Specifications for a knowledge synthesis: “How is the effectiveness of terrestrial protected areas to conserve biodiversity measured?”

www.biodiversa.org
contact@biodiversa.org
BiodiversaPlus

Co-funded by the European Union

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Article 1: Context for the desk study

A) General context

On 1 October 2021, the European co-funded Partnership on Biodiversity (hereafter referred to as the "European Biodiversity Partnership" or "Biodiversa+") has been launched as part of the EU Research & Innovation Programme Horizon Europe. This Partnership builds on the work and achievements of BiodivERsA, a pan-European network of programmers and funders of biodiversity research.

B) The European Biodiversity Partnership: Biodiversa+

Biodiversa+ – the European Biodiversity Partnership – builds on the efficient structuring of the European Research Area in the domain achieved by BiodivERsA but aims to be more ambitious in terms of membership (both in terms of composition and geographical reach), budget envelope (>800 M€ euro over 7 years), and portfolio of activities.

Biodiversa+ is one of the actions included in the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 to make the bridge between science, policy and practice. It coordinates research programmes between the EU and its Member States and Associated Countries and triggers combined action, mobilising for the first-time environmental authorities as key partners for implementing biodiversity research and innovation, along with ministries of research, funding agencies, and environmental protection agencies.
For now, 74 partners from 36 countries (EU member states and associated countries) are Biodiversa+ members.

LIFESPAN: 1 Oct 2021- 30 Sept 2028 (7 years)

LONG TERM GOALS: In line with international and EU commitments, Biodiversa+ aims to achieve the following long-term goals:

- no net ecosystem loss by 2030, with species extinction risks decreasing, and abundances of endangered species and their genetic diversity increasing;
- deployment of nature-based solutions at adequate scale to contribute to people's needs across Europe;
- good biodiversity status fully acknowledged as one of the bases for sustainable development and a green economy, with EU leadership well recognized in this context.

OVERARCHING OBJECTIVES to be reached during the lifetime of Biodiversa+:

1. Produce actionable knowledge to tackle direct and indirect drivers of biodiversity loss; and assessment of novel tools and approaches to biodiversity/ecosystem conservation and restoration;
2. Improved monitoring of biodiversity and ecosystem services across Europe (status and trends), by setting up a Pan-European network of harmonised monitoring schemes;
3. Enhance the evidence base, accelerate the development and wide deployment of nature-based solutions to societal challenges across Europe in a sustainable and resilient way;
4. Making the business case for the conservation and restoration of ecosystems;
5. Science-based policy support for EU, Member States and Associated Countries

ACTIVITIES: In order to reach its objectives, Biodiversa+ deploys a wide range of activities:

- Develop, regularly update and promote the Partnership vision and strategy
- Promote and support Research & Innovation programs and projects across the European Research Area
- Promote and support transnational biodiversity monitoring
- Promote and support nature-based solutions and valuation of biodiversity in private sectors
- Better connect R&I programs and projects to policy, including science-based policy support
- Reinforce the excellence, visibility and impact of European R&I at the international level
- Promote communication, outreach and open science
- Promote stakeholder engagement in European Research and Innovation

EXPECTED IMPACT:
Biodiversity research and environmental policy institutions build-up coherent initiatives:

- An overarching platform connects national/local and European Research & Innovation programmes with environmental ministries and agencies, combining in-cash and in-kind resources;
- Multidisciplinary Research & Innovation programmes, developed with stakeholders, are available;
- EU and Member State / Associated Country biodiversity research agendas are complementary; a long-term pan-European strategic research agenda is co-created and implemented;
- A European network of coordinated observatories for biodiversity monitoring is delivering knowledge on biodiversity and ecosystem services to users;
- A broad range of activities, including but not limited to co-funded calls, are implemented to increase relevance, impact and visibility of R&I and European leadership in tackling the biodiversity crisis, in line with the European Green Deal, the

targets of the new EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030, and the Convention on Biological Diversity.

- Biodiversity considerations are mainstreamed across sectors and policies across;
- Biodiversa+ will contribute to the objectives of the EU biodiversity Strategy and the target that, by 2030, biodiversity in Europe is back on a path of recovery.

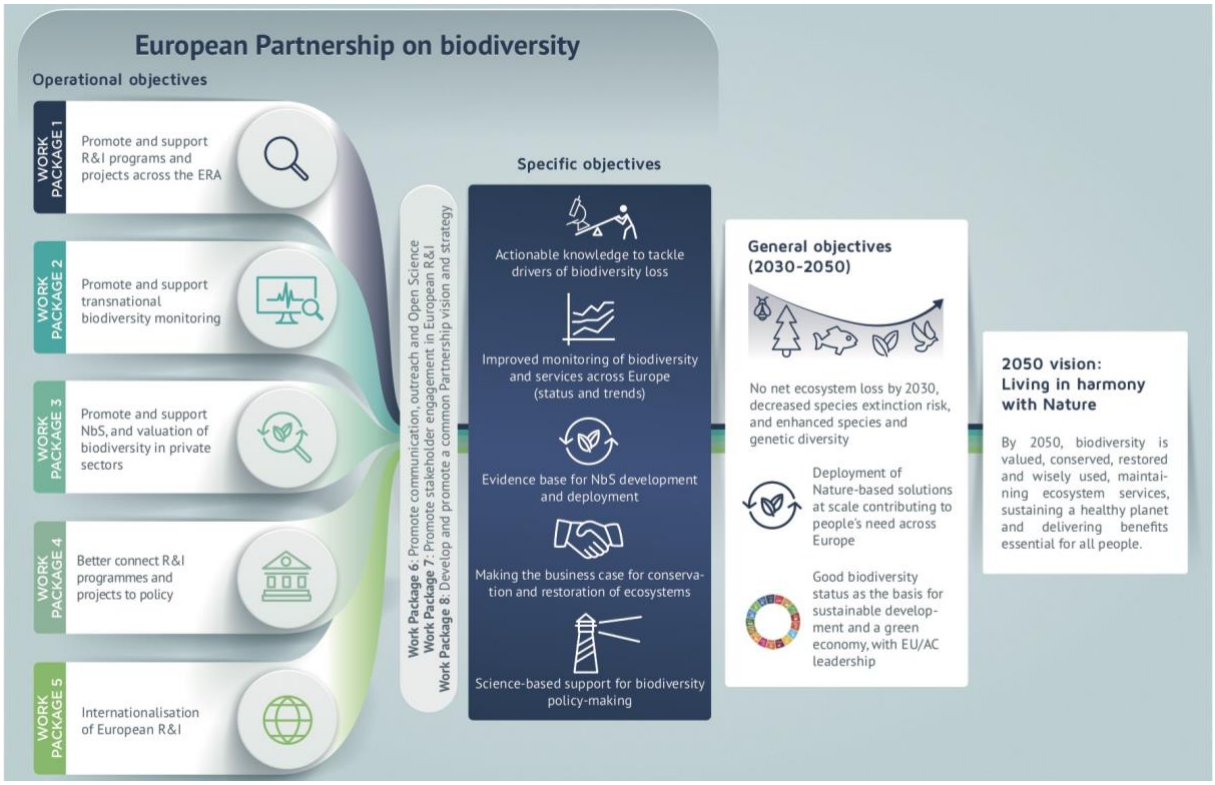

Figure 1: summary of the Partnership's vision, objectives and activities

C) Biodiversa+ Flagship Programmes

Biodiversa+ has a long-term strategic vision that guides its activities over the coming years. This strategic vision is described in the Biodiversa+ Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) and was prepared by the Biodiversa+ Coordination team and all Biodiversa+ Partners, in close consultation with the European Commission.

The Biodiversa+ SRIA will concretely be implemented through multi-annual Flagship Programmes that are launched every one or two year to tackle thematic issues, mobilising the wide portfolio of Biodiversa+ activities. Flagship Programmes can hold a joint call for research proposals but this is not a requirement. Having different duration, several flagship Programmes will run in parallel and synergies amongst Flagship Programmes are encouraged to better understand and highlight interlinkages between biodiversity and other challenges.

Four flagship programmes launched in the first two years of Biodiversa+ (2021-2023):

- Supporting biodiversity and ecosystem protection across land and sea (launched in October 2021)
- Better transnational monitoring of biodiversity to better characterise, understand and report on biodiversity dynamics and trends (launched in October 2021)
- Better knowledge to develop, deploy and assess Nature-Based Solutions (launched in October 2022)
- Supporting societal transformation for the sustainable use and management of biodiversity (launched in October 2022).

D) Biodiversa+ and the production of desk studies

As part of its Work Package 4 "*Connecting R&I programs, results and experts to policy*" (see figure 1), Biodiversa+ aims to improve information exchanges between science, policy and other stakeholders, both upstream and downstream. This will help to improve both the relevance and uptake of funded research in relevant societal and policy processes. More specifically, through a diversity of science-policy interfacing activities, the objectives are:

- To ensure a tighter collaboration than currently observed between national/local and European-level policy makers dealing with biodiversity and related issues, environmental agencies, R&I policy makers and R&I programme funders.
- To reinforce the knowledge base on important policy issues and consequently propose policy options and guide policy development and implementation at global, European and national/local levels.

E) Context of the call for tender: Biodiversa+ subtask 4.1.2

In the context described above, the Biodiversa+ subtask 4.1.2 "*Desk studies and production of knowledge syntheses*" led by the French Foundation for Research on Biodiversity (FRB) is looking to subcontract a service provider to undertake a knowledge synthesis on the subject of biodiversity monitoring in the support of the evaluation of protected area effectiveness.

Indeed, protected areas (PAs) are a recognised global conservation and management tool that conserve biodiversity and its associated ecosystem services[1]. The current Aichi Biodiversity Targets of the Convention on Biological Diversity (e.g., Aichi target 11) call for at least 17% of global terrestrial and inland waters - especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services - to be conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures by 2020.

At the European scale, the EU biodiversity strategy for 2030 sets out a target of protecting at least 30% of EU land by 2030, while also ensuring that all protected areas **are effectively**

[1] Rodrigues, A.S.L., Cazalis, V., 2020. The multifaceted challenge of evaluating protected area effectiveness. Nat Commun 11, 5147. https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-020-18989-2

managed. 26% of EU land is currently protected (data as of 2021)[2], of which 18.6% of this area is designated as Natura 2000 sites – areas protected under the EU Birds and Habitats Directives – and 7.4% as other complementary national designations[3].
However, the designation of protected areas is not in itself a guarantee of biodiversity protection as the effectiveness of their management is a decisive factor in achieving various conservation outcomes[4]. Indeed, distinguishing between PA management effectiveness and PA conservation effectiveness are important elements to consider[5]. There is a lack of systematically consolidated information on how effectively such areas are managed, and how effectiveness is measured - a diversity of indicators and metrics are used to judge efficacy-. For instance, protection levels can be a good indicator of PA performance, but critical assessments are required to look at whether conservation efforts are appropriately strategized to deliver desired ecological benefits. Moreover, as large-scale initiatives, which take into account connectivity, which likely contribute to the long-term viability of mobile species[6], conserving and managing large portions of land connecting PAs is an increasingly important strategy to maintain connectivity and achieve regional, national, and international conservation objectives[7]. Indeed, the perimeters of conservation areas are often determined by expert opinion and based on socio-political criteria, thus the extent to which they are effective in terms of species' ecological needs may differ. Indeed, it is important that protected areas in the EU are no longer monitored as separate isolated units but continually managed as part of a wider network of conservation areas.
Given that the current biodiversity monitoring landscape is quite scattered at pan-European scale, it should be particularly useful to consolidate evidence in an objective, transparent, and meaningful way to document the different - and 'best' - ways of measuring the effectiveness of protected areas. This may allow for biodiversity monitoring program managers to better support the evaluation of protected areas across countries.

Indeed, assessing – based on the scientific literature – the effectiveness of protected areas and networks of PAs needs to be evaluated both inside and outside of protected area perimeters. e.g. the effects of buffer zones on conserving biodiversity may also need better clarification to

[2] European commission (2023) *EU Biodiversity Strategy Dashboard* Available at: https://dopa.jrc.ec.europa.eu/kcbd/dashboard/ (Accessed: 13/11/2023).
[3] European commission (2023) *EU Biodiversity Strategy Dashboard* Available at: https://dopa.jrc.ec.europa.eu/kcbd/dashboard/ (Accessed: 13/11/2023).
[4] Cazalis, V., Princé, K., Mihoub, J.-B., Kelly, J., Butchart, S.H.M., Rodrigues, A.S.L., 2020. Effectiveness of protected areas in conserving tropical forest birds. Nat Commun 11, 4461. https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-020-18230-0
[5] Rodríguez-Rodríguez, D., Martínez-Vega, J., 2022. Effectiveness of Protected Areas in Conserving Biodiversity: A Worldwide Review, Strategies for Sustainability. Springer International Publishing, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-94297-7.
[6] Hofmann, D.D., Behr, D.M., McNutt, J.W., Ozgul, A., Cozzi, G., 2021. Bound within boundaries: Do protected areas cover movement corridors of their most mobile, protected species? Journal of Applied Ecology 58, 1133–1144. https://doi.org/10.1111/1365-2664.13868
[7] Stewart, F.E.C., Darlington, S., Volpe, J.P., McAdie, M., Fisher, J.T., 2019. Corridors best facilitate functional connectivity across a protected area network. Sci Rep 9, 10852. https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-019-47067-x

render conservation objectives more operational. Thus, aiding in improving the effectiveness and upscaling of conservation and restoration actions.

Accordingly, the review should succeed in contributing to the Biodiversa+ flagships "Better transnational monitoring of biodiversity to better characterise, understand and report on biodiversity dynamics and trends" and "Supporting biodiversity and ecosystem protection across land and sea" (see article 1C of the specifications).

Article 2. Description of expectations for the desk study

A) Objectives of the desk study:

Review methods to evaluate the impact of Protected Areas (PAs) and networks of PAs on the state of conservation, from data to indicators, considering various dimensions of biodiversity monitoring (e.g. remote sensing, citizen science and conventional field monitoring).

Primary question:
How is the effectiveness of terrestrial protected areas to conserve biodiversity measured?

Possible secondary questions:

- How can biodiversity monitoring support the evaluation of PAs and what are the missing biodiversity monitoring schemes (especially at transnational scale) to objectively measure this effectiveness?
- How can measuring effectiveness be standardized and/or improved across scales?
- What are the methods most widely used to assess PA effectiveness?

The service provider must ensure that this desk study will:

- feed into the Biodiversa+ flagship "Better transnational monitoring of biodiversity to better characterise, understand and report on biodiversity dynamics and trends"; in alignment with the Biodiversa+ SRIAcross-cutting theme A)
- feed into the Biodiversa+ flagship "Supporting biodiversity and ecosystem protection across land and sea", in alignment with the Biodiversa+ SRIA (cross-cutting theme B)
- provide a state of knowledge that will help to guide policy action and improve monitoring of protected areas in Europe.

B) Expected use of methods:

It is expected that the methods employed to produce such a synthesis are inspired by systematic maps or reviews (James et al., 2016[8]; Frampton et al., 2017[9]; Livoreil et al., 2017[10]). Additionally, "scoping reviews" and/or "rapid evidence assessments" (Dicks et al., 2018[11]) may be relevant when full systematic methods need to be accelerated. Indeed, the use of a structured, stepwise methodology – which may follow an *a priori* protocol – in order to collate and synthesise existing relevant evidence (scientific and/or gray literature) is expected (cf. James et al 2016; Livoreil et al 2017). However, components of the process are expected to be simplified or omitted – depending on volume of literature – to produce the synthesis in the given period of time.

The time available to produce the study will be *ca.* 12 months. We encourage the service provider to consider appropriate methods (no. of academic sources of literature, the need to simplify the search strategy…), in order to deliver the study on time (January 2025 – see article 3).

Question structure:
In order to answer the primary question of interest, a *P-I-C-O* formula may be particularly useful (Frampton et al., 2017; Livoreil et al., 2017). Indeed, where PAs are the *intervention* it may be appropriate to consider all types of protected areas and/or their level of protection (e.g the IUCN protected area management categories).

In terms of **Outcomes**, it may be useful to illustrate what types of indicators, metrics are used for evaluating effectiveness of PAs.

C) Expected types of output:

The knowledge synthesis (i.e. a written report), should identify knowledge gaps/knowledge clusters, along with a database of existing evidence (hereafter referred to as the "Evidence base", and the list of included publications).
The synthesis should more specifically allow to identify both useful and missing biodiversity monitoring elements/measurements/methods required to adequately evaluate the effectiveness of terrestrial protected areas to conserve biodiversity.

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[8] James, K.L., Randall, N.P., Haddaway, N.R., 2016. A methodology for systematic mapping in environmental sciences. Environ. Evid. 5, 7. https://doi.org/10.1186/s13750-016-0059-6

[9] Frampton, G.K., Livoreil, B., Petrokofsky, G., 2017. Eligibility screening in evidence synthesis of environmental management topics. Environ. Evid. 6, 27. https://doi.org/10.1186/s13750-017-0102-2

[10] Livoreil, B., Glanville, J., Haddaway, N.R., Bayliss, H., Bethel, A., de Lachapelle, F.F., Robalino, S., Savilaakso, S., Zhou, W., Petrokofsky, G., Frampton, G., 2017. Systematic searching for environmental evidence using multiple tools and sources. Environ. Evid. 6, 23. https://doi.org/10.1186/s13750-017-0099-6

[11] Dicks LV, Haddaway N, Hernández-Morcillo M, Mattsson B, Randall N, Failler P, Ferretti J, Livoreil B, Saarikoski H, Santamaria L, Rodela R, Velizarova E, and Wittmer H. (2017). Knowledge synthesis for environmental decisions: an evaluation of existing methods, and guidance for their selection, use and development – a report from the EKLIPSE project.

D) Project's sponsor

Biodiversa+, through the French Foundation for Research on Biodiversity (who is a Biodiversa+ partner) is the project sponsor.
The follow-up of the project will be done by the French Foundation for Research on Biodiversity together with the active Partners of the Biodiversa+ subtask 4.1.2 (see article I part D), ensuring alignment with the overall needs and strategy of Biodiversa+.

Article 3. Organisation of the delivery

A) Schedule

- Market publication (15th December 2023)
- Closing of the receipt (27th of January 2024 – midnight)
- Contract notification (6 of February 2024)
- A first consultation meeting will be conducted with the selected service provider at the latest two weeks after the selection of the service provider. The work is foreseen to start in **mid-February 2024**.
- Bi-monthly meetings will be planned after the start of the contract between the service provider and Biodiversa+.
- Delivery of an advance draft version of the desk study (November 2024)
- Delivery of the final version of the desk study (January 2025).

B) Organisation and completion deadline

The service provider will comply with the implementation schedule which will be confirmed upon notification of the contract, taking into account the deadlines imposed in the specifications. The implementation schedule, duly signed by the service provider, will become a contractual document.
The service provider will appoint before the start of the work a contact person for the duration of the project.

C) Modification of the offer

No change to the selected offer can be made during execution without the written authorisation of Biodiversa+ and the validation of the project officers.
Any request by the service provider to change the chosen offer must be in writing and specified as well as the performance gains or losses compared to the initial offer.
The costs resulting from changes and consequences not validated by Biodiversa+ as well as any additional work carried out without the written authorisation of the Biodiversa+ representative will be borne by the service provider.

D) Information and project progress meetings

A launch meeting will be organised in which the service provider will participate. The objective of this meeting will be to present the proposed orientations and methods to be used during the

work. It will also be an opportunity for the service provider to propose improvement to the desk study, based on its experience.

The service provider is required to be represented at this meeting at least by the project manager, or someone able to take decisions / implement the requests made by Biodiversa+.

Following each project meeting, the service provider will inform the Biodiversa+ representatives about the progress and choices on a fortnightly basis (where relevant). The Biodiversa+ representatives, *via* a dedicated "working group" (see article 1D) whose role will be to follow/accompany the service provider, will have the possibility to comment on the choices made and propose modifications to the choices if they do not correspond to the decisions taken during the initial meeting and in the specifications.

In their offer, the service provider will explain in the concept document how Biodiversa+ contact people to be involved in the process to develop this desk study. At the launch meeting, the service provider will present a draft planning showing the key milestones of the production of this desk study and discuss with Biodiversa+ to agree how it will be involved in the process (be informed and/ or be invited to provide feedback).

E) Reference person

Within Biodiversa+, the person in charge of following-up the project will be: Joseph Langridge. We would like to ensure that we can regularly discuss with the service provider's project manager by phone or video call to ensure smooth collaboration (typically once every two weeks).

Contact of the Biodiversa+ project manager:
Joseph Langridge
Mail: joseph.langridge@fondationbiodiversite.fr
Phone: +33 1 80 05 89 54

Applications should be sent to Joseph Langridge by email before the closing of the receipt with Cécile Mandon (cecile.mandon@fondationbiodiversite.fr) in cc.

F) Final delivery

The final product (desk study) will align with the Biodiversa+ graphic charter available in annexe 4 of these specifications. The desk study will be written in British English.

Article 4. Applications

A) Elements composing the application file

Each service provider will have to provide the following information, using the attached application template called "application form":

- **GENERAL INFORMATION**: concerning the applicant, presence of a dedicated project manager directly in contact with the project's sponsor. This should also include information on prior experiences **related** to the topic area of the desk study. Including examples of a knowledge synthesis *per se* demonstrating experience in using these methods (but not mandatorily related to the subject of the current topic).
- **THE PROJECT'S APPROACH**: A presentation of the approach envisaged to develop the Biodiversa+ desk study, the coherence with Biodiversa+, and a schedule for the undertaking of the desk study.
- **HIGHLIGHTED ANTICIPATED RESULTS**: an indication of what results should be expected thanks to the proposed approach.
- **INFORMATION RELATED TO AN EXPERT GROUP:** when possible, provide information concerning the number of employees/experts involved in the desk study.
- **THE QUOTE:** information concerning the use of the budget, see section C below.

B) Evaluation criteria

The following criteria will be used to evaluate the applications received:

- **1/ RELEVANCE TO CALL**: the tender will have shown a clear understanding by proposing an evidence synthesis which addresses a clearly focused question(s) and provides a statement of the objective(s)? Compliance with specifications, understanding of the needs and objectives of the desk study will be explicit.
- **2/ CONTENT AWARENESS AND EXPERIENCE:** the applicant will show that it is up-to-date on the topic in question, this will be demonstrated by relevant high-quality work from previous engagements.
- **3/ METHODS EXCELLENCE**:
  - **3a/** The applicant suggests the use of relevant and clear methods for the desk study.
  - **3b/** The planned data extraction and synthesis methods are well-described.
  - **3c/** The feasibility of the working program is appropriate, the planned work schedule appears achievable in the 1-year time frame?
- **4/ QUOTE:** the given quote is detailed and coherent.

Biodiversa+, through FRB, reserves the right to negotiate the offers received.

C) Budget

To conduct this desk study, applicants may request a maximum budget of 58,000€ (taxes included). And must provide a detailed quote following the template provided in the application form.

D) Payment modalities

- 40% at the beginning of the contract;
- 60% once the final version is received

The service provider will send an invoice at the beginning of the contract and once the final version is received and approved by the French Foundation for Research on Biodiversity.

Article 6. Modalities

A) Penalties

When the contractual execution deadlines defined in the present note are exceeded, the service provider incurs, except in cases of *force majeure* or fault by Biodiversa+, a late penalty of 500€ per month of delay.

B) Ownership

The contract holder assigns and transfers to the FRB and therefore Biodiversa+, on an exclusive basis, and for the duration of this contract, the property rights attached to the works produced under the contract for the needs of the FRB and Biodiversa+. This property clause includes in particular the right of reproduction on all media and the right of representation.

C) Insurance

Before any start of performance, the service provider must prove that he is covered by an insurance contract for civil liability appearing in articles 1382 to 1384 of the French Civil Code, as well as for his professional liability, in the event of damage caused during or as a result of the performance of the services covered by the contract.

D) Termination of the contract

If Biodiversa+ finds a failure in the performance of the services in relation to the obligations resulting from the application of the present specifications, it reports the failure to the service provider by registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt.
This letter has the value of formal notice and the service provider has 15 days to present his observations.

If Biodiversa+ finds that despite its warning, the performance of the contract is still unsatisfactory, Biodiversa+ notifies the service provider by registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt. The contract can then be terminated without further formal notice and without notice to the service provider.

The termination takes effect on the date of notification of the said decision. Upon termination of the contract by Biodiversa+, any payments made may not be reclaimed and Biodiversa+ is relieved of any remaining payments foreseen in the contract.

E) Litigation and disputes

In the event of a dispute and in the absence of an amicable agreement, any difficulties in the application of this contract will be submitted to the administrative court of Paris.

Article 7. Annexes

ANNEXE 1: GENERAL RESOURCES

- Biodiversa website: http://www.biodiversa.eu/
- Biodiversa+ SRIA: https://www.biodiversa.org/1913/download

***ANNEXE 2: BIODIVERSA+ SUMMARY OF THE FLAGSHIP PROGRAMME* "IMPROVED TRANSNATIONAL MONITORING OF BIODIVERSITY TO BETTER CHARACTERIZE, UNDERSTAND AND REPORT ON BIODIVERSITY DYNAMICS AND TRENDS"**

- Rationale

Many efforts have been made to monitor components of European biodiversity, including well established networks to survey populations of common birds and butterflies that increase our understanding of their dynamics and deliver on indicators used by policy makers. However, major knowledge gaps remain for many taxonomic and functional groups, and biodiversity monitoring is largely fragmented among countries/regions, taxa/biodiversity dimensions, databases/data formats, indicators used to communicate, and information fluxes to research and decision makers, including policy makers. It is also needed to increase the coverage of biodiversity monitoring schemes (in terms of areas and biodiversity taxa and dimensions) and to make the best use of traditional and emerging/new methodologies and technologies for monitoring. This would allow establishment of a pan-European network of harmonized monitoring schemes able to measure and analyse biodiversity changes across Europe, increasing our understanding of biodiversity dynamics and efficiently informing decision makers.

ANNEXE 3: BIODIVERSA+ SUMMARY OF THE FLAGSHIP PROGRAMME "SUPPORTING BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION ACROSS LAND AND SEA"

Rationale

- The EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030 recognizes that protected areas are important for the conservation of biodiversity, and that the existing network of protected areas is not sufficiently large to safeguard biodiversity. Evidence also shows that the Aichi biodiversity targets of 17% of land and 10% of sea covered by protected areas, are insufficient to adequately protect and restore nature (IPBES, 2019). The EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030 therefore sets an ambitious objective of establishing a truly coherent Trans-European Nature Network, to include legal protection for at least 30% of the land and 30% of the sea in the EU, of which 1/3 (10% of land and 10% of sea) to be under strict protection. These EU targets are in line with the global targets being proposed to the next Conference of the Parties (COP15) of the

UN Convention on Biological Diversity. According to the Strategy, the target of 30% of the land and 30% of the sea in the EU under legal protection by 2030 should be reached by completing the Natura 2000 network and by new designations under national protection schemes. The Strategy also highlights the importance of setting up ecological corridors in order to have a truly coherent and resilient Trans-European Nature Network, and of promoting and supporting investments in green and blue infrastructure.

- The Strategy identifies the need to concentrate, for the identification of areas to be protected, on areas of very high biodiversity or potential. The designation of additional protected and strictly protected areas, either to complete Natura 2000 or under national protection schemes, will be a responsibility of the Member States. It will be guided by a set of criteria to be agreed on by the Member States by the end of 2021, and based on significant work done in the past to identify areas based on their importance for conservation of biodiversity. This includes work done on Key Biodiversity Areas KBAs building on decades of experience in the context of identification of Important Bird Areas IBAs, Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas EBSAs, Alliance for Zero Extinction sites AZEs and other streams of work. Although these criteria are not directly linked to a requirement for legal protection of the identified areas, they provide a good scientific basis to guide the selection of areas to be protected. For example, the KBA criteria can be applied to species and ecosystems in terrestrial, inland water and marine environments and can help identify priority sites for the establishment of Privately Protected Area (PPAs).
- The guidance to be put forward by the Commission will also indicate how other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs[1]) and greening of cities could contribute to the above-mentioned targets.
- Importance to learn from failures and successes (assessing effectiveness of approaches); importance of exchange of best practices and capacity building;
- Importance of recognizing that different rationales and paths for biodiversity conservation exist, fundamental inputs are expected from the research and knowledge community to deepen our understanding of the drivers of biodiversity dynamics, provide science-base guidance to actions and policies aiming at biodiversity protection and restoration, and help the rigorous assessments of their outcomes;

ANNEXE 4: BIODIVERSA+ GRAPHIC CHARTER