

Nature conference

EU Biodiversity strategy implementation

May 26-27, 2015

Riga, Latvia

The National Library of Latvia, Mūkusalas St. 3

Tuesday, 26 May 2015

09:00 – 17.30

08.30 - 09.00 Arrival and registration of participants

I. Opening session: Implementations of the Biodiversity Strategy – status quo **09:00 – 11:00**

9.00 – 9.15 PRES welcome (Kaspars Gerhards, Minister for Environmental Protection and Regional Development)

9.15- 11.00 Biodiversity: knowledge, status and trends

- Setting the scene for conference (LV presidency perspective)
- State of the Nature report (EEA)
- An overview of the current issues and challenges - EU Biodiversity Strategy mid-term perspective (EC)
- EEB`s perspective on progress achieved in implementing the Biodiversity Strategy: time to double our efforts (Jeremy Wates, Secretary General, European environmental bureau (EEB))

11.00– 11.30 Coffee break

II. Morning session: Integrating biodiversity into sectoral policies **11:30 – 13:00**

Biodiversity and energy – linkage to informal environmental council – taking forward the results of the informal council, challenges and opportunities. How to reconcile climate policy goals, renewable energy targets with nature and biodiversity objectives.

Nature resource (mineral) extraction in *Natura 2000*

13.00– 14.00 Lunch

III. Afternoon session: Integrating biodiversity into sectoral policies (cont.)

14:00 – 17:30

Target III: Biodiversity and agriculture /forestry

- CAP and biodiversity objectives (EC)
- Guidance on Natura 2000 and forests (EC)
- Integrating biodiversity into CAP. Continued struggle or a wishful thinking? (Konstantin Kreiser, International Biodiversity Policy Officer, NABU (BirdLife Germany))
- Land users perspective (ELO)

15.30 – 16.00 Coffee break

Management of biodiversity in the military areas (LIFE “Birds in Adazi”)

Discussion

Wednesday, 27 May 2015

09.00 – 17.00

IV. Morning session: Ecosystem services, their assessment

09:00 – 13:00

Target II: Ecosystem services

- Ecology and economy
- Biodiversity and growth and jobs: benefits of Natura 2000 and biodiversity (EC)
- Overview of the situation (implementation on the Target 2) (JRC),
- Nature based solutions to societal challenges – feedback from ALTER-Net conference.

10.30 – 11.00 Coffee break

Best practice examples from the member states in assessing the ecosystem services:

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch

V. Afternoon session: Financing for the biodiversity

14:00 – 16:00

- Stocktaking on OPs
- Payment for ecosystem service schemes in Europe
- Innovative financing tools
- Financing the biodiversity and N2000

15.30 – 16.00 Coffee break

VI. Evening session: They way forward

16:00 – 17:00

16.00 Outlook to 2020. Issues currently not included in the EU BDS

- BirdLife`s mid-term assessment of the EU`s 2020 Biodiversity Strategy: how can we turn the tide in the remaining years? (Konstantin Kreiser, International Biodiversity Policy Officer, NABU (BirdLife Germany))

Conclusions

19.30 Transfer from the hotel Tallink to National Botanical Garden

20.00 Closing event „Dabas koncertzāle” Nature concert hall in Botanical Garden
Speakers - LV, EC, EEB

Thursday, 28 May 2015 (optional)

Excursion to Ādaži military area (optional) – supported by LIFE “Birds in Adazi”