

The European Union's Biodiversity Strategy to 2020

Our life insurance - Our natural capital

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2. THE POLITICAL CONTEXT:

**Expiry of the 2010 target (EU & Global)
and adoption of EU 2050 vision and
2020 target**

THE EU MANDATE

2050 VISION

European Union biodiversity and the ecosystem services it provides – its natural capital – are protected, valued and appropriately restored for biodiversity's intrinsic value and for their essential contribution to human wellbeing and economic prosperity, and so that catastrophic changes caused by the loss of biodiversity are avoided.

2020 HEADLINE TARGET

Halt the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services in the EU and restore them insofar as feasible, and step up the EU's contribution to averting global biodiversity loss.

THE GLOBAL MANDATE

Key outcomes of CBD COP 10 (Nagoya, October 2010):

❖ **Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020**

- 2050 vision and 2020 mission to *take effective and urgent action to halt the loss of biodiversity...*
- 20 “Aichi Targets”

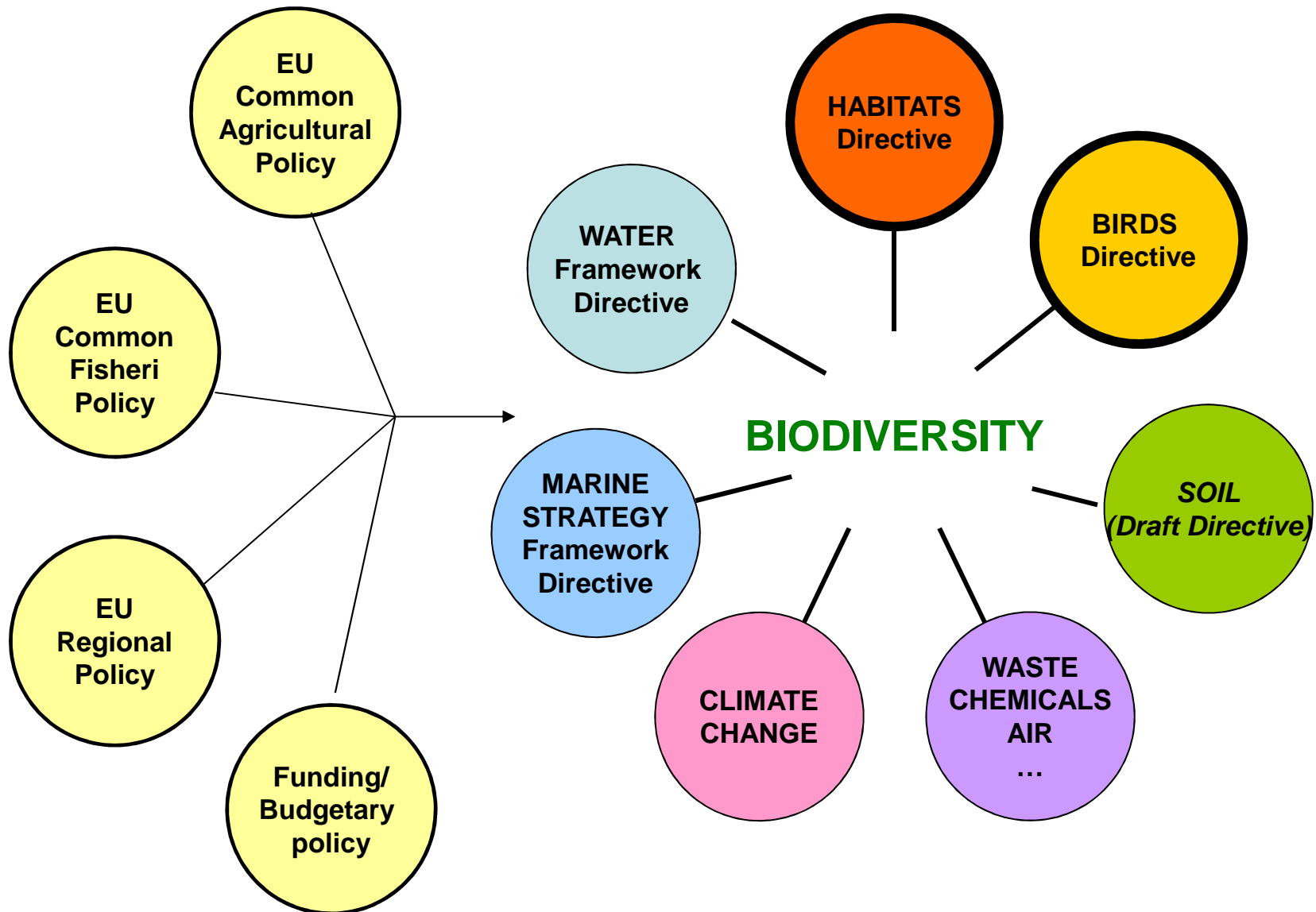
❖ **Strategy for Resource Mobilisation**

❖ **Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS)**

THE STRATEGY

1. Policy baseline
2. Key considerations
3. Structure of the Strategy

POLICY BASELINE



KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- ❖ Prioritise
- ❖ Fill gaps
- ❖ Build on what works
- ❖ Integration
- ❖ Streamline processes, draw on what exists
- ❖ Clear timelines

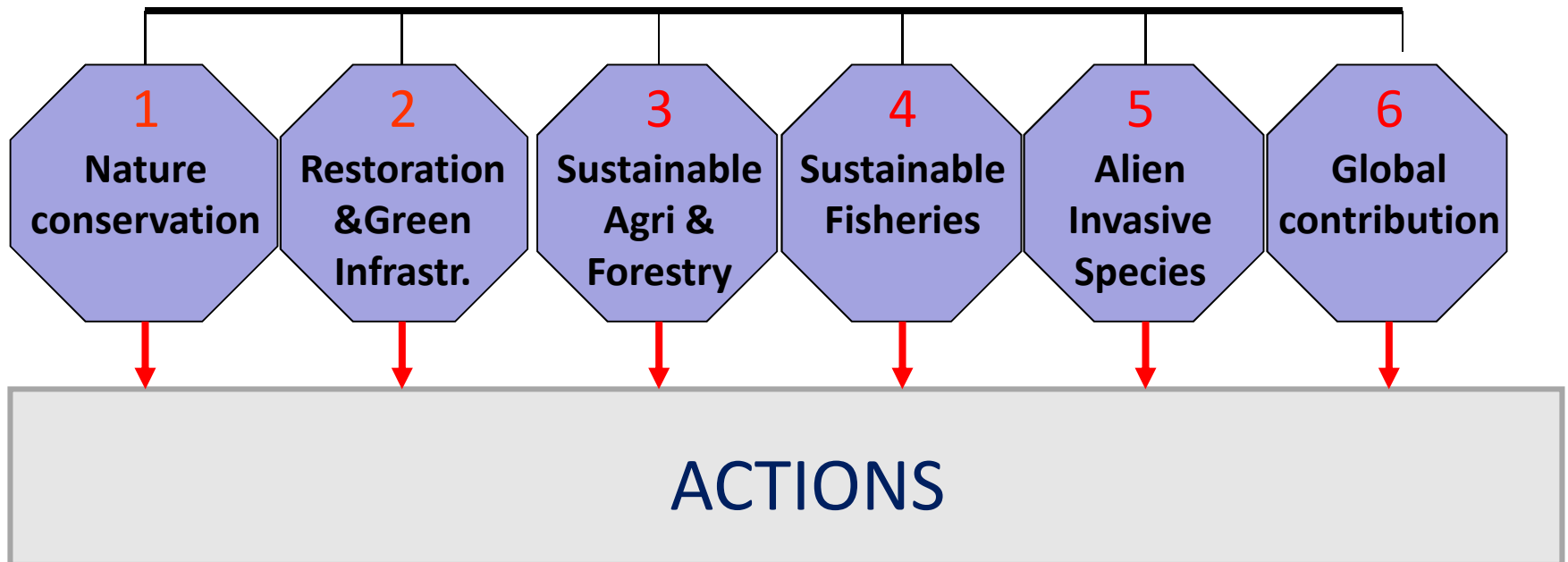
STRUCTURE OF THE STRATEGY

2050 Vision

2020 headline target

Halt biodiversity loss – restore ecosystem services – global contribution

6 Targets:



Target 1: Nature Conservation

Objective: Marked improvement in conservation status of habitats and species covered by EU nature legislation by:

- doubling the number of positive habitat assessments
- achieving a 50% improvement in species assessments

- *Protected areas cover 18% of EU territory...*
- *...yet only 17% of habitats and 17% of species assessed are in good conservation status.*



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Target 2: Ecosystem restoration & Green Infrastructure

Objective: Maintain and enhance ecosystems and their services within and beyond protected areas by:

- restoring at least 15% of degraded ecosystems
- establishing 'Green Infrastructure' throughout the EU
- *30% of EU territory is moderately-highly to very highly fragmented due to urban sprawl and transport and energy infrastructure development.*
- *70% of species are threatened by the loss of their habitats*



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Target 3: 'Green' agriculture and forestry in the EU

Objective: Maximise agricultural and forested areas covered by biodiversity-related measures i.a. by:

- Rewarding farmers who practice biodiversity-friendly agriculture and/or adopt agri-environmental measures (e.g. permanent pasture, green cover, crop rotation, ecological set-aside, etc)
- Encouraging the adoption of Forest Management Plans that include biodiversity-specific measures

- *72% of land in the EU is used for farming (43%) and forestry (29%)*
- *Currently only 7% of agro-ecosystems and 5% of grasslands in the EU are in good conservation status.*
- *Since 1990, the European Union's common farmland birds have declined by 20–25*



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Target 4: Make fishing sustainable

Objective: Achieve Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) by 2015 and good environmental status of Europe's seas by 2020 by i.a.:

- improving the management of fish stocks
- eliminating adverse impacts on non-targeted species and marine ecosystems (discards, by-catch)

- *Currently 88% of fish stocks in the EU are fished beyond maximum sustainable yield*
- *Steady decline in average fish size over past 20 yrs*



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Target 5: Invasive Alien Species

Objective: Prevent, control, eradicate IAS and their pathways by:

- developing and implementing EU-level legislation on IAS
- including IAS aspects in other relevant legislation

- *22% of species in the EU are threatened by invasive alien species; one of the fastest growing threats*
- *IAS cause some €10 billion damage/year in the EU*



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Target 6: Global biodiversity

Objective: Step up the EU's contribution to averting global biodiversity loss i.a. by:

- reducing indirect drivers of biodiversity loss
- mobilising resources for biodiversity protection and 'biodiversity-proofing' EU development cooperation
- implementing the Nagoya Protocol on ABS

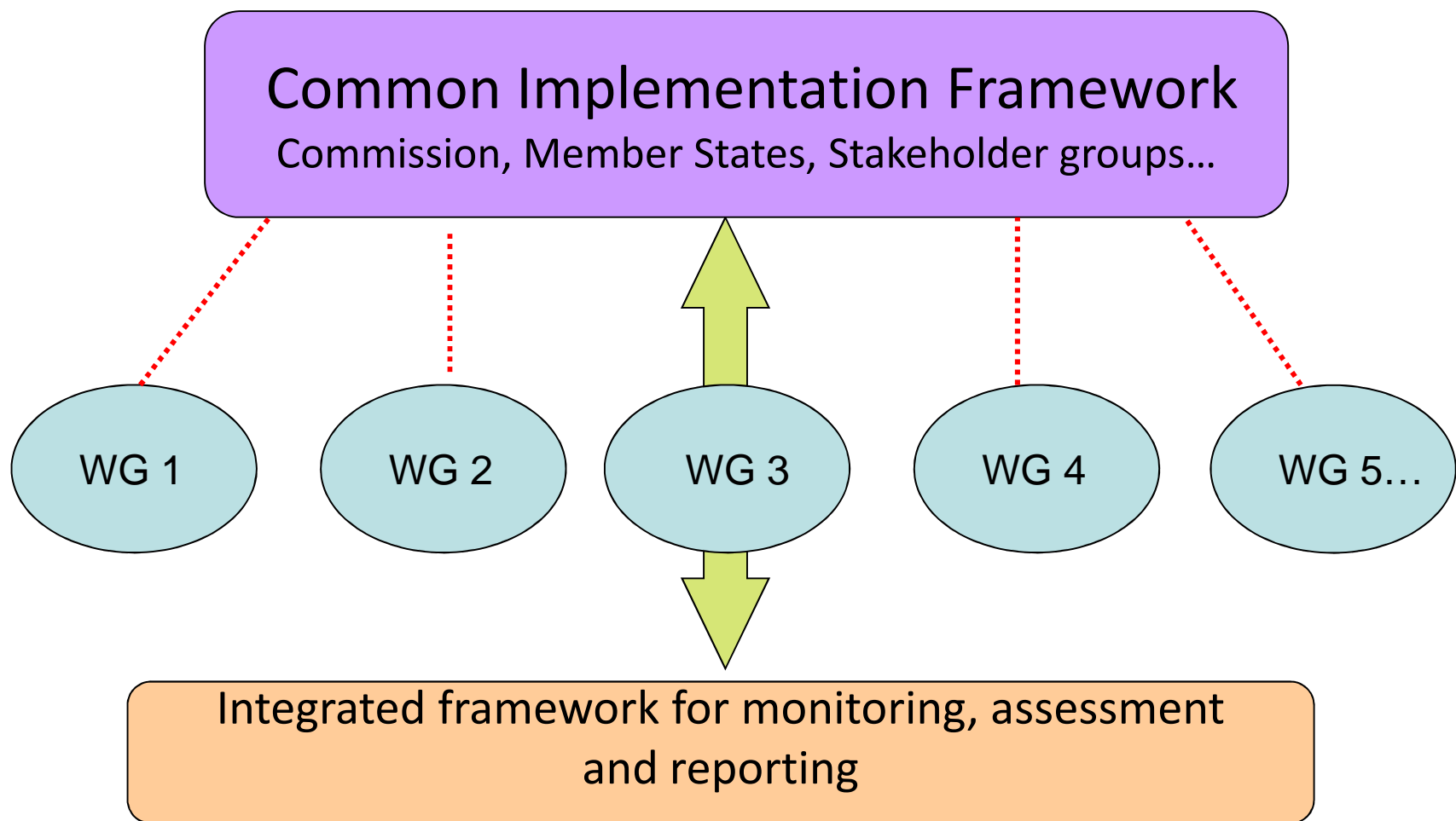
- *Between 12-55% of known animals and plants threatened with extinction*
- *13 million ha of tropical forests lost each year*
- *60% of tropical reefs are at risk of disappearing by 2030*
- *Less than 1% of world's oceans are protected*



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IMPLEMENTING THE STRATEGY





Key dates

Early 2014:
March 2014
2014-2015
to MDG

Mid-term review EU strategy + HD Art 17 Report
5th national Report to CBD
Fourth Global Biodiversity Outlook + contribution


Thank you for your attention

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COST, 13/10/2010: The COST Office Association is a reality
EU CHM, 08/10/2010: Addressing knowledge gaps and responds to policy on biodiversity in the EU
SCALES, 08/10/2010: Financing Natura 2000 - Conference Proceedings online available
EEA, 04/10/2010: Biodiversity in Europe: policy scope must be widened for effective conservation
EEA, 27/09/2010: Protecting Europe's cultural landscapes and biodiversity heritage
Alter-net, 16/06/2010: Conserving biodiversity hotspots

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CBD, 13/10/2010: [Farms in the sky, an interview with Dickson Despommier](#)
CBD, 13/10/2010: [Floods wash away Pakistan's crop research efforts](#)
CBD, 13/10/2010: [Russia backs away from plans to break up the unique Pavlovsk seed bank](#)
IUCN, 29/09/2010: [New study shows over one fifth of the world's plants are under threat of extinction](#)
IUCN, 28/09/2010: [IUCN joins "I am the ocean" campaign](#)
IUCN, 23/09/2010: [Securing water for all - a 2050 plan](#)



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International Year of Biodiversity

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