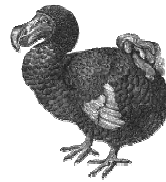


BIORRAFT



Integrated assessment
and forecasting of
biodiversity in europe

Rationale

- ☀ European target to halt biodiversity loss by 2010



- ☀ Urgent need for science-based monitoring of biodiversity
 - ☀ Biodiversity (trends)
 - ☀ Ecosystem goods and services
 - ☀ Forecasting biodiversity and ecosystem goods and services
 - ☀ Linking assessment and forecasting

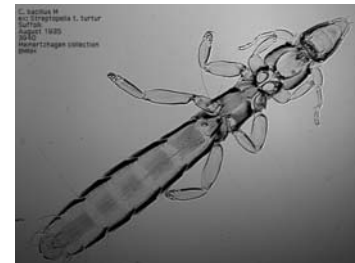
Objectives - purpose

- ☀ **The overall purpose** is to develop scientifically sound, policy relevant methods for assessing and forecasting biodiversity and the ability of ecosystems to supply the goods and services provided by biodiversity.



Objectives - specific (1)

- ✿ Development of approaches to assessing biodiversity at species, genetic and habitat levels:
 - ✿ terrestrial habitats;
 - ✿ freshwater habitats;
 - ✿ marine habitats, including coastal zones;
 - ✿ urban areas (integrating terrestrial, freshwater and marine habitats).



Objectives - specific (2)

- ✿ Development of approaches to assess the ability of ecosystems to supply the goods and services provided by biodiversity.
- ✿ Development of models to forecast future trends in biodiversity and the ability of ecosystems to supply the goods and services provided by biodiversity.



Approach foreseen

- ✿ Research underpinning the development of new methods for assessment and forecasting.
- ✿ Testing (verification) of selected current / proposed methods for assessment.
- ✿ Research on state, pressure and response indicators of biodiversity.
- ✿ Research on compositional, structural and functional indicators of biodiversity.
- ✿ Research aimed at the development of indicators in support of both policy and practice.



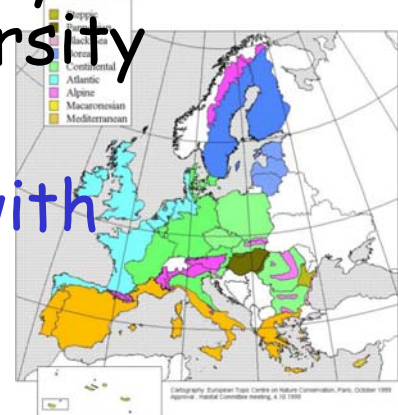
Approach foreseen (2)

- ☀ Integrating the development of methods for assessing and forecasting both biodiversity and the ability of ecosystems to supply the goods and services provided by biodiversity.
- ☀ Research on a range of forecasting methods, from expert-based to process-based models.
- ☀ Integrating the development of assessment and forecasting in different habitats.
- ☀ Dissemination of results to users.



Need and relevance

- ☀ The implementation of important EU policy instruments
- ☀ The distributed nature of expertise.
- ☀ The benefits of linking expertise.
- ☀ The need for active research across both the natural (biogeographical) gradients of biodiversity and in relation to the variety of drivers and pressures acting on biodiversity across Europe.
- ☀ The need to combine natural sciences with social sciences.



Activities (modules)

- ✿ Development of new methods of assessment of biodiversity.
- ✿ Testing of current / proposed methods.
- ✿ Development of new methods of assessment of the ability of ecosystems to supply the goods and services provided by biodiversity.
- ✿ Development of new methods to forecast change in biodiversity.
- ✿ Integration of the development of methods for assessing and forecasting.
- ✿ Interface with policies, economics and stakeholders

