






BioAgora project aims to set up a European Science Service to support the implementation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030.

The Consortium includes 22 partners from 13 European countries.



## The forthcoming EU Science Service for Biodiversity is expected to:

-  Answer knowledge requests from policy-makers and build an evidence base on biodiversity.
-  Create and support active networks of actors on a number of topics related to biodiversity and sustainability.
-  Transform relations and processes within and between science, policy and society.

The first outputs from the BioAgora project, which is developing the EU Science Service for Biodiversity, are now publicly available. The insights produced are of interest to scholars, policy-makers and practitioners. This brief summarises findings of deliverables 2.1 to 2.4 in the second work package (WP) of the project. The full deliverables from WP2 and from other work packages are available at: <https://bioagora.eu/deliverables>

## Actors in the science-policy-society interface (D2.1)

We mapped the social relations occurring among organisations in the science-policy-society interface for biodiversity. EU organisations and other intergovernmental organisations were the most connected actors in the network. However, actors such as science-based networks, private and public interest organisations, organisations dedicated to the management of ecological units, have an important role to play (e.g. as knowledge producers, brokers and users) in the dialogue and co-creation of solutions for the implementation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030.

### USEFUL OUTPUTS

A map and a database of central organisations and networks operating in the science-policy-society interface, categorised by types (e.g. science, business, public interest group).

A scientific article is also available that synthesises results at: <https://doi.org/10.1111/cobi.70023>.





## Policy instruments supporting the Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 (D2.2)

We analysed the policy instruments supported by 15 organisations to address the targets of the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030. The instruments most engaged with are social & information-based (e.g. knowledge & information creation, cooperation & networks, corporate social responsibility, certification education/training) and legal and regulatory instruments (legislation, standards & regulations, planning instruments). Challenges to the successful implementation of such instruments are related to regulatory, financial, and information aspects.

### USEFUL OUTPUTS

An overview of policy instruments supporting the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030; an analytical framework for policy analysis with clear definitions of key concepts such as policy areas, policy approaches, and policy instruments.

## Transformative potential of actor networks (D2.3)

We developed an assessment framework which formal and informal social networks of actors at the science-policy-society interface can use to reflect on their ability to drive transformative change. Its qualitative, probing questions are based on the literature on networks, boundary work and transformation. The questions are organised according to a theory of change approach: motivation and mission of the network, composition and structure, internal processes, activities, external processes, outputs, outcomes and impact in terms of bending the curve of biodiversity loss.

### USEFUL OUTPUTS

A framework to be used by networks of scientists, policymakers, and other societal actors to reflect on their transformative potential, by combining and navigating three pathways: collaborate, challenge and disrupt.

## Coherence of EU biodiversity and sectoral policies (D2.4)

We identified mismatches and synergies between biodiversity and sectoral policies, namely: agriculture, forestry, climate and energy. The analysis is coupled with an analysis of policy coherence at local level for selected cases. While agricultural, forest and climate EU policies exhibit substantial alignment with the Biodiversity Strategy for 2030, energy policy documents present several trade-offs. Alignment of strategic general goals at the EU level, however, does not necessarily mean a synergistic implementation in practice. The coherence of sectoral and conservation policies is essential for creating long-term socio-economic viability, enabling sectors to develop more effective solutions to interlinked environmental and socio-economic challenges.

### USEFUL OUTPUTS

An overview of how EU sectoral policies address and integrate biodiversity, and methodological insights on conducting a policy analysis.

