

Proposal for a

REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL
on nature restoration

(.....)

Recitals:

- (45) The EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 requires greater efforts to restore freshwater ecosystems and the natural functions of rivers. The restoration of freshwater ecosystems should include efforts to restore the natural longitudinal, lateral and vertical connectivity of rivers as well as their riparian areas and floodplains, including through the removal of barriers with a view to supporting the achievement of favourable conservation status for rivers, lakes and alluvial habitats and species living in those habitats protected by Directives 92/43/EEC and 2009/147/EC, and the achievement of one of the key objectives of the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030, namely, the restoration of at least 25 000 km of free-flowing rivers. When removing barriers, Member States should primarily address obsolete barriers, which are those that are no longer needed for energy generation, flood prevention, agriculture, inland navigation, water supply or other uses.

CHAPTER I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 3 **Definitions**

The following definitions apply:

- (1) ‘ecosystem’ means a dynamic complex of plant, animal, **funghi** and microorganism communities and their non-living environment, interacting as a functional unit, and includes habitat types, habitats of species and species populations;

(.....)

10) ‘local administrative unit’ or ‘LAU’ means a low-level administrative division of a Member State below that of a province, region or state, established in accordance with Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1059/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹;

(10bis) ‘urban centres’ and ‘urban clusters’ means territorial units classified in cities and towns and suburbs using the grid-based typology established in accordance with Article 4b.2 of Regulation (EU) No 1059/2003;

(11) ‘cities’ means LAUs where at least 50 % of the population lives in one or more urban centres, measured using the degree of urbanisation established in accordance with Article 4b.3, point (a), of Regulation (EC) No 1059/2003;

(12) ‘towns and suburbs’ means LAUs where less than 50 % of the population lives in an urban centre, but at least 50 % of the population lives in an urban cluster, measured using the degree of urbanisation established in accordance with Article 4b.3, point (a) of Regulation (EC) No 1059/2003;

(13) ‘urban green space’ means all **trees, bushes, shrubs, permanent herbaceous vegetation, lichens and mosses**~~green urban areas; broad-leaved forests; coniferous forests; mixed forests; natural grasslands; moors and heathlands; transitional woodland shrubs and sparsely vegetated areas~~ as found within urban centres and urban clusters calculated on the basis of data provided by the Copernicus Land Monitoring Service as established by Regulation (EU) 2021/696 of the European Parliament and of the Council²;

(14) ‘urban tree canopy cover’ means the total area of tree cover within cities and towns and suburbs, calculated on the basis of the Tree Cover Density data provided by the Copernicus Land Monitoring Service as established by Regulation (EU) 2021/696 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

(14bis) ‘free flowing river’ means a river or a stretch of river whose longitudinal, lateral and vertical connectivity is not hindered by artificial structures forming a barrier and whose natural functions are largely unaffected.

¹ Regulation (EC) No 1059/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 May 2003 on the establishment of a common classification of territorial units for statistics (NUTS) (OJ L 154, 21.6.2003, p. 1).

² Regulation (EU) 2021/696 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing the Union Space Programme and the European Union Agency for the Space Programme and repealing Regulations (EU) No 912/2010, (EU) No 1285/2013 and (EU) No 377/2014 and Decision No 541/2014/EU (OJ L 170, 12.5.2021, p. 69).

CHAPTER II

RESTORATION TARGETS AND OBLIGATIONS

Article 4

Restoration of terrestrial, coastal and freshwater ecosystems

1. Member States shall put in place the restoration measures that are necessary to improve to good condition areas of habitat types listed in Annex I which are not in good condition. Such measures shall be in place on at least 30 % of the area of each group of habitat types listed in Annex I that is not in good condition, as quantified in the national restoration plan referred to in Article 12, by 2030, on at least 60 % by 2040, and on at least 90 % by 2050.
 2. Member States shall put in place the restoration measures that are necessary to re-establish the habitat types listed in Annex I in areas not covered by those habitat types **with the aim to reach their favourable reference area**. Such measures shall be in place on areas representing at least 30 % of the additional overall surface needed to reach the total favourable reference area of each group of habitat types listed in Annex I, as quantified in the national restoration plan referred to in Article 12, by 2030, at least 60 % of that surface by 2040, and 100 % of that surface by 2050.
 3. Member States shall put in place the restoration measures for the terrestrial, coastal and freshwater habitats of the species listed in Annexes II, IV and V to Directive 92/43/EEC and of the terrestrial, coastal and freshwater habitats of wild birds covered by Directive 2009/147/EC that are, **in addition to the restoration measures in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article**, necessary to improve the quality and quantity of those habitats, including by re-establishing them, and to enhance connectivity, until sufficient quality and quantity of those habitats is achieved.
 4. The determination of the most suitable areas for restoration measures in accordance with paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of this Article shall be based on the best available knowledge and the latest scientific evidence of the condition of the habitat types listed in Annex I, measured by the structure and functions which are necessary for their long-term maintenance including their typical species, as referred to in Article 1(e) of Directive 92/43/EEC, and of the quality and quantity of the habitats of the species referred to in paragraph 3 of this Article, **making use of information reported under Article 17 of Directive 92/43/EEC and Article 12 of Directive 2009/147/EC**. ~~Areas where the habitat types listed in Annex I are in unknown condition shall be considered as not being in good condition.~~
- 4bis. For areas where habitat types listed in Annex I are in unknown condition, Member States shall, in addition to the restoration measures in accordance with paragraph 1, put in place appropriate restoration measures on 30 % of the area of each group of habitat types listed in Annex I in unknown condition and ensure that all knowledge gaps that do not allow for habitat type condition assessment are removed by 2030 at the latest.**
5. The restoration measures referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 shall consider the need for improved connectivity between the habitat types listed in Annex I and take into account the

ecological requirements of the species referred to in paragraph 3 that occur in those habitat types.

6. Member States shall ensure that the areas that are subject to restoration measures in accordance with paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 show a continuous improvement in the condition of the habitat types listed in Annex I until good condition is reached, and a continuous improvement of the quality of the habitats of the species referred to in paragraph 3, until the sufficient quality of those habitats is reached. **[Member States shall put in place necessary measures to prevent deterioration of ensure that areas in which good condition has been reached, and in which the sufficient quality of the habitats of the species has been reached, do not deteriorate.]**
7. **[Member States shall put in place necessary measures to prevent deterioration of ensure that areas where the habitat types listed in Annex I occur do not deteriorate and which are necessary for achieving and maintaining the favourable conservation status of the habitats and species of the Habitats and Birds Directives.]**
8. Outside Natura 2000 sites, the non-fulfilment of the obligations set out in paragraphs 6 and 7 is justified if it is caused by:
 - (a) force majeure **including natural disasters, in particular unplanned and uncontrolled wildfire; or;**
 - (b) unavoidable habitat transformations which are directly caused by climate change; or
 - (c) a project of overriding public interest for which no less damaging alternative solutions are available, to be determined on a case by case basis.
9. For Natura 2000 sites, the non-fulfilment of the obligations set out in paragraphs 6 and 7, is justified if it is caused by:
 - (a) force majeure **including natural disasters;**
 - (b) unavoidable habitat transformations which are directly caused by climate change; or
 - (c) a plan or project authorised in accordance with Article 6(4) of the Directive 92/43/EEC.
10. Member States shall ensure that there is:
 - (a) an increase of habitat area in good condition for habitat types listed in Annex I until at least 90 % is in good condition and until the favourable reference area for each habitat type in each biogeographic region of their territory is reached;
 - (b) an increasing trend towards the sufficient quality and quantity of the terrestrial, coastal and freshwater habitats of the species referred to in Annexes II, IV and V to Directive 92/43/EEC and of the species covered by Directive 2009/147/EC.

Article 5

Restoration of marine ecosystems

1. Member States shall put in place the restoration measures that are necessary to improve to good condition areas of habitat types listed in Annex II which are not in good condition. Such measures shall be in place on at least 30 % of the area of each group of habitat types listed in Annex II that is not in good condition, as quantified in the national restoration plan referred to in Article 12, by 2030, on at least 60 % by 2040, and on at least 90 % by 2050.
 2. Member States shall put in place the restoration measures that are necessary to re-establish the habitat types listed in Annex II in areas not covered by those habitat types **with the aim to reach their favourable reference area**. Such measures shall be in place on areas representing at least 30 % of the additional overall surface needed to reach the total favourable reference area of each group of habitat types, as quantified in the national restoration plan referred to in Article 12, by 2030, at least 60 % of that surface by 2040, and 100 % of that surface by 2050.
 3. Member States shall put in place the restoration measures for the marine habitats of species listed in Annex III and in Annexes II, IV and V to Directive 92/43/EEC and for the marine habitats of wild birds covered under Directive 2009/147/EC, that are, **in addition to the restoration measures put in place in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article**, necessary in order to improve the quality and quantity of those habitats, including by re-establishing them, and to enhance connectivity, until sufficient quality and quantity of those habitats is achieved.
 4. The determination of the most suitable areas for restoration measures in accordance with paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of this Article shall be based on the best available knowledge and the latest scientific evidence of the condition of the habitat types listed in Annex II, measured by the structure and functions which are necessary for their long-term maintenance including their typical species, as referred to in Article 1(e) of Directive 92/43/EEC, and of the quality and quantity of the habitats of the species referred to in paragraph 3 of this Article, **making use of use information reported under Article 17 of Directive 92/43/EEC, Article 12 of Directive 2009/147/EC and Article 18 of Directive 2008/56/EC**. ~~Areas where the habitat types listed in Annex I are in unknown condition shall be considered as not being in good condition.~~
- 4bis. For areas where habitat types listed in Annex II are in unknown condition, Member States shall, in addition to the restoration measures in accordance with paragraph 1, put in place appropriate restoration measures on 30 % of the area of each group of habitat types listed in Annex I in unknown condition and ensure that all knowledge gaps that do not allow for habitat type condition assessment are removed by 2030 at the latest.**
5. The restoration measures referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 shall consider the need for improved connectivity between the habitat types listed in Annex I and take into account the ecological requirements of the species referred to in paragraph 3 that occur in those habitat types.

6. Member States shall ensure that the areas that are subject to restoration measures in accordance with paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 show a continuous improvement in the condition of the habitat types listed in Annex I until good condition is reached, and a continuous improvement of the quality of the habitats of the species referred to in paragraph 3, until the sufficient quality of those habitats is reached. [Member States shall put in place necessary measures to prevent deterioration of ensure that areas in which good condition has been reached, and in which the sufficient quality of the habitats of the species has been reached, do not deteriorate.]
7. [Member States shall put in place necessary measures to prevent deterioration of ensure that areas where the habitat types listed in Annex II occur do not deteriorate and which are necessary for achieving and maintaining the favourable conservation status of the habitats and species of the Habitats and Birds Directives.]
8. Outside Natura 2000 sites, the non-fulfilment of the obligations set out in paragraphs 6 and 7 is justified if caused by:
- (a) force majeure including natural disasters;
 - (b) unavoidable habitat transformations which are directly caused by climate change; or
 - (c) a project of overriding public interest for which no less damaging alternative solutions are available, to be determined on a case by case basis.
 - (d) action or inaction for which the Member State concerned is not responsible.
9. For Natura 2000 sites, the non-fulfilment of the obligation set out in paragraphs 6 and 7, is justified if caused by:
- (a) force majeure including natural disasters;
 - (b) unavoidable habitat transformations which are directly caused by climate change; or
 - (c) a plan or project authorised in accordance with Article 6(4) of the Directive 92/43/EEC.
10. Member States shall ensure that there is:
- (a) an increase of habitat area in good condition for habitat types listed in Annex II until at least 90 % is in good condition and until the favourable reference area for each habitat type in each biogeographic region of their territory is reached;
 - (b) a positive trend towards the sufficient quality and quantity of the marine habitats of the species listed in Annex III and in Annexes II, IV and V to Directive 92/43/EEC and of the species covered by Directive 2009/147/EC.

Article 6

Restoration of urban ecosystems

1. Member States shall ensure that there is no net loss of urban green space, and of urban tree canopy cover by 2030, compared to 2021, in all city centres and urban clusters.
2. Member States shall ensure that there is an increase in the total national area of urban green space in cities and in towns and suburbs of at least [3 %] of the total land area of urban centres and urban clusters in 2021, by 2040, and at least [5 %] by 2050. In addition Member States shall ensure:
 - (a) a minimum of 10 % urban tree canopy cover in urban centres and urban clusters in all cities and in towns and suburbs by 2050; and
 - (b) a net gain of urban green space that is integrated into existing and new buildings and infrastructure developments, including through renovations and renewals, in all cities and in towns and suburbs.

Article 7

Restoration of the natural connectivity of rivers and natural functions of the related floodplains

1. Member States shall make an inventory of barriers to longitudinal and lateral connectivity of surface waters and, taking into account their socio-economic functions, identify the barriers that need to be removed to contribute to the achievement of the restoration targets set out in Article 4 of this Regulation and of the objective of restoring at least 25 000 km of rivers into free-flowing rivers in the Union by 2030, without prejudice to Directive 2000/60/EC, in particular Articles 4(3), 4(5) and 4(7) thereof, and Regulation 1315/2013, in particular Article 15 thereof.
2. Member States shall remove the barriers to longitudinal and lateral connectivity of surface waters ~~identified~~ based on the inventory under paragraph 1 of this Article, in accordance with the plan for their removal referred to in Article 12(2), point (f). When removing barriers, Member States shall primarily address obsolete barriers, which are those that are no longer needed for energy generation, agriculture, inland navigation, water supply, flood protection, or other uses.
3. Member States shall complement the removal of the barriers referred to in paragraph 2, by the measures necessary to improve the natural functions of the related floodplains and measures to improve the vertical connectivity
4. Member States shall ensure that natural connectivity of rivers and natural functions of the related floodplains restored in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 are maintained.

Article 8
Restoration of pollinator populations

1. Member States shall halt the decline of pollinator populations by 2030 and achieve thereafter an increasing trend of pollinator populations, measured every ~~three~~ **five** years after 2030, until satisfactory levels are achieved, as set out in accordance with Article 11(3).
2. The Commission shall adopt implementing acts to establish a method for monitoring pollinator populations. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 21(2).
3. The method referred to in the paragraph 2 shall provide a standardised approach for collecting annual data on the abundance and diversity of pollinator species and for assessing pollinator population trends.

Article 9
Restoration of agricultural ecosystems

1. Member States shall put in place the restoration measures necessary to enhance biodiversity in agricultural ecosystems, in addition to the areas that are subject to restoration measures under Article 4(1), (2) and (3).
2. Member States shall achieve an increasing trend at national level of each of the following indicators in agricultural ecosystems, as further specified in Annex IV, measured in the period from the date of entry into force of this Regulation until 31 December 2030, and every ~~three~~ **five** years thereafter, until the satisfactory levels, identified in accordance with Article 11(3), are reached:
 - (a) grassland butterfly index;
 - (b) stock of organic carbon in cropland mineral soils;
 - (c) share of agricultural land with high-diversity landscape features.
3. Member States shall put in place restoration measures to ensure that the common farmland bird index at national level based on the species specified in Annex V, indexed on ... *[OP please insert the date = the first day of the month following 12 months after the date of entry into force of this Regulation]* = 100, reaches the following levels:
 - (a) 110 by 2030, 120 by 2040 and 130 by 2050, for Member States listed in Annex V with historically more depleted populations of farmland birds;
 - (b) 105 by 2030, 110 by 2040 and 115 by 2050, for Member States listed in Annex IV with historically less depleted populations of farmland birds.

4. For organic soils in agricultural use constituting drained peatlands, Member States shall put in place restoration measures. Those measures shall be in place on at least:
 - (a) 30 % of such areas by 2030, of which at least a quarter shall be rewetted;
 - (b) 50 % of such areas by 2040, of which at least half shall be rewetted;
 - (c) 70 % of such areas by 2050, of which at least half shall be rewetted.

Member States may put in place restoration measures, including rewetting, in areas of peat extraction sites and count those areas as contributing to achieving the respective targets referred to in the first subparagraph, points (a), (b) and (c).

In addition, Member States may put in place restoration measures to rewet organic soils that constitute drained peatlands under land uses other than agricultural use and peat extraction and count those rewetted areas as contributing, up to a maximum of 20%, to the achievement of the targets referred to in the first subparagraph, points (a), (b) and (c).

Article 10

Restoration of forest ecosystems

1. Member States shall put in place the restoration measures necessary to enhance biodiversity of forest ecosystems, in addition to the areas that are subject to restoration measures pursuant to Article 4(1), (2) and (3).
2. Member States shall achieve an increasing trend at national level of each of the following indicators in forest ecosystems, as further set out in Annex VI, measured in the period from the date of entry into force of this Regulation until 31 December 2030, and every ~~three~~ **five** years thereafter, until the satisfactory levels identified in accordance with Article 11(3) are reached:
 - (a) standing deadwood;
 - (b) lying deadwood;
 - (c) share of forests with uneven-aged structure;
 - (d) forest connectivity;
 - (e) common forest bird index;
 - (f) stock of organic carbon.
3. **The non-fulfilment of the obligation set out in paragraph 2 is justified if caused by:**
 - (a) force majeure, including natural disasters, in particular unplanned and uncontrolled wildfire; or**
 - (b) unavoidable habitat transformations which are directly caused by climate change.**

CHAPTER III

NATIONAL RESTORATION PLANS

Article 11

Preparation of the national restoration plans

1. Member States shall prepare national restoration plans and carry out the preparatory monitoring and research needed to identify the restoration measures that are necessary to meet the targets and obligations set out in Articles 4 to 10, taking into account the latest scientific evidence.
2. Member states shall quantify the area that needs to be restored to reach the restoration targets set out in Articles 4 and 5 taking into account the condition of the habitat types referred to in Articles 4(1), 4(2), 5(1) and 5(2) and the quality and quantity of the habitats of the species referred to in Article 4(3) and Article 5(3) that are present on their territory. The quantification shall be based, amongst others, on the following information:
 - (a) for each habitat type:
 - (i) the total habitat area and a map of its current distribution;
 - (ii) the habitat area not in good condition;
 - (iii) the favourable reference area taking into account the documented losses over at least the last 70 years and the projected changes to environmental conditions due to climate change;
 - (iv) the areas most suitable for the re-establishment of habitat types in view of ongoing and projected changes to environmental conditions due to climate change;
 - (b) the sufficient quality and quantity of the habitats of the species required for achieving their favourable conservation status, taking into account the areas most suitable for re-establishment of those habitats, and the connectivity needed between habitats in order for the species populations to thrive, as well as ongoing and projected changes to environmental conditions due to climate change.
3. Member States shall set, by 2030 at the latest, satisfactory levels for each of the indicators referred to in Articles 8(1), 9(2) and 10(2), through an open and effective process and assessment, based on the latest scientific evidence and, if available, the framework referred to in Article 17(9).
4. Member States shall identify and map the agricultural and forest areas in need of restoration, in particular the areas that, due to intensification or other management factors, are in need of enhanced connectivity and landscape diversity.

5. Member States shall identify synergies with climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation, **land degradation neutrality** and disaster prevention and prioritise restoration measures accordingly. Member States shall also take into account:
- (a) their integrated national energy and climate plan referred to in Article 3 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1999;
 - (b) their long-term strategy referred to in Article 15 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1999;
 - (c) the Union binding target for 2030 set out in Article 3 of Directive 2018/2001/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council.
6. Member States shall coordinate the development of national restoration plans with the designation of the renewables go-to areas. During the preparation of the nature restoration plans, Member States shall ensure synergies with the already designated renewables go-to areas and ensure that the functioning of the renewables go-to areas, including the permitting procedures applicable in the renewables go-to areas foreseen by Directive (EU) 2018/2001 remain unchanged.
7. When preparing their national restoration plans, Member States shall take the following into account:
- (a) the conservation measures established for Natura 2000 sites in accordance with Directive 92/43/EEC;
 - (b) prioritised action frameworks prepared in accordance with Directive 92/43/EEC;
 - (c) measures for achieving good ecological and chemical status of water bodies included in river basin management plans prepared in accordance with Directive 2000/60/EC;
 - (d) marine strategies for achieving good environmental status for all Union marine regions prepared in accordance with Directive 2008/56/EC;
 - (e) national air pollution control programmes prepared under Directive (EU) 2016/2284;
 - (f) national biodiversity strategies and action plans developed in accordance with Article 6 of the Convention on Biological Diversity;
 - (g) conservation measures adopted under the common fisheries policy.
8. Member States shall, when preparing the national restoration plans, make use of the different examples of restoration measures listed in Annex VII, depending on specific national and local conditions, and the latest scientific evidence.
9. Member States shall, when preparing the national restoration plans, aim at optimising the ecological, economic and social functions of ecosystems as well as their contribution to the sustainable development of the relevant regions and communities.

10. Member States shall, where possible, foster synergies with the national restoration plans of other Member States, in particular for ecosystems that span across borders.
11. Member States shall ensure that the preparation of the restoration plan is open, inclusive and effective and that the public is given early and effective opportunities to participate in its elaboration. Consultations shall comply with the requirements set out in Articles 4 to 10 of Directive 2001/42/EC.

Article 12

Content of the national restoration plans

1. The national restoration plan shall cover the period up to 2050, with intermediate deadlines corresponding to the targets and obligations set out in Articles 4 to 10.
2. Member States shall include the following elements in their national restoration plan, using the uniform format established in accordance with paragraph 4 of this Article:
 - (a) the quantification of the areas to be restored to reach the restoration targets set out in Articles 4 to 10 based on the preparatory work undertaken in accordance with Article 11 and geographically referenced maps of those areas;
 - (b) a description of the restoration measures planned, or put in place, for achieving the targets and obligations set out in Articles 4 to 10 and a specification regarding which of those restoration measures are planned, or put in place, within the Natura 2000 network established in accordance with Directive 92/43/EEC;
 - (ba) a dedicated section setting out how the national restoration plan considers removal of the knowledge gaps referred to in Articles 4(4bis) and 5(4bis) for areas where the habitat types listed in Annexes I and II are in unknown condition, including the timing for removal of those knowledge gaps with the aim to achieve targets set out in Articles 4(1) and 5(1);**
 - (c) an indication of the measures to ~~[ensure that~~ **prevent deterioration of** the areas covered by the habitat types listed in Annexes I and II ~~do not deteriorate~~ in the areas in which good condition has been reached and ~~that of~~ the habitats of the species referred to in Articles 4(3) and 5(3) ~~do not deteriorate~~ in the areas in which the sufficient quality of the habitats of the species has been reached, in accordance with Articles 4(6) and 5(6);
 - (d) an indication of the measures to ~~[ensure that~~ **prevent deterioration of** the areas covered by habitat types listed in Annexes I and II ~~do not deteriorate~~, in accordance with Article 4(7) and Article 5(7);

- (e) the inventory of barriers and the barriers identified for removal in accordance with Article 7(1), the plan for their removal in accordance with Article 7(2) and an estimate of the length of free-flowing rivers to be achieved by the removal of those barriers by 2030 and by 2050, and any other measures to re-establish the natural functions of floodplains and measures to improve the vertical connectivity in accordance with Article 7(3);
- (f) the timing for putting in place the restoration measures in accordance with Articles 4 to 10;
- (g) a dedicated section setting out tailored restoration measures in their outermost regions, as applicable;
- (h) the monitoring of the areas subject to restoration in accordance with Articles 4 and 5, the process for assessing the effectiveness of the restoration measures put in place in accordance with Articles 4 to 10 and for revising those measures where needed to ensure that the targets and obligations set out in Articles 4 to 10 are met;
- (i) an indication of the provisions for ensuring the continuous, long-term and sustained effects of the restoration measures referred to in Articles 4 to 10;
- (j) the estimated co-benefits for climate change mitigation **and land degradation neutrality** associated with the restoration measures over time, as well as wider socio-economic benefits of those measures;
- (k) a dedicated section setting out how the national restoration plan considers:
 - (i) the relevance of climate change scenarios for the planning of the type and location of restoration measures;
 - (ii) the potential of restoration measures to minimise climate change impacts on nature, to prevent natural disasters and to support adaptation;
 - (iii) synergies with national adaptation strategies or plans and national disaster risk assessment reports;
 - (iv) an overview of the interplay between the measures included in the national restoration plan and the national energy and climate plan;
- (l) the estimated financing needs for the implementation of the restoration measures, which shall include the description of the support to stakeholders affected by restoration measures or other new obligations arising from this Regulation, and the means of intended financing, public or private, including (co-) financing with Union funding instruments;
- (m) an indication of the subsidies which negatively affect the achievement of the targets and the fulfilment of the obligations set out in this Regulation;

- (n) a summary of the process for preparing and establishing the national restoration plan, including information on public participation and of how the needs of local communities and stakeholders have been considered;
 - (o) a dedicated section indicating how observations from the Commission on the draft national restoration plan referred to in Article 14(4) have been taken into account in accordance with Article 14(5). If the Member State concerned does not address an observation from the Commission or a substantial part thereof, that Member State shall provide its reasons.
3. The national restoration plans shall, where applicable, include the conservation measures that a Member State intends to adopt under the common fisheries policy, including conservation measures in joint recommendations that a Member State intends to initiate in accordance with the procedure set out in Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013, and any relevant information on those measures.
 4. The Commission shall adopt implementing acts to establish a uniform format for the national restoration plans. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 21(2). The Commission shall be assisted by the European Environmental Agency (EEA) when drawing up the uniform format.
2. Member States shall determine what constitutes a sufficient interest and impairment of a right, consistently with the objective of providing the public with wide access to justice. For the purposes of paragraph 1, any non-governmental organisation promoting environmental protection and meeting any requirements under national law shall be deemed to have rights capable of being impaired and their interest shall be deemed sufficient.
 3. Review procedures referred to in paragraph 1 shall be fair, equitable, timely and free of charge or not prohibitively expensive, and shall provide adequate and effective remedies, including injunctive relief where necessary.
 4. Member States shall ensure that practical information is made available to the public on access to the administrative and judicial review procedures referred to in this Article.



Council of the European Union
General Secretariat

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Brussels, 05 January 2023

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CONTRIBUTION

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Working Party on the Environment

Subject:	Nature Restoration Regulation - Comments from delegations on Chapters I, II, and III.
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Following the call for comments (WK 17354/2022), delegations will find attached comments by SI on Chapters I, II and III of the proposal.