



# The EU biodiversity policy

VLEVA meeting on  
“Wat met het Europees biodiversiteitsbeleid na 2020?”  
Brussels, 12/09/2019

*Stefan Leiner*  
*European Commission*  
*DG Environment*



“Preserving and restoring our ecosystem needs to guide all of our work”

Enhanced public awareness

onsultar  
journal

# Le Monde

ACTUALITÉS ▾ ÉCONOMIE ▾ VIDÉOS ▾ OPINIONS ▾ CULTURE ▾ M LE MAG

PLANÈTE • BIODIVERSITÉ

## Biodiversité : une espèce sur huit, animale et végétale, risque de disparaître à brève échéance

Le rapport mondial alerte sur la disparition accélérée de la vie sauvage, sur la Terre comme au fond des océans, qui menace l'humanité.

Par Pierre Le Hir - Publié le 06 mai 2019 à 10h17 - Mis à jour le 08 mai 2019 à 18h13

10 min

Environment ► Climate change Wildlife Energy Pollution

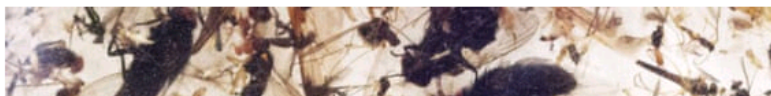
Insects

## Plummeting insect numbers 'threaten collapse of nature'

Exclusive: Insects could vanish within a century at current rate of decline, says global review

● Why are insects in decline, and can we do anything about it?

Damian  
Carrington  
Environment



EL PAÍS

BIODIVERSIDAD

OPINIÓN BOSQUES RED NATURA ESPECIES MEDIO AMBIENTE



## La batalla por salvar el bosque primitivo de Bialowieza

CARLOS MARTÍNEZ | 31/05/2019 - 16:26 CEST  
El Gobierno polaco taló en 2016 varias zonas del área protegida por la Unesco. Nuevos planes de gestión amenazan de nuevo el entorno

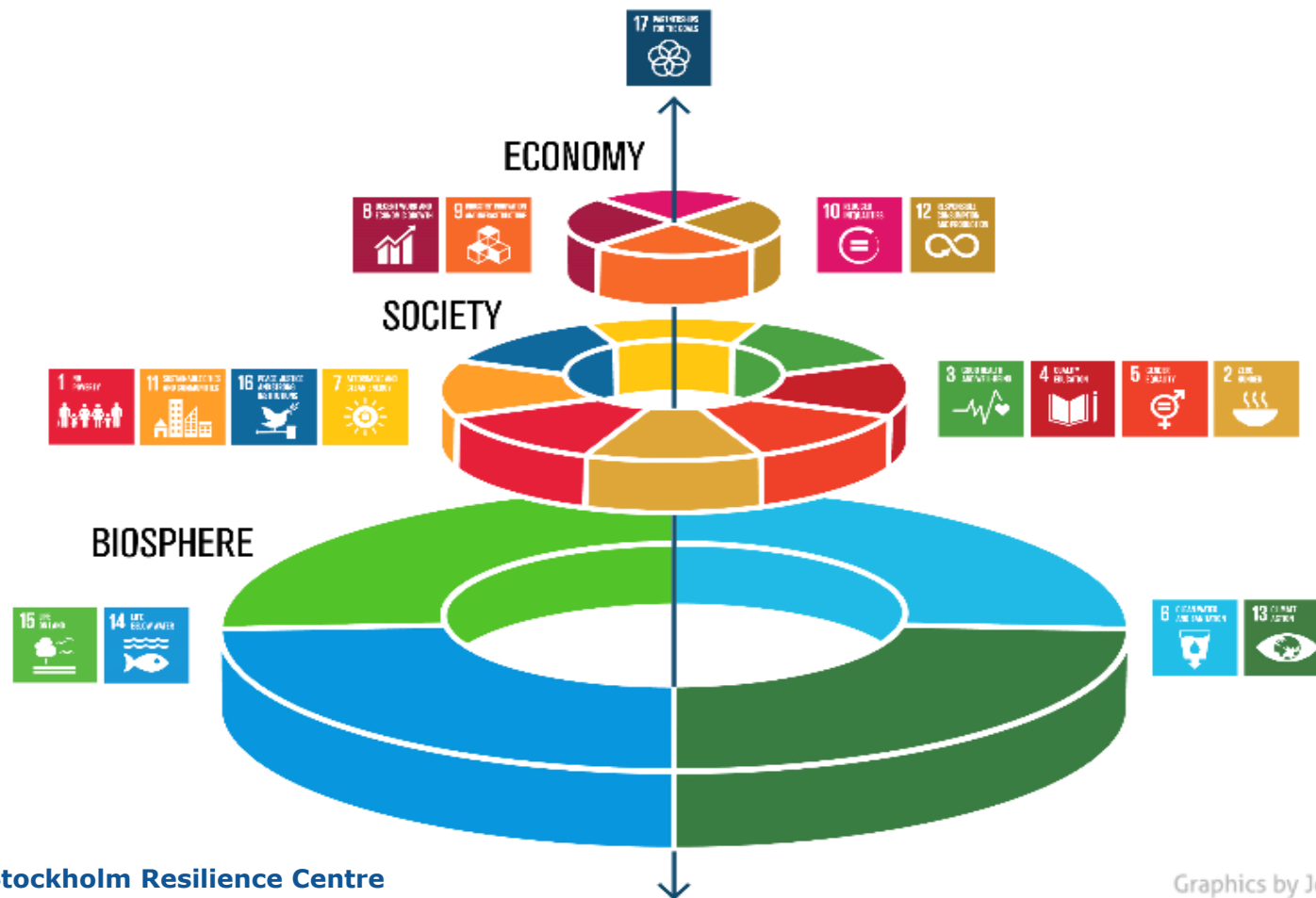


## 18,4 Prozent der Bayern stimmen für Volksbegehren Artenvielfalt



Die Initiative "die Bienen" zielt auf Änderungen in bayerischen Naturschutzgesetzen ab.

# Natural Capital underpins our economy and well-being





# Natural Capital – how much it's worth

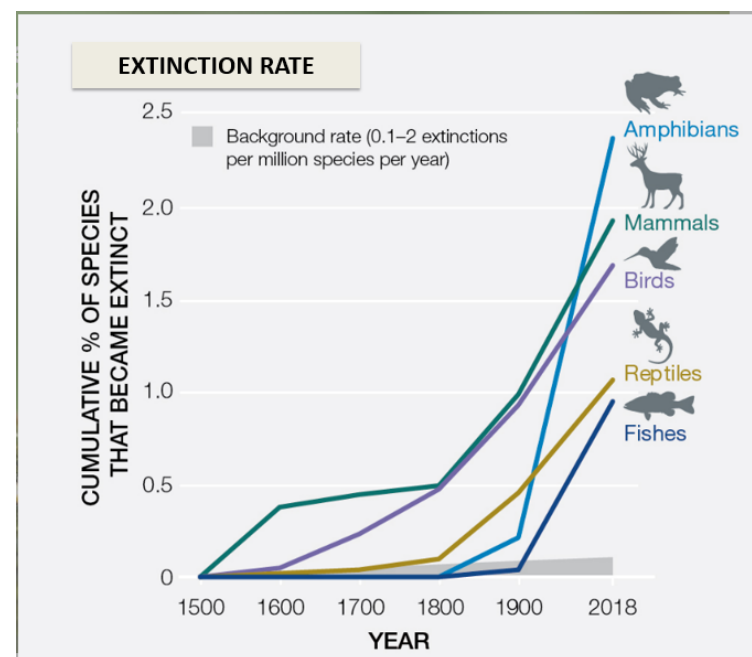
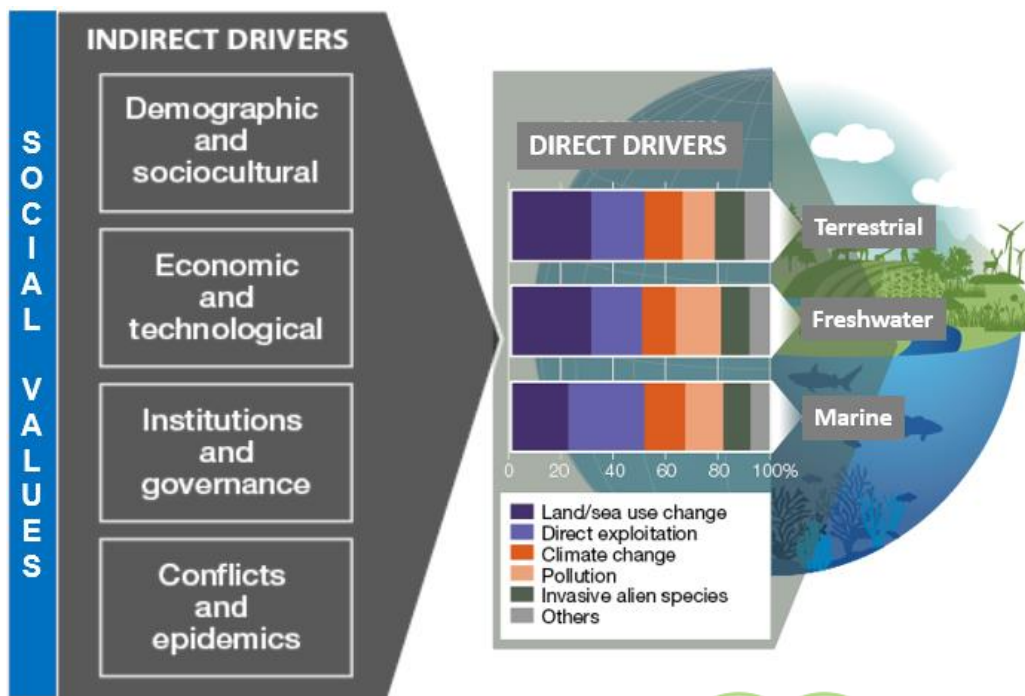


**WITH BEES**



**WITHOUT BEES**

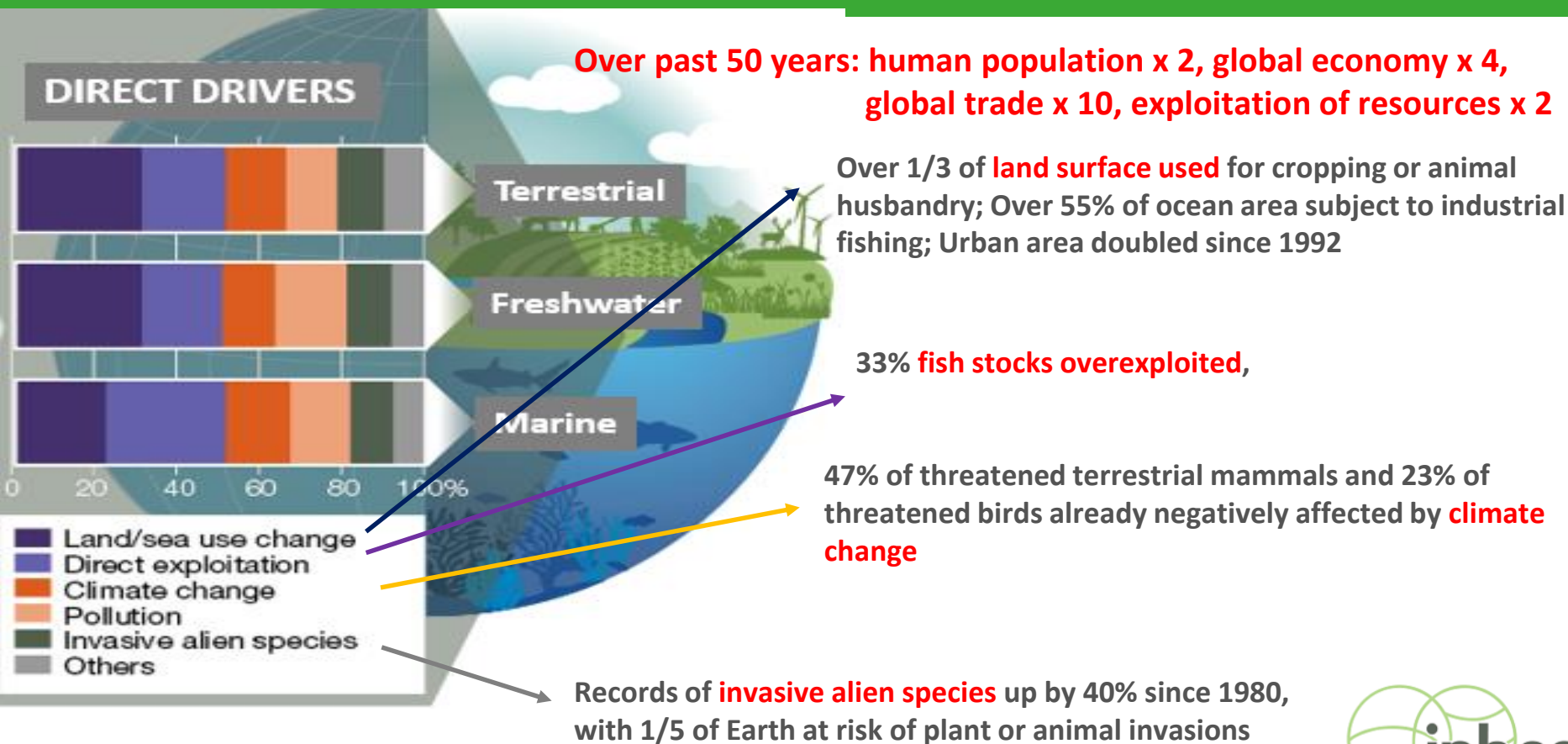
# The global biodiversity crisis



Source: IPBES Global  
assessment 2019

**1 Million  
Animal and Plant Species  
at Risk of Extinction**

# Global biodiversity crisis – main drivers





## We're not starting from scratch

Long history of EU commitment:

- ✓ **Birds** Directive 1979
- ✓ **Habitats** Directive 1992
- ✓ **LIFE Fund** (including an envelope on nature/biodiversity) 1992
- ✓ **Invasive Alien Species IAS** Regulation 2014
- ✓ The EU is a Party to several **MEAs** (**CBD**, **CMS**, **Bern**, **CITES** etc.)
- ✓ Other **Env policy** tools (WFD, MSFD, EIA/SEA, ...)
- ✓ Integration into **wider EU policies** (Agriculture, Regional Policy, Research, Fisheries, Development Cooperation, etc...)





## Current policy/legal framework: EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020

**Headline target:** halt the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services in the EU, and restore them as far as possible, while also helping to avert global biodiversity loss

**Target 1:**  
Fully  
Implement  
Birds &  
Habitats  
Directives

**Target 2:**  
Protect and  
restore  
ecosystems  
and their  
services

**Target 3:**  
Sustainable  
agriculture  
and forestry

**Target 4:**  
Sustainable  
fisheries  
and marine  
ecosystems

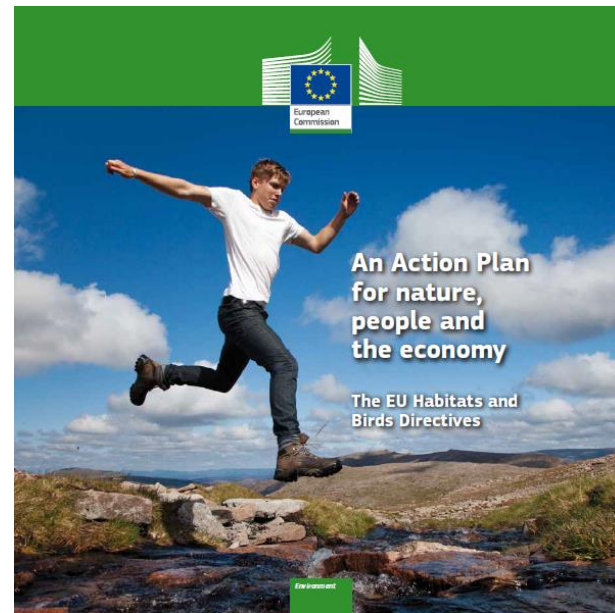
**Target 5:**  
Combat  
invasive  
alien  
species

**Target 6:**  
Help to  
avert global  
biodiversity  
loss

**Horizontal measures:** partnerships, knowledge, financing



# Birds and Habitats Directives - The Natura 2000 Network





# Non-legislative tools to protect Nature and Biodiversity

- ✓ EU **Pollinators** Initiative
- ✓ Guidance on Deploying **Green and Blue Infrastructure**
- ✓ Guidance **Integrating ecosystem services into decision-making**
- ✓ Work on **Natural Capital Accounting**
- ✓ **Finance for biodiversity** (LIFE, EU-Invest, Climate finance, etc)
- ✓ MAES (**m**apping and **a**ssessing **e**cosystems and **t**heir **s**ervices)
- ✓ Building **partnerships** (Business and Biodiversity Platform)
- ✓ Etc.

... and **mainstreaming** into other EU policies!



# The European Green Deal

- To be presented in the first 100 days of the new college
- **Climate** neutrality by 2050, 50% reduction by 2030, European Climate Pact
- Just Transition Fund
- Lead the world at **CBD CoP15**
- EU **Biodiversity Strategy** for 2030
- Zero **pollution**
- **Circular economy** 2.0
- Sustainable food and agriculture - **farm to fork**



## A new Global Biodiversity Framework

- To be adopted at CBD CoP 15 end 2020 in Kunmin, China
- 2° equivalent for biodiversity – apex goal – bending the curve
- SMART ambitious but realistic targets with indicators
- address state – drivers – enabling conditions – 3 objectives of the convention
- Better enforcement – monitoring, review, commitments, ratcheting up

## Leading by example, the EU 2030 biodiversity strategy

- Achieve **healthy ecosystems** and **favourable conservation status** by 2050
- SMART targets for 2030
- marine and terrestrial **protected areas**
- address **5 drivers** (overexploitation, land-use change, climate change, pollution, IAS)
- sustainable management of all land and sea ecosystems (agriculture, forestry, fisheries, healthy ecosystems,...)
- roll out **nature-based solutions** aimed at the conservation and restoration of healthy and carbon-rich ecosystems
- reduce Europe's **global footprint** (sustainable consumption, commodities, trade)
- funding and sustainable **financing**
- integration of natural capital into **private and public decision-making**
- cooperation with **business, youth**, etc...,
- research, monitoring and **knowledge**





# Agriculture and Biodiversity

## Now

- negative farmland biodiversity trends (farmland Birds, insect pollinators, ...)
- CAP is now 38% of EU Budget = THE biggest EU fund for environment
- New Proposal on the table aims to enhance environmental performance
- MS have the choice to:
  - invest more money on measures good for environment
  - not pay for unsustainable agricultural practices
  - spend public money for public goods

## Future

- a sustainable EU food policy – farm to fork
- reduce pesticides and fertilisers use ?
- foster agroecology and organic farming ?
- restore healthy pollinator populations ?

Thank you ,for your attention

