

Science for Post 2020 Environmental Targets: Insights from Earth Observation of Protected Areas

Thursday, 27 September 2018

09:00-11:00

PHS 1C047

European Parliament, Brussels

Co-chaired by:

Ricardo Serrão Santos and Sirpa Pietikäinen,
Members of the European Parliament

In 2011, the EU committed to “halting the loss of biodiversity by 2020, and restore it insofar as possible”. An EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 was adopted, aiming to set the EU on the right track to meet this objective. This Strategy is also our EU contribution to the global 2010 Aichi targets. Although the EU has advanced in some areas since 2010 –e.g. with the approval of the Regulation on Invasive Alien Species– there is still a lot to do, especially to enhance implementation of existing legislation and integration of biodiversity concerns into relevant EU policies. Actually, the mid-term review of this EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 signals that it will be most likely impossible to achieve the 2020 targets.

As the EU claims to be “a leading proponent of international action on environment”, it can be expected it will show a high level of ambition for the discussions of the post 2020 biodiversity targets globally.

As we approach 2020, it becomes urgent to prepare the EU’s future policy framework, where science should play an important role. New generations of satellites and scientific developments are opening vast opportunities for monitoring and understanding nature and biodiversity. Some challenges in preserving biodiversity and achieving policy targets could be mitigated through further use of Earth Observation. This event will highlight findings of the ECOPOTENTIAL project, which supports the use of Earth Observation in Protected Areas across Europe and gather scientists, policy-makers, civil society and stakeholders to discuss perspectives on future biodiversity frameworks and targets.

DRAFT AGENDA

- 09:00-09:05** Welcome by **Ricardo Serrão Santos MEP**
- 09:05-09:10** Video message from **Sirpa Pietikäinen MEP**
- 09:10-09:20** **Opening by Mr Andrea Tilche, Head of the Climate Action and Earth Observation Unit, DG Research and Innovation**
- 09:20-09:45** **Fiona Danks**, Senior Programme Officer for Science, UN Environment/WCMC
Antonello Provenzale, Project Coordinator, Italian National Research Council
The Ecopotential project- summary for policy-makers
- 09:45-10:00** **Humberto Delgado Rosa, Director, Natural Capital, DG ENV, European Commission :**
The position of the European Commission on the post 2020 biodiversity targets
- 10:00-10:15** **Grégoire Dubois, Project Leader GCAD (Global Conservation and Development), D6 Unit, Joint Research Centre (JRC)**
- 10:15-10:30** **Alberto Arroyo Schnell, Senior Policy Manager, European Regional Office, International Union for the Conservation of Nature**
Defining the future biodiversity policy framework and targets: the role of science
- 10:35-10:40** **Reaction from Guillaume Balas MEP, Co-sponsor of the EP resolution on the 14th meeting of the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP14)**
- 10:40-10:55** **Questions and discussion with the audience**
- 10:55-11:00** Concluding remarks by **Ricardo Serrão Santos MEP**