

# The business case for biodiversity

## The European Green Deal

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#EUGreenDeal

### More than half of global GDP – some €40 trillion – depends on nature

Nature restoration will be a central element of the EU's recovery plan from the coronavirus pandemic, providing immediate business and investment opportunities for restoring the EU's economy.



These sectors are all highly dependent on nature, and they generate **more than €7 trillion**.



The **benefits** of biodiversity conservation for the economy:

- ✓ conserving marine stocks could increase annual profits of the seafood industry by more than **€49 billion**
- ✓ protecting coastal wetlands could save the insurance industry around **€50 billion annually** through reducing flood damage losses

#### Six industries:



Chemicals and  
materials



Aviation, travel  
and tourism



Real estate



Mining and  
metals



Supply chain  
and transport



Retail, consumer  
goods and lifestyle

Depend through their supply chain on nature for more than 50% for their gross value added.



Benefits of the **EU Natura 2000 nature protection network** are valued at between **€200-300 billion** per year.

## Economic and social costs of inaction



Biodiversity loss and ecosystem collapse is one of the biggest threats facing humanity in the next decade. **Economic and social costs of inaction** would be huge. The world already lost an estimated €3.5-18.5 trillion per year in ecosystem services from 1997 to 2011, and an estimated €5.5-10.5 trillion per year from land degradation. Biodiversity underpins EU and global food security. Biodiversity loss risks puts our food systems and nutrition at risk.

Biodiversity loss is intrinsically linked to and exacerbates climate change.



Biodiversity loss results in reduced crop yields and fish catches, increased economic losses from flooding and other disasters, and the loss of potential new sources of medicine.

More than **75% of global food crop types** rely on animal pollination.



On average, global mean crop yields of rice, maize and wheat are projected to decrease **between 3% and 10% per degree** of warming above historical levels.

## Creating jobs



Nature Restoration means direct and indirect local jobs that bring life back to local communities.



**The Natura 2000 network** has been estimated to **support 104,000 direct jobs** in protected areas management and conservation activities and 70,000 more indirect or induced jobs. This is based on annual investment of €6 billion for management and restoration of the network.

In the future, it is expected that biodiversity needs could generate up to **500,000 jobs**.



For **agriculture**, 1.3 million of the 9.6 million farming jobs in the EU are linked directly or indirectly to Natura 2000. **The tourism sector** employs 12 million people in Europe. Of these, 3.1 million have links to protected areas such as Natura 2000.



**Of the 25% of the EU budget** dedicated to **climate action**, a significant proportion will be invested in biodiversity and nature-based solutions.