

EEA's activities in the Western Balkans: TRATOLOW and EU4Green

Balkan Nature Talks Conference

11 October 2024 | Violeta Philippitsch, Katharina Huchler

Quelle: Umweltbundesamt, M. Deweis

EU4Green: Support to the implementation of the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans

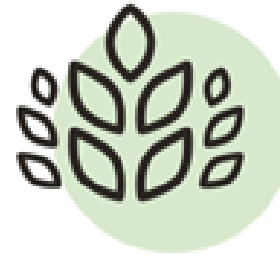
GREEN AGENDA FOR THE WESTERN BALKANS



Decarbonisation:
clean energy and
smart transport



Pollution: air, water
and soil monitoring
and prevention



Agri-food measures:
modern agriculture
and food quality



Biodiversity: keeping
the region pristine and
promoting ecotourism



Circular economy:
sustainable use of
resources

**Topics of the GAWB-Action Plan
based on the Sofia Declaration on
the Green Agenda for the Western
Balkans**

LINKS BETWEEN THE EU AND THE WESTERN BALKANS

- The economies of the European Union and the Western Balkan states are closely interlinked
- The six Western Balkan economies are moving politically towards joining the European Union
- The exchange programme for young people is thriving
- Transport links join the EU and the Western Balkans
- The EU is also providing financial support for reforms in Western Balkans states => economic and investment plan provides a comprehensive investment package worth nine billion euros

KEY FACTS

- **Beneficiaries:** Albania, **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, Kosovo*, **Montenegro**, North Macedonia and **Serbia** with project offices in Belgrade, Sarajevo and Tirana
 - **Duration:** 2022 – 2025
 - **EU Funding:** EUR 10 million Euros
 - **Austrian contribution:** EUR 1 million Euros
 - **Implementation:** Environment Agency Austria
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- * This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and it is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

EU4GREEN WORK PLAN – 33 WORK PACKAGES

OUTCOME 1 – 20 work packages

Beneficiaries are empowered in the implementation of the Green Agenda action plans, and its five main areas of implementation through a fit for purpose setup

OUTCOME 2 – 3 work packages

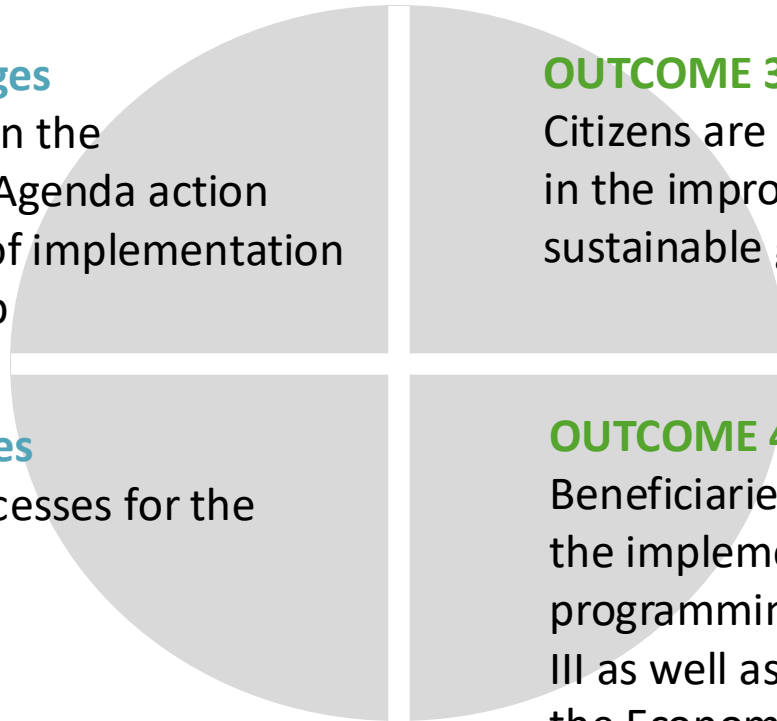
Monitoring and reporting processes for the GAWB are operational

OUTCOME 3 - 5 work packages

Citizens are aware of the EU's efforts and contribution in the improvement of living conditions and sustainable green recovery in the 6 economies

OUTCOME 4 - 5 work packages

Beneficiaries will be able to articulate needs relating to the implementation of the Green Agenda in the programming of the Instrument for Pre-Accession (IPA) III as well as the relevant investment flagships defined in the Economic and Investment Plan



EU4Green Biodiversity: A Work Plan for the Protection of Nature



Funded by
the European Union

With funding from



Austrian
Development
Cooperation

umweltbundesamt^U
ENVIRONMENT AGENCY AUSTRIA

Management and eradication

Reference Lists

Invasive Alien Species

Importance of wetlands

Site-specific conservation objectives

Monitoring

Conservation Status Assessments

Restoration

Nature Directives

Condition indicators

Natura 2000

Management Plans

Disaster risk reduction

Nature-based Solutions

Ecosystem Services

Work with nature

Mitigating climate change

Connectivity

Green Corridors

Integration of nature into infrastructure

Floodplains for Conservation, Restoration, Connectivity and Nature-based Solutions

Four fields of interest

EU Nature Directives

Habitats and Birds Directive

Species and habitats of Community interest need to be mapped, protected and monitored

Exemplary activities for selected birds, fish and habitats

Nature-based Solutions (NbS)

Tackling societal challenges through NbS that benefit both humans and biodiversity

Explore applicability of NbS in protected areas

Invasive Alien Species

Invasive Alien Species Regulation

Pathways of introduction and spread, impacts on biodiversity need to be reported

Fact sheets for relevant species

Connectivity

Building upon EPPA's „Study on green infrastructure deployment and ecological connectivity status“

Development of objectives to increase/ensure connectivity in pilot sites

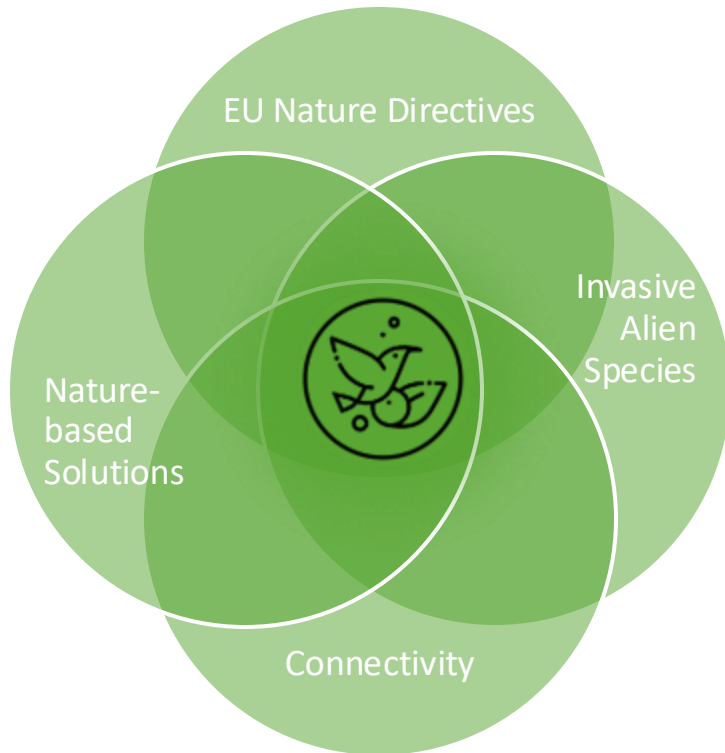
6 economies – 6 pilot sites

- ALB: Korab-Koritnik Nature Park
 - BiH: Una River National Park
 - KOS*: Bjeshkët e Nemuna National Park
 - MKD: Mavrovo National Park
 - MNE: Skadar Lake National Park
 - SRB: Kovilj – Petrovaradin marsh Special Nature Reserve
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- 10 km² study area for field work within each pilot site



Source: Katharina Huchler

Outputs



- Objectives for each field of interest
- Synergised set of management objectives for each pilot site
- Step-by-step guides to share experiences
- Training of local experts
- Knowledge sharing through webinars and workshops (EU4Green Biodiversity Webinars)
- Ad hoc activities: e.g. review of Draft Law on Nature Protection (MNE)
- Access to Green Finance Pipeline

EU Nature Directives

Assessment of Degree of Conservation

- Training of 15 local (fish, birds, habitats) experts in Natura2000 mapping and monitoring
- Selection of floodplain species and habitats
- Fact files and condition indicators
- Joint preparation of fieldwork methodology, adjusted to local circumstances
- Fieldwork kick-off meetings at Skadarsko Jezero and Bjeshkët e Nemuna
- Fieldwork in 6 pilot sites
- On-site workshop on Monitoring under the EU Nature Directives in Podgorica



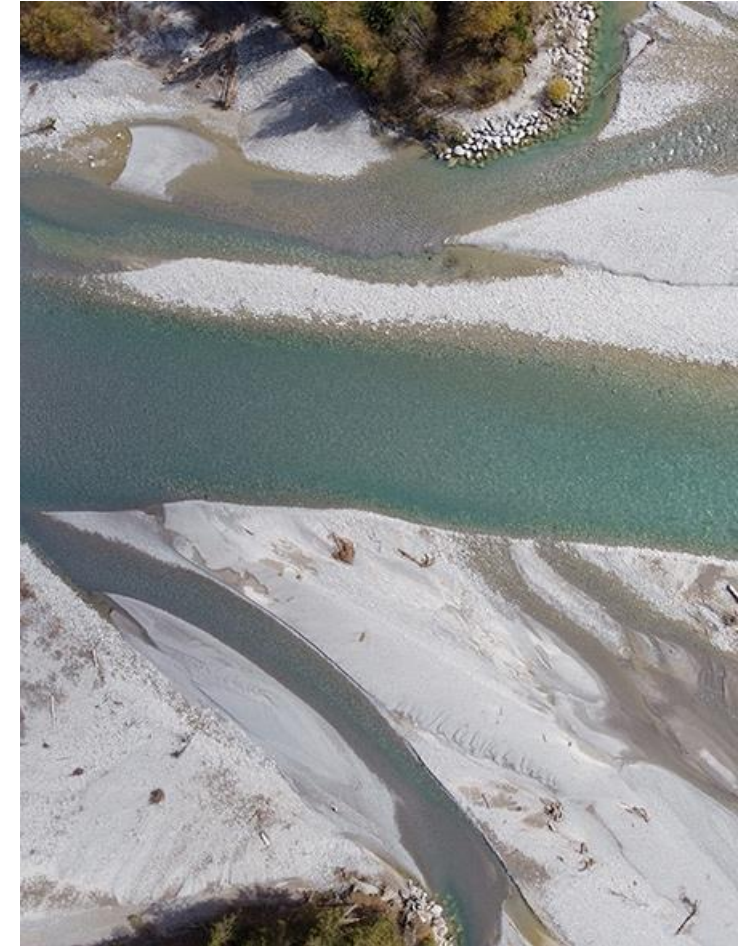
Source: EU4Green



Source: EU4Green

Nature-based Solutions

- Gathering societal challenges in nature conservation in pilot sites
- Linking challenges to potential NbS and related Ecosystem Services
- Applicability and opportunities for implementation in pilot sites
- Identification of key stakeholders
- Analysis of synergies/hindrances with protection of species and habitats in protected areas
- Fact files for NbS in pilot sites
- Community of Practice for Nature-based Solutions (with IUCN ECARO)



Source: Environment Agency Austria/G. Banko

CONTACT & INFORMATION



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UNEP Balkan Nature Talks Conference

Vienna, 11 October 2024