

The Economic and Social Benefits associated with the Natura 2000 Network

Project Process

Natura 2000 Costs and Benefits Working Meeting
30 November 09
Bratislava, SK

Structure

- **Background information: Natura 2000 costs and benefits**
- **Project Parts**
 - **Mission Process:** Preparation
Implementation
Synthesis
 - **Analysis Process**
 - **Conference**
- **Timeline**
- **Working on the benefits**
- **Working on the costs**

- **2002**
Socio-economic benefits of Natura 2000 (by WWF & IEEP)
- **2002**
Costs of managing Natura 2000 between 3.7 and 5.7 billion EUR per year for EU-15
(Markland report, Art. 8 WG)
- **2004**
6.1 billion EUR for EU-25 (EU Communication - COM 2004/431)
- **2005**
14 billion per year (EU-25) for at least the next 10 years (RSPB)

- **2006-2008**
"Financing Natura 2000" Handbook & workshops & developing an IT Tool to link EU level and national level funding information
- **2008-2009**
Costs & benefits of Natura 2000 – updating the cost estimate, collecting good practise examples and developing methodological guidance to estimate Natura 2000 related socio-economic benefits
- **2009-2010**
Economic & social benefits associated with Natura 2000 network

Objectives and Project Parts

Objectives of the project:

- Refining estimation on costs as compared to the benefits
- Increasing awareness of the benefits
- Developing a methodology for the systematic updating of information on costs and benefits

Mission Process

- A. Carrying out interviews at national level and with key partners responsible for the implementation and management of Natura 2000

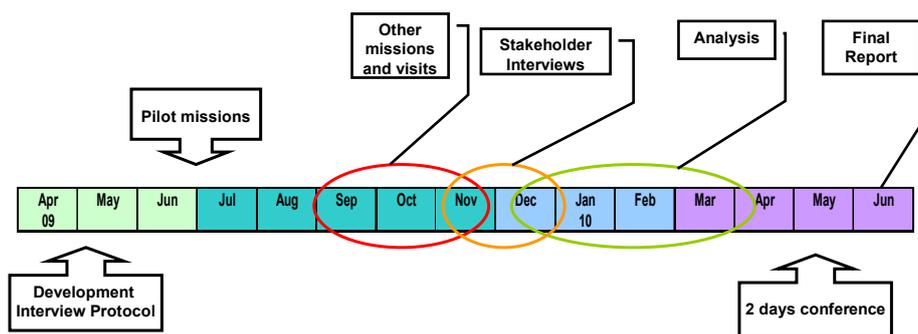
Analysis Process

- B. Compilation and assessment of the costs and benefits of Natura 2000 collected in the mission process and beyond

Conference

- C. Organisation of a conference

Timeline



Gain further understanding from your perspective

- of the **costs and benefits** of managing the Natura 2000 Network in the Slovak Republic (what are most important costs and benefits, examples and methodological insights);
- of how **to raise awareness on benefits** associated with Natura 2000 most effectively (what has proven to work and what influence?)



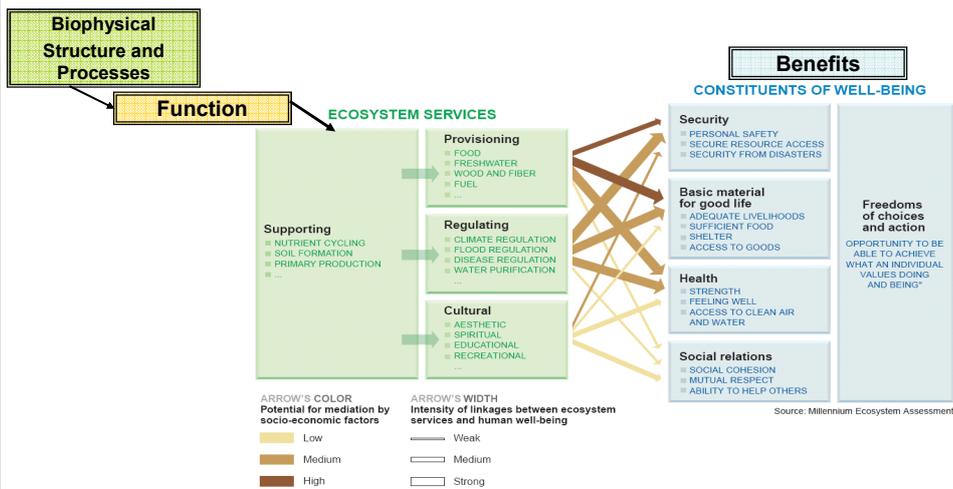
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Working on the Benefits

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Benefits associated with Natura 2000

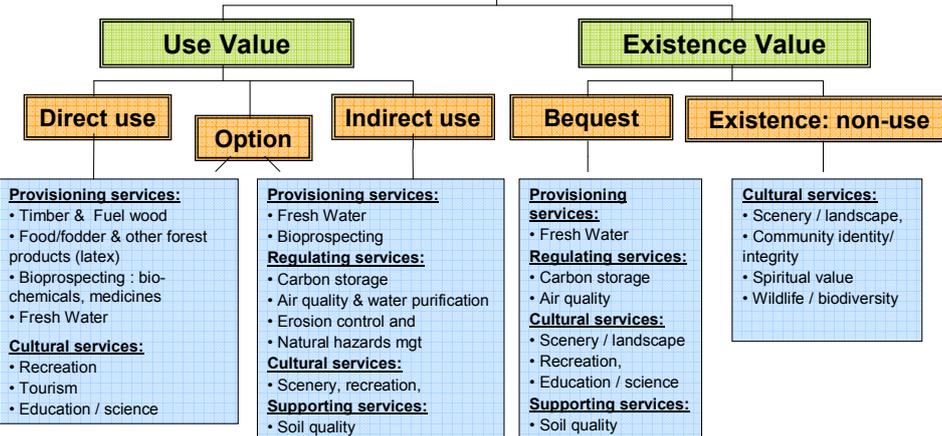
Socio-economic benefits identified via ecosystem services provided / supported by sites



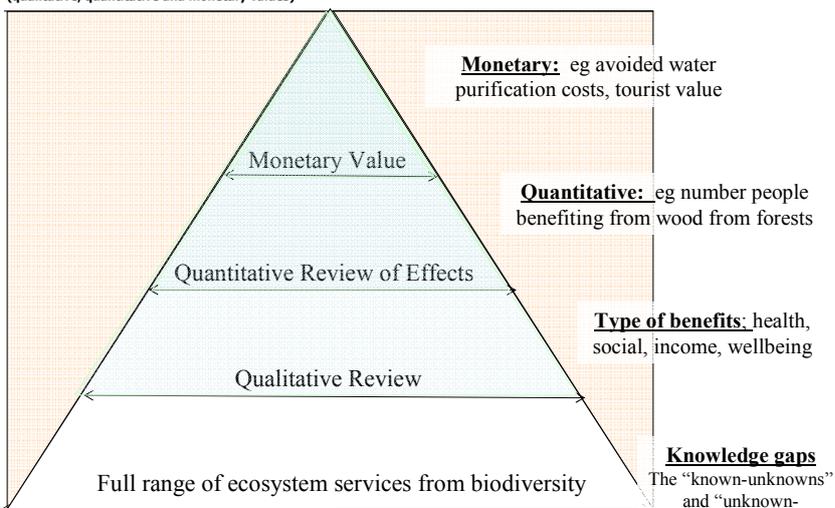
Source: Building on presentation by Jean-Louis Weber (EEA) presentation at the Workshop: *The Economics of the Global Loss of Biological Diversity* 5-6 March 2008,



Total Economic Value (TEV)



Value of biodiversity & Natura 2000 is manifold & cannot always be captured in Euros (qualitative, quantitative and monetary values)



Source: Adapted from Patrick ten Brink (IEEP) presentation at the Workshop: The Economics of the Global Loss of Biological Diversity 5-6 March 2008

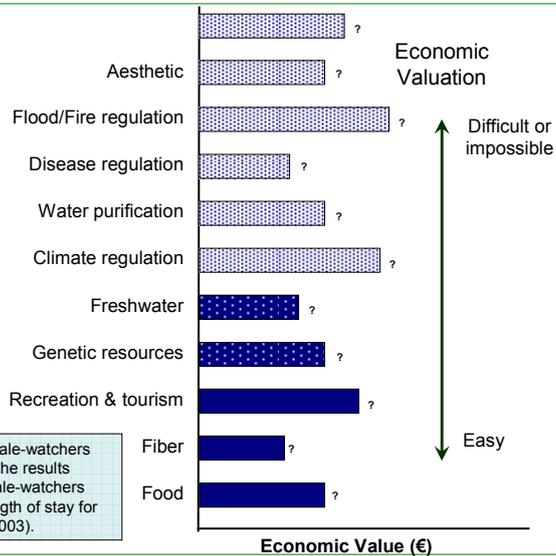


Benefits associated with Natura 2000

The Muritz National Park in north East Germany received about **400,000 visits** and generated a net income of **€11 million** for the region based on data in 2004 (Jobs et al, 2006)

According to a study commissioned by the Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department around 99% of the benefits associated with the **300 Scottish Natura 2000 sites** related to non-use values and amounted to **£ 210 million per year**. Only around £1.5 million (1%) of the benefits related to use values (e.g. walking, cycling etc).

In Scotland a survey was carried out amongst whale-watchers and other tourists regarding their length of stay. The results showed that the **mean length of stay** for the whale-watchers (**6.4 nights**) was higher than that of the mean length of stay for the general tourists (**4.8 nights**) (Parsons et al. 2003).



The Toolkit: Essence & aims

Scope

- A standard approach / methodology to assess Natura 2000 related socio-economic benefits at site level

Target audience

- Firstly, practitioners involved in the management of Natura 2000 sites (e.g. site managers)
- Other stakeholders interested in the value of biodiversity & ecosystem services

Aims

- Increase awareness on socio-economic benefits of Natura 2000
- Help to identify and value these benefits in practise.
- Improve the communication of these benefits to different stakeholders and the general public.

Part 1: Contextual guidance

Part 2: Application of the Toolkit

Step 1: Rapid overall assessment of site's possible benefits

- Focus on all benefits

Step 2: Detailed methodology for assessing socio-economic value of different Natura 2000 related benefits

- Focus on individual ecosystem services & their benefits
- Qualitative, quantitative and monetary value estimates

Part 3: Framework & guidance for a synthesis of the total value of the sites

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- **Toolkit being applied to / tested with 5 case studies (by WWF and RSPB partners)**
- **Case study sites**
 - Bialowieza forest (Poland)
 - Guadiana Natural Park (Portugal)
 - Oas-Gutai Plateau (Romania)
 - Pico da Vara / Ribeira do Guilherme protected area (Azores)
 - Abernethy forest (Scotland, the UK)
- **Outputs**
 - A general case study template for site level
 - A synthesis table on the benefits
 - Key questions to interpret & discuss the results

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Table 2.5 Calculation for the total value of water supply in the SPA

	Value of water supply (€)	Percentage of the council	Value (€)
Povoação (SPA served)	384,004	60 per cent	230,402
Povoação (Furnas and Ribeira Quente)		40 per cent	153,602
Nordeste (SPA)	220,992	80 per cent	176,794
Nordeste (Peat area)		20 per cent	44,197
SPA's total value			604,997

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Figure 2.4. Number of school visits to the SPA between 2004 and 2006.

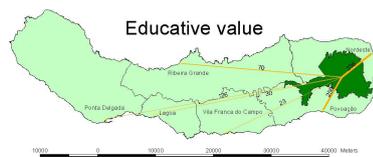
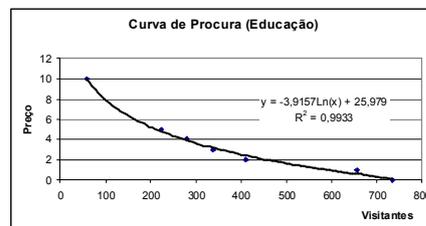


Table 2.5: School visits in the SPA and estimated travel cost for each of them.

Concelho	Participantes	Custo da viagem
Nordeste	336	1,00 €
Povoação	250	7,10 €
Ponta Delgada	26	15,40 €
Vila Franca do Campo	23	11,30 €
Lagoa	30	13,40 €
Ribeira Grande	70	11,75 €

Figure 2.6: Demand curve and Educative value estimation for the SPA.



EUR 2.958,30 / year

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Aims and objectives of the ongoing work

- **Explore the benefits** of Natura 2000 with Member States – the qualitative, quantitative and monetary value
- **Raise awareness** of the benefits of Natura 2000 – building on the Toolkit et al
- Explore **policy** and Natura 2000 related **implications** of increased awareness of the benefits
- Develop an overview of the benefits of Natura 2000 for the EU and develop a **methodology** on how systematically updating this information
- Understand the **relationship between benefits and the costs.**



Challenges ahead

Level of qualitative, quantitative and monetary knowledge on Natura 2000 related ecosystem services / benefits in / between different Member States and in the EU; and the risk of underestimating its value

Ecosystem services are often linked. These linkages should be understood in order to

1. Understand potential trade-offs (competitive impacts)
2. not to overestimating the total value of a site (double counting)

Temporal issues: Benefits might not be always immediately visible.

Distributional and geographical issues: Not much information is available about what distance function occurs in terms of the spatial distribution of benefits.



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Working on the Costs

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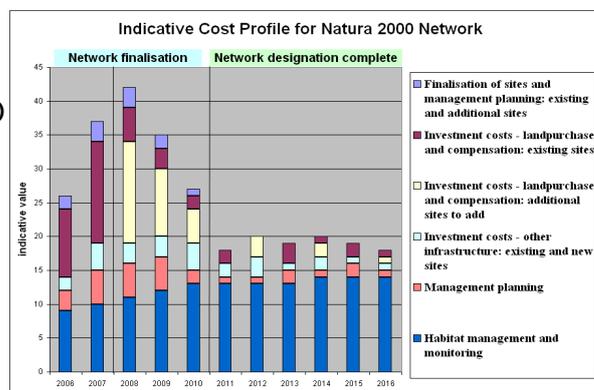
- **Valuable to clarify needs for EU budget and allocation of EU funds – to complement national contributions**
- **EU funds can help not only fund, but also ensure cohesion** (eg that efforts to conserve biodiversity and ecosystem services are effectively and adequately addressed throughout the EU – in order to protect the EU wide public good)
- Can help clarify scale of **financing challenge** and help identify (need for other) **financing sources** to complement current sources – eg user fees, payments for environmental services (PES) eg for carbon storage, water provision.
- Can help **clarify policy instrument needs and design** (eg for PES)
- Can also help clarify the **cost/importance of linked action to other policies** (eg development cooperation, climate, water scarcity, food security and poverty)

Range of different cost, they vary over time as the needs change
Complicated process of estimating (national or EU) aggregate costs

- **One Off Costs**
- **Recurrent Costs**
- **Opportunity costs**
(some in compensation, not all)

Elements

- Finalisation of site lists
- Management & planning
- Investment costs
- Habitat management
- Monitoring



Natura 2000 – different estimates and work ongoing

- **Costs of managing Natura 2000 between 3.7 and 5.7 billion EUR per year for EU-15** (Markland report 2002)
- **6.1 billion EUR for EU-25** (EU Communication (COM 2004/431))
- **14 billion per year (EU-25) for at least the next 10 years** (RSPB 2005)
- **...this equates to about 28 EUR per person per year in Europe.**

No common agreement on what is the actual size of the economic challenge

Ongoing work

- **Commission questionnaire on costs to Member States in the framework of the "Financing Natura 2000" project**
 - 14 cost questionnaires have been submitted so far (October 2009)
 - The questionnaires present data in varying degrees of detail – either very general information or detailed breakdowns of costs
 - The questionnaires also present varying data on cost estimates across countries – either rather low levels or rather high levels due to different reasons (eg, marginal versus total costs, expected versus past costs)

Thank you very much!

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