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Connecting biodiversity knowledge and decision-making

Biodiversity policy must be based on the best available science. Often there is a mismatch between both worlds – the research community and decision-makers. A large European consortium has now been tasked to overcome this problem. In the coming years, the BioAgora project will develop the Science Service for Biodiversity for the EU Knowledge Centre for Biodiversity.

The **BioAgora** project

BioAgora is a collaborative project funded by the EU Horizon Europe programme. It will build the Science Service for Biodiversity (SSBD), the scientific pillar of the EU Knowledge Centre for Biodiversity (KCBD). BioAgora orchestrates a targeted dialogue between scientists, other knowledge holders, and policy actors at the EU biodiversity policy arena. The project assesses existing science-policy interfaces, tests approaches in Knowledge Exchange Networks, identifies key knowledge needs and proposes pathways to connect knowledge to policy in the most effective way.

The **Science Service** for **Biodiversity**

In response to the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030, BioAgora will create a fair and functional SSBD by facilitating the science-policy dialogue. The SSBD will enable the necessary sustainability transformation in Europe, as called for by the European Green Deal. Decision-makers at the local, national, and European levels will gain easy access to scientific results, which will help them reach European biodiversity targets and implement a system change in society. Embedded within the KCBD, the SSBD will offer a platform for matching policy demands with research results.

From 2023 to 2026 **BioAgora** will:

2022 onward

Pilot and test different functions of the Science Service through a range of activities such as answering policy requests, engaging expert communities, and providing capacity building

July 2025

Establish governing bodies, decision-making mechanisms and the ethical infrastructure of the Science Service

July 2026

Develop a business plan to define profile, characteristics, niche marketing and a financial plan of the Science Service

end of 2026

Develop and launch an interactive and widely accessible web platform, enabling all relevant actors to use and benefit from the Science Service

Funded by the European Union

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Objectives

Provide tailored pathways to better orchestrate science-policy interactions in support of the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030

Design Knowledge Exchange Networks across the EU that ratchet up or revitalise the implementation of EU biodiversity commitments

Analyse existing science-policy interfaces, their policy tools and current biodiversity knowledge in Europe

Develop inclusive governance and a feasible business model for the SSBD

Support capacity building for EU decision-makers and knowledge providers to bring transformative change for biodiversity

Promote cooperation and co-learning among researchers, policy-makers and practitioners contributing to biodiversity protection

Knowledge Exchange Networks

The project will use existing science-policy interfaces across Europe and beyond to develop Knowledge Exchange Networks addressing the most urgent needs identified for the SSBD. These Networks are directly related to the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 and will thus highlight real-life actions and existing processes in different biodiversity management and governance contexts. These will span from marine bio-economy to forestry, from aquaculture to pollination, from mountain tourism to urban green infrastructure, and more. The Networks will show how governance can enhance science-based transformative change and will support implementing, monitoring, reporting and reviewing the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030.

Pollination

Nature-based solutions

Transformative change

Multifunctional landscapes

Monitoring

Freshwater

Marine

Project partners

BioAgora gathers a **Consortium of 22 partners, from 13 European countries**, led by the Finnish Environment Institute (Syke).

Partners represent a diversity of actors coming from academia, public authorities, SMEs and associations. They all bring their specific skills to contribute to reaching the project's objectives.

Coordination team

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Scan to access BioAgora's website

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