objective by 2010”

Presidency Conclusions of the EU Summit in Göteborg, 2001



World leaders agreed to several other important targets at the 2005 World Summit. I recommend the incorporation of these commitments into the Millennium Development Goals. This includes: [...] a new target under Goal 7: to “Significantly reduce the rate of loss of biodiversity by 2010”.

Kofi Annan, Sept 1, 2006



... mind the implementation gap!

A rapidly urbanising world

- 1950: 30% people living in cities
- 2007: 50% people living in cities
- Separation of people from nature
- Cities depend on Nature and
- Nature depends on Cities



"As you can see, some have adapted to their reduction of territory quite well."

Ecosystem Services

Everyone in the world depends on nature and ecosystem services to provide the conditions for a decent, healthy, and secure life

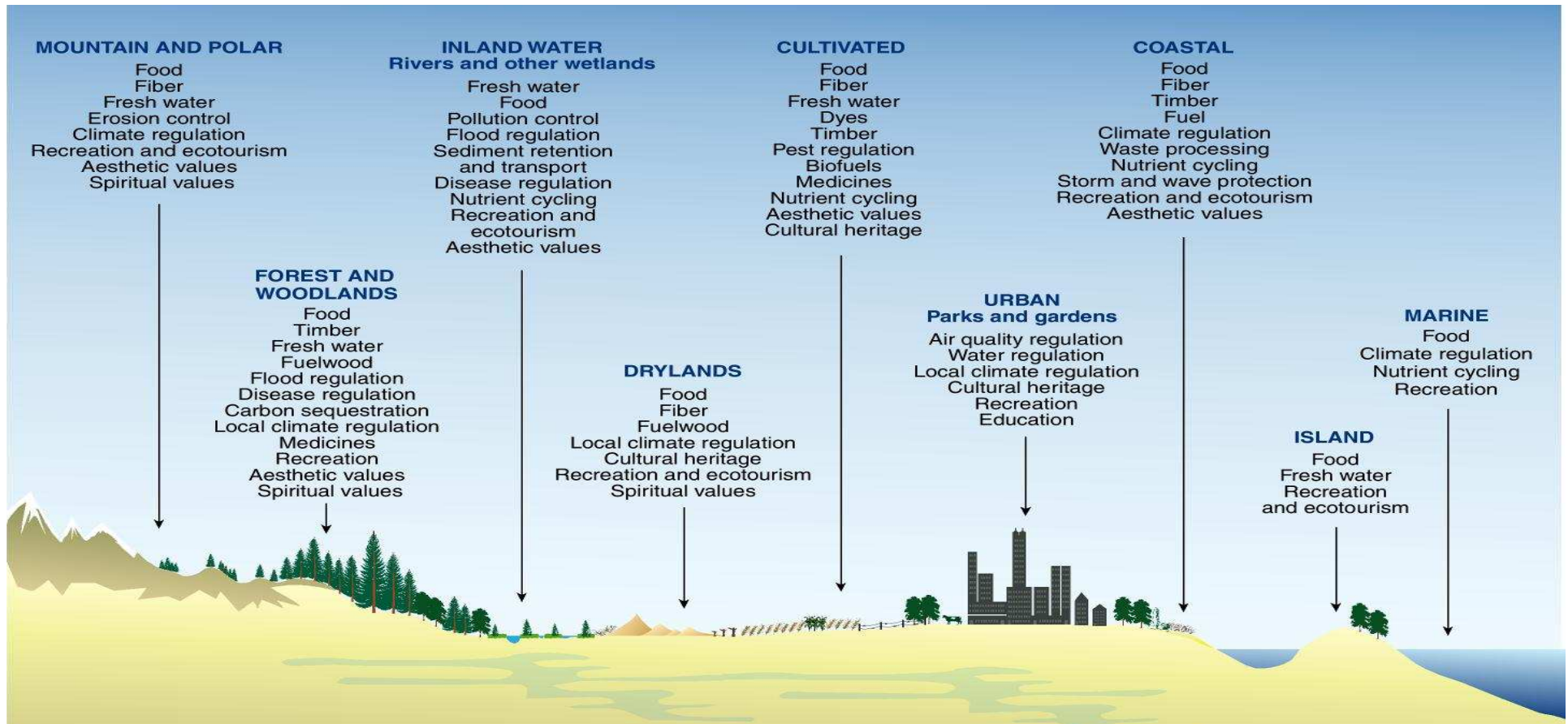
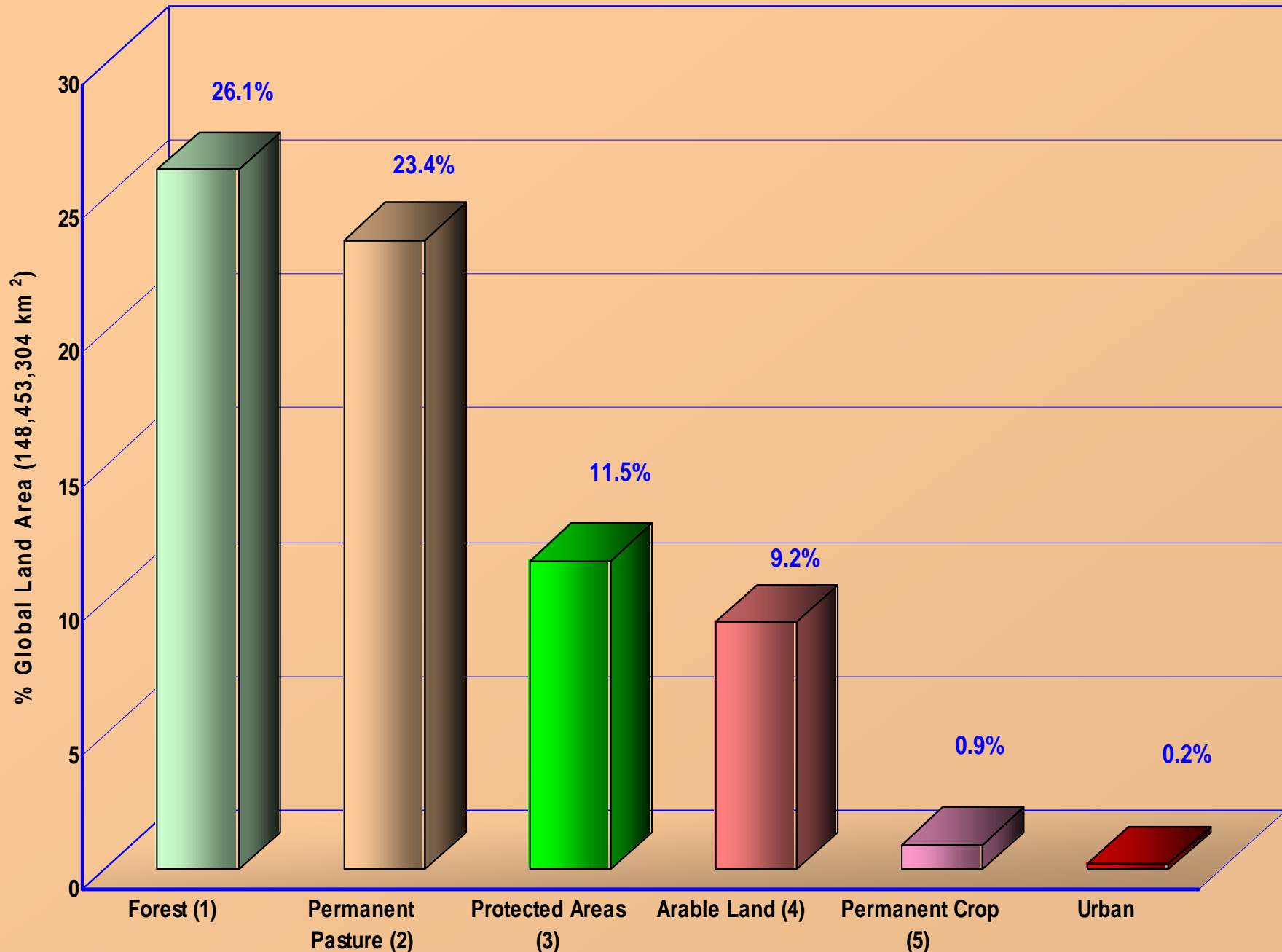


Figure 2: Protected Areas as Proportion of Global Land Use



What does Countdown 2010 do?

- **Communicate** the importance of biodiversity for human well-being and promote the 2010 biodiversity target
- **Remind** governments to live up to their promises and move from words to action
- **Activate** the power of the conservation movement to work together towards a joint goal
- **Broaden** the constituency and resource base



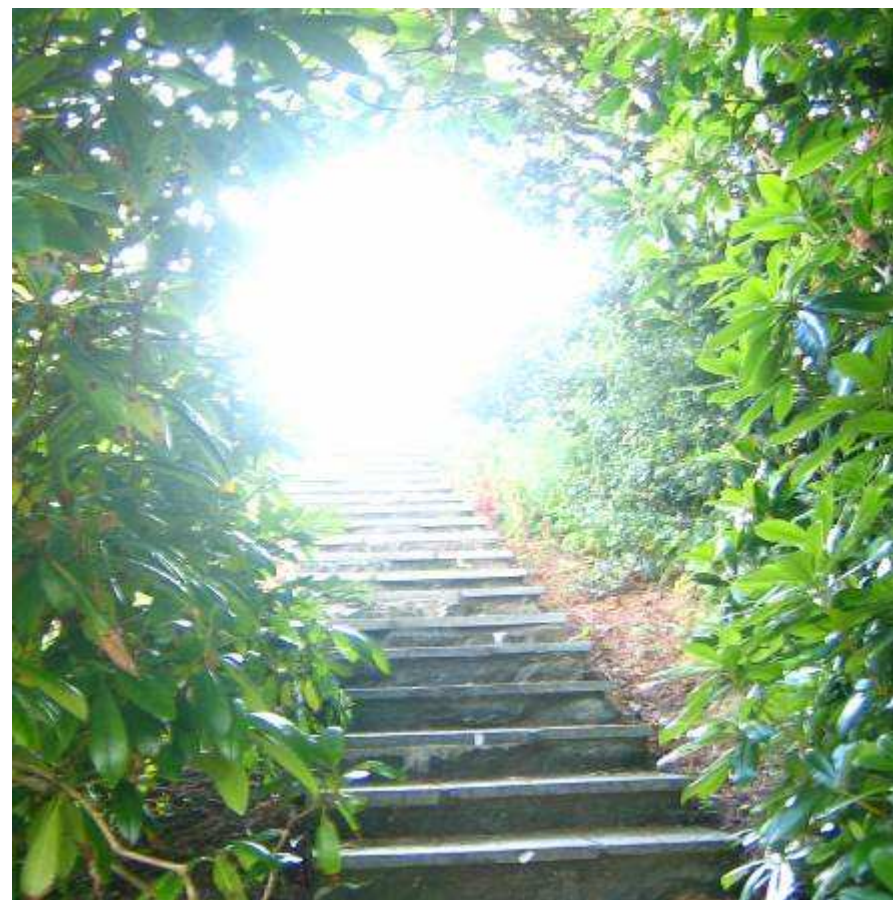
The Countdown 2010 Objectives

- **Encourage** and **support** the full **implementation** of all the existing binding international commitments and necessary actions to save biodiversity;
- **Demonstrate** clearly what **progress** Europe makes in meeting the 2010 biodiversity target.
- **Gain** maximum **public attention** across Europe for the challenge of saving biodiversity by 2010.



ICLEI LAB 5 steps to save biodiversity

- 1. Communicate:** public declaration by city leadership
- 2. Assess:** Development of Biodiversity Report
- 3. Plan:** Drafting and Consulting a 10 year BAP
- 4. Commit:** Formal Acceptance of BAP
- 5. Do:** Implementation of 5 Biodiversity Interventions until 2010





A success model in Europe

14 national governments signed
Countdown 2010 Declaration

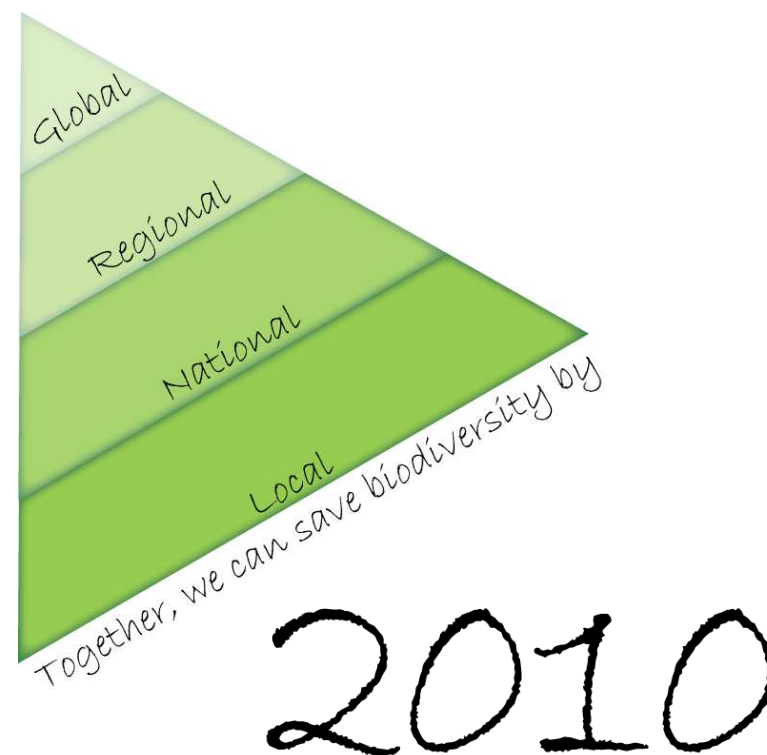
200+ partner organisations from
local authorities, businesses and
civil society

Target: Upcoming EU Presidencies
+ Congress Hosts

Subregional initiative: Caucasus

How can this look like?

- **Austria:** Federal Forests Enterprise has developed 4-year program to reduce its impact on biodiversity and to raise awareness.
- **Belgium:** Municipalities in the region of Limburg have 'adopted' endemic/endangered species.
- **United Kingdom:** the Ministry of the Environment has created a « Countdown 2010 Action Fund » for projects to save biodiversity.



Local and Regional Initiatives: Tilburg and Noord-Brabant

- **Noord-Brabant** has started a 10-year „crusade“ for nature and landscape to improve environmental quality in the region.
- **Tilburg** improves regional development and planning through a „green template“ process. An environmental cafe encourages public participation.



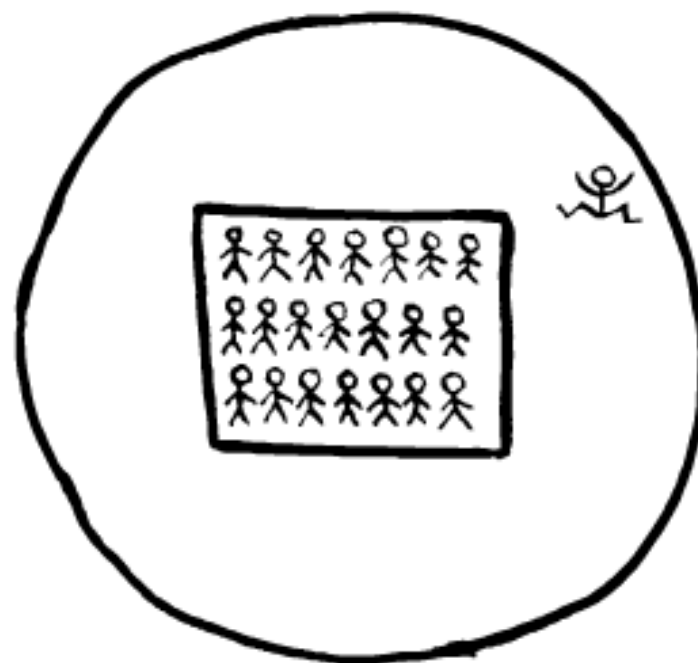
Countdown 2010 Hubs worldwide



The power of the 2010 biodiversity target

- Linking up to new constituencies and agendas
 - Business and local Authorities
 - Climate Change and Poverty
- New focus for the conservation community
 - A common objective, a multitude of strategies
 - The power of cooperation beyond individual institutions
 - Let's move from words to action!

Do not be AFRAID to LIVE
OUTSIDE the BOX



If it is not now – when?
If it is not us – who?
and if not together – how?

www.countdown2010.net

