

## Executive Summary

# Biodiversa+

## *The European Biodiversity Partnership*

### Biodiversity at Risk

Biodiversity, and the vital benefits it provides, are essential to human well-being and the health of our planet. Yet, despite ongoing efforts, **biodiversity is declining at an alarming rate**, threatening human well-being and the health of our planet.

Recent assessments make it clear: biodiversity loss is not just an environmental concern, it is also **a developmental, economic, social, security, and moral crisis**. The window of opportunity for action is closing fast. Reversing this trajectory requires deep, systemic changes across policy, society, and the economy, driven by large-scale, impactful research and innovation (R&I).

Biodiversa+, the European Biodiversity Partnership, is one of the key elements of Europe's strategic response to this challenge. Established under the **European Green Deal** and co-developed with the European Commission (DG Research & Innovation and DG Environment), Biodiversa+ is a **seven-year programme (2021–2028)**. With a budget exceeding **€800 million**, including €165 million contributed by the European Commission, the partnership supports high-quality biodiversity research with direct impacts on policy and society. Its ambition is to put nature in Europe and beyond on the path to recovery by 2030 and, by 2050, to ensure that people live in harmony with nature.

Biodiversa+ unites a diverse partnership of **81 organisations from 40 countries**, plus two associated countries, including research funders, national ministries (for research and the environment), research agencies, and environmental institutions. This network bridges science, policy, and practice, creating a uniquely collaborative structure to drive systemic transformation across Europe.

## How Biodiversa+ links strategy to action

Biodiversa+ links long-term priorities with concrete action through a layered framework:

- **The Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA)** identifies knowledge needs and priorities.
- **Flagship Programmes** group these into multi-year thematic frameworks.
- **Strategic Objectives** define how knowledge will be turned into impact.
- **Work Packages** organise the concrete activities that deliver on the objectives.

Because challenges like biodiversity monitoring or Nature-based Solutions cut across levels, they reappear in different roles—knowledge needs in the SRIA, frameworks in the flagships, levers for change in the objectives, and delivery structures in the work packages. This ensures Biodiversa+ remains both strategically coherent and operationally effective.

## Strategic Framework

To structure its work and respond to emerging biodiversity challenges, Biodiversa+ is guided by a strategic framework centred on its **Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA)**. This key document establishes shared priorities for research, monitoring, and policy support across the Partnership. The SRIA is updated to ensure alignment with the latest scientific developments and policy needs.

Biodiversa+ implements the SRIA, by organising its activities under **four multi-year Flagship Programmes**. Each programme provides a long-term framework to tackle major biodiversity challenges by uniting the Partnership's efforts to generate meaningful societal impact:

- **Protecting and restoring ecosystems:** addressing degradation and fragmentation.
- **Transnational biodiversity monitoring:** harmonising data and systems across Europe.
- **Nature-based solutions:** promoting sustainable, cost-effective approaches to resilience and restoration.
- **Societal transformation:** enabling behavioural, institutional, and systemic shifts in support of biodiversity.

Synergies between these Flagship Programmes are actively promoted to explore the connections between biodiversity and other global challenges. Over the seven years of the Partnership, these programmes are expected to address the key SRIA topics and make a significant contribution to achieving the Partnership's overarching goals.

## Strategic Objectives

To fulfil its mission, Biodiversa+ is guided by **five interconnected strategic objectives**. Each objective focuses on a critical aspect of biodiversity research, policy, and action, ensuring the Partnership delivers knowledge, tools, and pathways for significant change. Together, these objectives support Biodiversa+ in linking scientific research with real-world applications across Europe and beyond.

## Objective 1: Enhance biodiversity monitoring

Improve the monitoring of biodiversity and ecosystem services across Europe, including terrestrial and marine habitats, by building on national and regional initiatives (e.g., EEA and Eionet, EuropaBON, MAES, GBIF) and by harmonising tools and practices. The long-term goal is to help establish a transnational network of biodiversity monitoring systems, aligned with major priorities, closely connected to the R&I ecosystem, and designed to effectively inform policy.

## Objective 2: Generate actionable knowledge

Develop knowledge to address both the direct and indirect drivers of biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation. This includes gaining a better understanding of biodiversity trends, pressures, impacts, and response strategies, while exploring trade-offs, synergies, and cross-regional interdependencies. The objective also involves assessing new tools and strategies for conservation and restoration.

## Objective 3: Promote Nature-based Solutions (NbS)

Strengthen the evidence base and facilitate the large-scale development and deployment of NbS by assessing their efficiency and cost-effectiveness compared to traditional approaches. Sustainable and resilient NbS should support biodiversity conservation and restoration at species and ecosystem levels while contributing to broader societal goals, such as climate resilience, food and water security, and sustainable energy. As a core activity, the Partnership promotes the deployment and uptake of type 1 NbS (largely based on conservation and restoration), and the deployment and uptake of type 2 and type 3 NbS (based on higher levels of ecosystem intervention).

## Objective 4: Support biodiversity in business

Provide science-based methodologies and standards for valuing ecosystem services and natural capital, as well as for evaluating the dependencies and impacts of business activities on biodiversity. This will facilitate the implementation of frameworks such as the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) and promote the integration of biodiversity into business decision-making, particularly within key economic sectors.

## Objective 5: Inform policy with science

Provide science-based support for biodiversity-related policymaking at EU, national, and international levels. This includes strengthening environmental legislation, supporting its implementation and improving integration with other sectoral policies. Strong collaboration is maintained with the EU's Knowledge Centre for Biodiversity (hosted at JRC) to support scientific capacitybuilding, progress assessment, and alignment with the EU 2030 Biodiversity Strategy.

## Work Packages

In order to implement its strategic objectives and deliver tangible impact, Biodiversa+ operates through a comprehensive portfolio of **nine interlinked Work Packages**. These are designed to

support the Partnership's scientific, policy, and societal missions, while ensuring coherence, coordination, and engagement throughout the programme:

- **Work Package 1:** Promote and support **research and innovation programmes** across the European Research Area (ERA) through co-funded joint research calls. The ambition for the Partnership is to launch 6 joint calls, each with a budget of around €40M.
- **Work Package 2:** Strengthen transnational **biodiversity monitoring** by developing networks focused on common priorities such as protected areas, invasive species, insect populations, and biodiversity-health linkages.
- **Work Package 3:** Promote and support the implementation of **NbS** and the integration of biodiversity valuation in the private sector.
- **Work Package 4:** Connect R&I efforts with policy by facilitating **science-policy** exchange and applying research evidence to policy design and evaluation.
- **Work Package 5:** Foster **international collaboration** by engaging with non-ERA countries and aligning European R&I with global platforms such as IPBES and IPCC, and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

In addition to these core packages, two transversal work packages run throughout the Partnership:

- **Work Package 6:** Ensure continuous **communication**, outreach, and the promotion of open science practices.
- **Work Package 7:** Facilitate **stakeholder engagement** across all sectors and governance levels, to ensure inclusive and collaborative implementation.

The strategic direction and daily operation of the Partnership are anchored in two additional packages:

- **Work Package 8:** Guide the Partnership with a **shared vision** and roadmap jointly developed by all Partners and the European Commission, ensuring alignment and coherence across activities.
- **Work Package 9:** Ensure the **coordination** and smooth running of the Partnership, including the organisation of General Assemblies, updating the Grant Agreement and managing day-to-day operations.

## Contributing to Europe's Ecological Transition

Biodiversa+ promotes **collaboration** in research, monitoring, and policy by connecting key actors at national, local, and European levels. It creates **synergies** with existing initiatives, improves coordination and helps to avoid duplication. By building critical mass and aligning with EU frameworks, the Partnership supports effective, science-based action for biodiversity across Europe.

Rooted in the **Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework**, the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030, Biodiversa+ contributes to the European Green Deal and the global 'New Deal for Nature and People.'

These efforts position the Partnership as a key enabler of Europe's ecological transition, bridging the gap between science, policy, and practice to foster a more resilient and nature-positive future.

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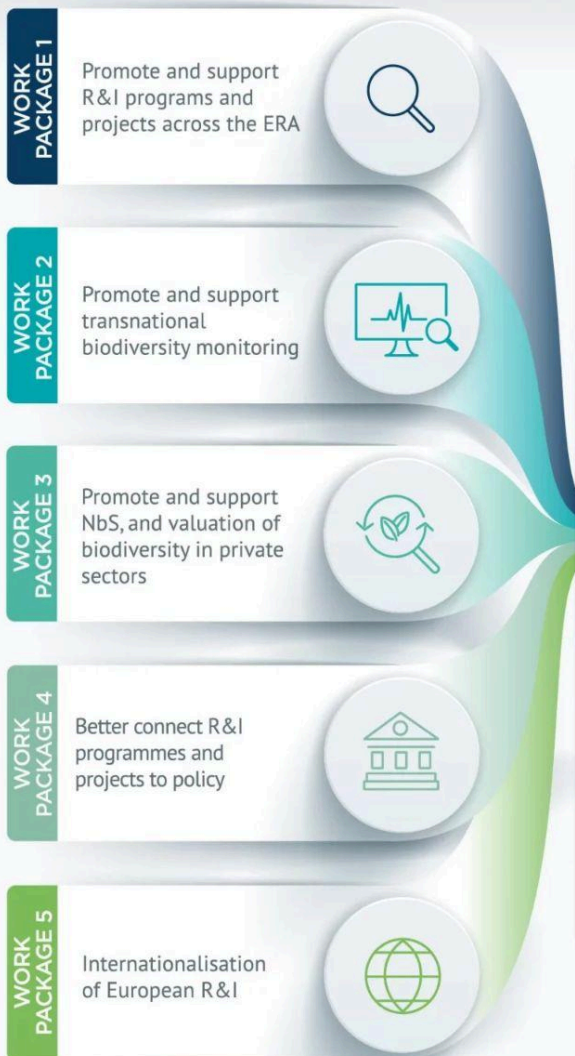
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# European Partnership on biodiversity

## Operational objectives

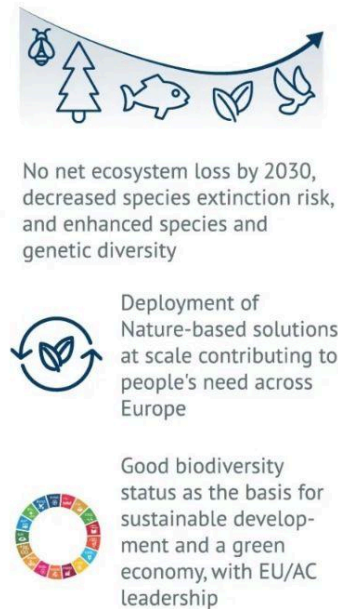


Work Package 6: Promote communication, outreach and Open Science  
 Work Package 7: Promote stakeholder engagement in European R&I  
 Work Package 8: Develop and promote a common Partnership vision and strategy

## Specific objectives



## General objectives (2030-2050)



## 2050 vision: Living in harmony with Nature

By 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people.

Summary of the work packages and objectives of Biodiversa+ contributing to the biodiversity goals for 2030 and the 2050 vision of People living in harmony with Nature.