

Prioritised Action Frameworks (PAFs)



Role of PAFs

- PAFs are planning tools to strengthen integration
 - Strategic focus on the most important priorities
 - Describe Natura 2000 activities to be financed
 - Provide an integrated overview of how to achieve them having regard to funding instruments
- Aim to assist MS with partnership contracts and OPs for the funds covered by the Common Strategic Framework
- MS still need to specify their financing needs for Natura 2000 under the relevant plans or programmes.
- Aim to ensure complementarity and consistency of financing of Natura 2000 under programmes with PAF

Proposed format for Prioritised Action Frameworks (PAFs)

- A. Introductory overview of Natura 2000 network for territory;
- B. Status of the habitats and species;
- C. Legal and administrative provisions for protection and management of Natura 2000;
- D. Current experience with use of EU financial instruments;
- E. Current estimate of financial needs for management of Natura 2000 for territory;
- F. Strategic conservation priorities for Natura 2000 for 2014-2020;
- G. Description of key measures to achieve priorities;
- H. Monitoring, evaluation and updating.

PAFs and LIFE Integrated Projects (IPs)

- PAFs valuable tool for future LIFE IPs
- Concept of IP originally developed for Natura 2000 as a natural complement to PAFs
- LIFE strategic support to PAFs development and kick off their implementation
- LIFE IP key tool to help deliver PAFs and test approaches to strengthen integration

Next

- MS establish National/Regional PAFs
- COM will send official letter to MS requesting them to officially submit 1st PAFs to COM by end of 2012
- Bilateral discussions between COM and MS as necessary
- COM will use PAFs in its evaluation of OPs
- No formal adoption of PAFs per se - main approval to be achieved through relevant operational programmes
- Opportunity to update PAFs in light of improved knowledge etc.