

# Projects

## Completed Projects

- **ALARM** — ALARM provides coherent scenarios of socio-economic, climate, land-use and other biodiversity-relevant trends, exploring the framework conditions for biodiversity pressures. An innovative element of the ALARM project is the combination of long term trend and short term shock scenarios, allowing a sensitivity analysis of currently predominating trend projections.
- **BABE** — A major first objective of the BABE project will be to make a genetic inventory of the European honeybees to identify native honeybee populations by their differences in DNA. This will show the regional variation that exists in European bees. This base line data will help beekeepers to focus on and improve their native subspecies rather than rely on the importation of mated queen bees from other areas, since this would hinder improvement of native bees.
- **BioAssess** — The main purpose of BioAssess- the Biodiversity Assessment Tools Project- was to develop biodiversity indicators- or "biodiversity assessment tools" - that could be used to rapidly assess biodiversity. In addition, the BioAssess project aimed to measure the impacts on biodiversity of major land use changes in eight European countries.
- **BioCASE** — The Biological Collection Access Service for Europe, BioCASE, is a transnational network of biological collections of all kinds. BioCASE enables widespread unified access to distributed and heterogeneous European collection and observational databases using open-source, system-independent software and open data standards and protocols.
- **BIOECON** — The main focus of BIOECON was to promote research that (a) furthers our understanding of the anthropocentric causes of biodiversity depletion and b) provides policy prescriptions on how the conservation of biodiversity can be reconciled with economic development. In particular the project was directed to the better understanding of the interface between human societies and biological resources, and how this interface might be better managed and directed to the purpose of conserving biological diversity.
- **BIOFORUM** — The purpose of the BIOFORUM project is to reduce the conflict between the conservation of biodiversity and economic development
- **BioHab** — The key achievement of the BioHab project is the development of a standardised field recording system for Europe, involving about 100 habitat categories, that transcends the need for specialist knowledge. It will be able to provide valid, statistical estimates of habitats and link these with other habitat classifications and biodiversity.
- **BIOMAN** — The BIOMAN project looked at how biodiversity in shallow lakes, a habitat threatened throughout Europe, is affected by environmental conditions and human impacts. We wanted to develop an index that could track how biodiversity and nature value of shallow lakes respond to management.
- **BioPlatform** — BioPlatform is a network of scientists and policy makers that aims at improving the effectiveness and relevance of European biodiversity research, fulfilling functions that provide significant components of a European Research Area.
- **BioScene** — For centuries agriculture has played a multifunctional role in sustaining mountain biodiversity in Europe through the management of habitats, species and landscapes. With significant agricultural adjustment and contraction now in prospect, there is potential for major impacts on mountain biodiversity.
- **BioScore** — BioScore offers you a European biodiversity impact assessment tool. The tool contains indicator values on the ecological preferences of more than 1000 species of birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, fish, butterflies, dragonflies, aquatic macro-invertebrates and vascular plants. These values are linked to policy-related pressures and environmental variables.
- **EBONE** — The key challenge of EBONE, supported by the European Commission under FP7 Contribution to a global biodiversity observation system, is to develop a biodiversity observation system that is transmissible, cost effective and provides added value to the currently independent data sources of in situ data and EO.
- **EcoChange** — The final goal is to provide data, scenarios and associated confidence limits so that policy makers and land managers can use them for anticipating societal problems and for designing sustainable conservation strategies by accounting the most likely global change effects on biodiversity and ecosystems.
- **HUNT** — The general scientific objectives of HUNT, supported by the European Commission under FP7 Biodiversity values, sustainable use and livelihoods, are to use hunting as a lens through which to examine the wider issue of how people interact with biodiversity.
- **LiveDiverse** — The general scientific objectives of LiveDiverse, supported by the European Commission under FP7 Biodiversity values, sustainable use and livelihoods, are to develop new knowledge on the interactions between human livelihoods and biodiversity in riparian and aquatic contexts in four developing countries (Vietnam, India, South Africa and Costa Rica).
- **MIDTAL** — The purpose of MIDTAL is to support the common fisheries policy to aid the national monitoring agencies by providing new rapid tools for the identification of toxic algae and their toxins so that they can comply with ECC directive 91/1491/CEE that can be converted to cell numbers and reduce the need for the mouse bioassay.
- **SALSEA-Merge** — SALSEA-Merge will deliver innovation in the areas of: genetic stock identification techniques; new genetic marker development; fine scale estimates of growth on a weekly and monthly basis; the use of novel high seas pelagic trawling technology; individual stock-linked estimates of food and feeding patterns; and novel stock specific migration and distribution models.
- **SESAME** — The general scientific objectives of SESAME IP, supported by the European Commission, are to assess and predict changes in the Mediterranean and Black Sea ecosystems as well as changes in the ability of these ecosystems to provide goods and services.
- **SOILSERVICE** — The general scientific objectives of SOILSERVICE, supported by the European Commission under FP7 Contribution of biodiversity to ecosystem services, are to value soil biodiversity through the impact on ecosystem services and propose how these values can be granted through payments.

## Ongoing Projects

- **ALTER-Net** — ALTER-Net's main objective is to achieve lasting integration amongst its 24 partner institutes, and others, all of whom are involved in biodiversity research, monitoring and/or communication. By the end of the project, ALTER-Net should have brought about sufficient change to the way these organisations work, so that they operate in a far more integrated fashion than before the start of the project.
- **BESAFE** — In order to protect biodiversity, policy makers increasingly require demonstration of its value. BESAFE will use case studies to investigate how much importance people attribute to alternative arguments for the protection of biodiversity and in particular how this relates to ecosystem services.
- **BiodivERsA2** — The loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystems are major scientific and societal challenges. Addressing them and providing scientific support to policy requires a coherent research framework, with coordinated strategies and programmes at the regional and international levels, which are the relevant scales for many biodiversity issues.

- **BioFresh** — A major challenge is to complement the existing databases on freshwater biodiversity and distribution patterns, along with strict quality controls, to consent the continuous integration of new data. Within BioFresh, these data will be linked with geographical and socio-economic information. By developing just such a universally accessible information platform, BioFresh will foster our understanding of present freshwater biodiversity and changes expected for the future.
- **BIOMOT** — Can economic methods to assess the value of biodiversity be improved such that they reach out to what really motivates action? Can alternative approaches be developed that lie closer to what connects people to nature and can appeal to their actions in stead of only to their feelings?
- **CASCADE** — CASCADE: (CAstrophobic Shifts in drylands: how CAN we prevent ecosystem DEgradation?) project will investigate and analyze a range of dryland ecosystems in southern Europe to obtain a better understanding of sudden shifts in drylands that may lead to major losses in biodiversity and concomitant ecosystem services.
- **ConGRESS** — ConGRESS (Conservation Genetic Resources for Effective Species Survival) is an EU consortium dedicated to transferring current knowledge in conservation genetics and in the analysis of genetic variation data to management professionals and policy makers.
- **CoralFISH** — CoralFISH is assessing the interaction between corals, fish and fisheries, in order to develop monitoring and predictive modelling tools for ecosystem based management in the deep waters of Europe and beyond.
- **HERMIONE** — From the polar waters of the Arctic to the warm seas of the Mediterranean, Europe has almost 90,000 km of coastline. Underneath the waves our seas are home to some of the most spectacular ecosystems on Earth. Ecosystems such as cold-water coral reefs and hydrothermal vents support a huge diversity of life that is both beautiful and alien, but also vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and human activities. The HERMIONE project is focused on investigating these and other ecosystems, includi
- **HighArcs** — HighARCS has completed a detailed multidisciplinary situation analysis of highland aquatic resources, focused on values, livelihoods, conservation issues and wise-use options at five sites in Asia.
- **KNEU** — The overall objective of the project is to develop a recommended design for a scientific biodiversity Network of Knowledge (NoK) to inform policy-makers and other societal actors.
- **ODEMM** — The overall aim of the ODEMM project is to develop a set of fully-costed ecosystem management options that would deliver the objectives of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, the Habitats Directive, the European Commission Blue Book and the Guidelines for the Integrated Approach to Maritime Policy. The key objective is to produce scientifically-based operational procedures that allow for a step by step transition from the current fragmented system to fully integrated management.
- **OpenNESS** — EXCERPT TEXT HERE
- **OPERAs** — OPERAs (Operational Potential of Ecosystems Research Applications) aims to improve understanding of how applying ES/NC concepts in managing ecosystems contributes to human well-being in different social-ecological systems in inland and coastal zones, in rural and urban areas, related to different ecosystems including forests and fresh water resources.
- **PALMS** — The general scientific objectives of PALMS, supported by the European Commission under FP7 Use of natural resources: the impact on biodiversity, ecosystem, goods and services, are to study the effect of extraction and trade of palms on forest in the western Amazon, the Andes and the Pacific lowlands.
- **PERSEUS** — Policy-orientated marine Environmental Research for the Southern European Seas (PERSEUS) is a research project that assesses the dual impact of human activity and natural pressures on the Mediterranean and Black Seas. PERSEUS merges natural and socio-economic sciences to predict the long-term effects of these pressures on marine ecosystems. The project aims to design an effective and innovative research governance framework, which will provide the basis for policymakers to turn back the tide on
- **REFRESH** — REFRESH is concerned with the development of a system that will enable water managers to design cost-effective restoration programmes for freshwater ecosystems at the local and catchment scales that account for the expected future impacts of climate change and land-use change in the context of the WFD and Habitats Directive.
- **ROBIN** — ROBIN is an EU-funded project running for four years from November 2011. It will provide information for policy, together with resource use options, under scenarios of socio-economic and climate change.
- **SCALES** — SCALES will seek ways to build the issue of scale into policy and decision-making and biodiversity management. It will advance our knowledge of how anthropogenic and natural processes interact across scales and affect biodiversity.
- **SPIRAL** — The overall aim of SPIRAL is to enhance the connectivity between biodiversity research and policy making in order to improve the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.
- **STEP** — The project Status and Trends in European Pollinators (STEP) will document the nature and extent of these declines, examine functional traits associated with particular risk, develop a Red List of some European pollinator groups, in particular bees and lay the groundwork for future pollinator monitoring programmes.
- **VECTORS** — VECTORS aims to improve our understanding of how environmental and man-made factors are impacting marine ecosystems now and how they will do so in the future. The project will also examine how these changes will affect the range of goods and services provided by the oceans, the ensuing socio-economic impacts and some of the measures that could be developed to mitigate or adapt to these changes.