



Crop Wild Relatives and Landraces in Europe
Symposium, 13-15 September 2010, Madeira

Information on crop wild relatives and landraces in the European policy context

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[European Topic Centre Biological Diversity \(ETC/BD\)](#)



The European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity (ETC/BD)



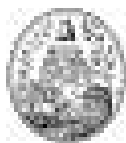
The European Environment Agency (EEA)

- is an agency of the European Union
- task is to provide sound, independent information on the environment
- has 5 topic centres (ETCs)
- the one for Biological Diversity is ETC/BD

The ETC/BD *inter alia*

- supports the EEA in its task of addressing state and trends of biodiversity in Europe
- gives support to the European Commission in implementing the EU 'Nature' Directives and setting up the Biodiversity Information Systems





National Museum of Natural History, FR



Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection, CZ



Joint Nature Conservation Committee, UK



Environmental Protection Agency for Special Areas, TR



Higher Institute for Environment Protection and Research , IT



Austrian Federal Agency for the Environment, AT



Institute of Landscape Ecology – Slovak Academy of Sc., SK



Swedish University of Agricultural sciences, SE



European Centre for Nature Conservation, pan-European organisation based in NL



BISE framework and legal background (i)

- Implementing 2005 Go4 Technical Arrangement and **Environmental Data Centres**
- Implementing 2007 EC Directive 2007 establishing an Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community (**INSPIRE**)
- Implementing 2008 EC Communication concerning a Shared Environmental Information System (**SEIS**)



BISE framework and legal background (ii)

- Communication from the Commission: Halting the loss of biodiversity by 2010 and beyond

Policy area 4: The knowledge base

Objective 10:

... To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in the EU and globally

... This requires strengthening ... the science–policy interface and data interoperability for biodiversity....

- Intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services, IPBES



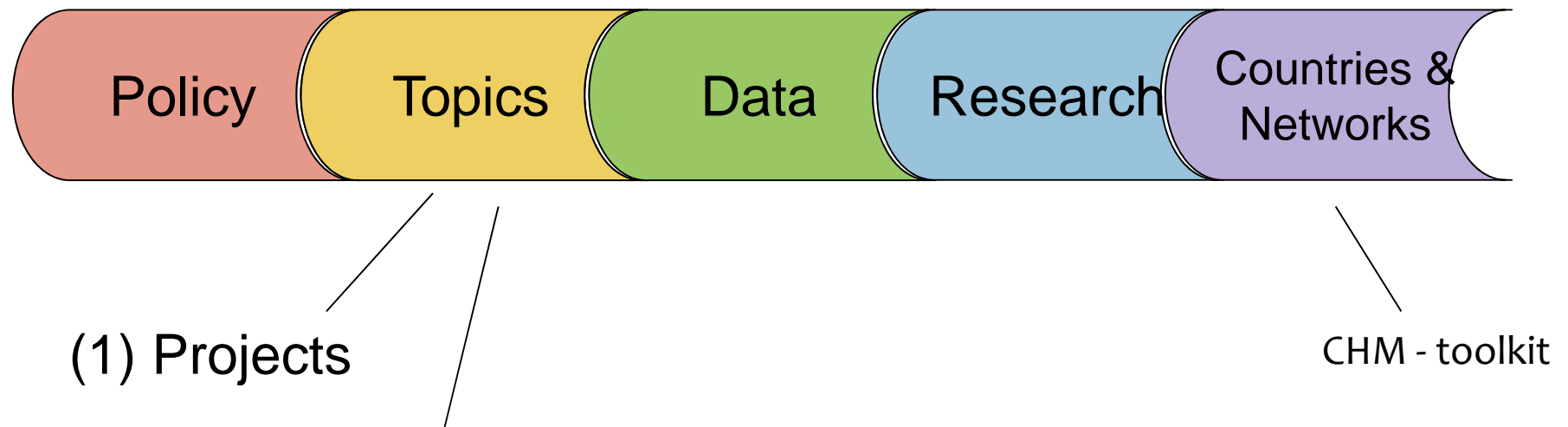
aspects of BISE

- BISE is a **partnership** between the **European Commission and the European Environment Agency**
- BISE **incorporates the network of the EC-CHM** within the context of the CBD
- BISE is the **gateway to information and knowledge** on Biodiversity in Europe
- BISE is the Biodiversity related component of SEIS, development in close cooperation with WISE



The BISE gateway

The 5 entry points to information about biodiversity in Europe



(2) 'Matrix' (status, threats, impacts, benefits, responses)



BISE flagship projects

Flagship projects provide important information and knowledge in order to support the decision process at European level, they deal with **different aspects** like:

- EU 2010 Biodiversity **Baseline report**

- **10 Messages** for Biodiversity

- **SEBI 2010** indicators

- Biodiversity Action Plan - **BAP - Report**

- State of the environment in Europe - **SOER 2010**

- Economics of ecosystems and biodiversity - **TEEB study**



EU biodiversity baseline background (i)

- 2010 target –halt biodiversity loss
- We didn't!
- Post 2010 EU biodiversity policy
- The vision

*'By 2050 European Union biodiversity and the ecosystem services it provides –its natural capital –are **protected, valued** and appropriately **restored** for biodiversity's **intrinsic value** and for their essential contribution to **human** wellbeing and economic prosperity, and so that catastrophic changes caused by the loss of biodiversity are avoided'*



EU biodiversity baseline background (ii)

- The headline target
- *'Halting the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020, and restoring them in so far as feasible, while stepping up the EU contribution to averting global biodiversity loss'*
- Sub-targets under development
- Global post 2010 biodiversity policy: COP10
- EU biodiversity strategy: end 2010
- EU biodiversity action plan: 2011



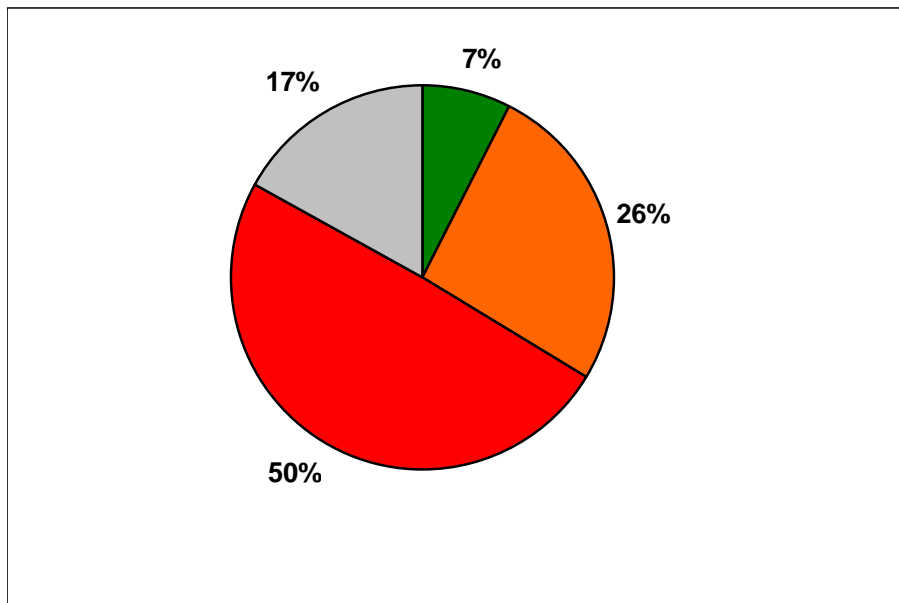
EU biodiversity baseline why do we need it?

- Need more 'objective' set of measures
- To support development of post-2010 biodiversity target and sub-targets: what can be measured?
- For monitoring progress and achievement from 2011 to 2020: how close/how far are we?
- To be released in September 2010, before COP10 of the CBD (Nagoya, Japan)
- EEA Technical Report –EU 2010 Biodiversity Baseline with the full set of facts and figures and related information



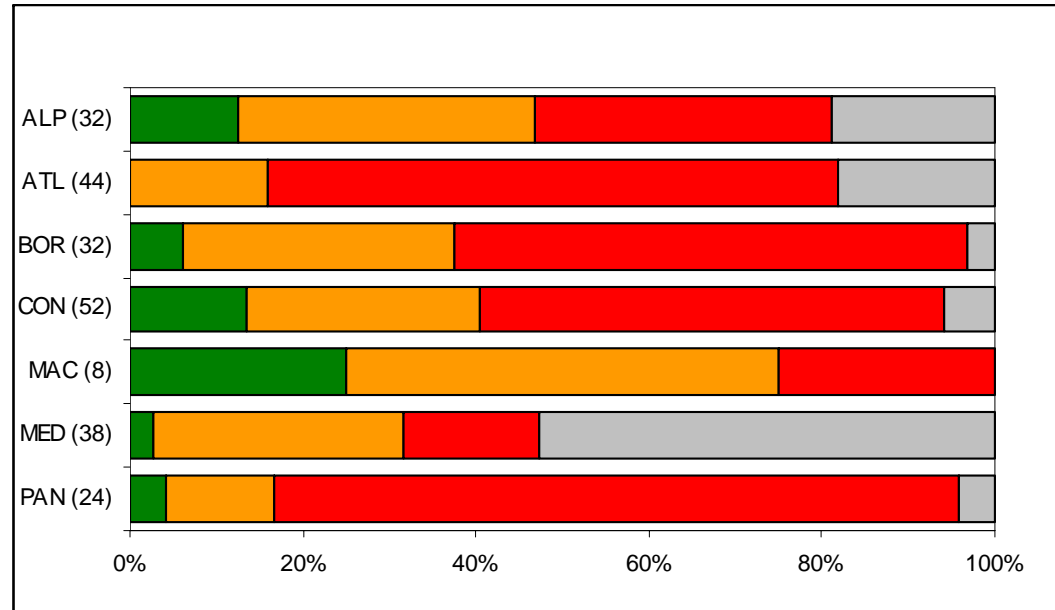
EU biodiversity baseline here: agro-ecosystems (ii)

The conservation status of habitats and species of European interest in agro-ecosystems



Just over three quarters of habitats of European interest linked to agro-ecosystems are in unfavourable conservation status; and there are no favourable assessments of habitats in the Atlantic region.

EU biodiversity baseline here: agro-ecosystems (ii)



- 76% of the assessments of habitats linked to agro-ecosystems are unfavourable
- 17% of the assessments are unknown
- The Macaronesian region has the highest percentage of favourable assessments (more than 20%)
- The Mediterranean region has more than 40% of unknown assessments
- The Atlantic region has no favourable assessments



Reporting on the conservation status of species and habitats of the Habitat Directive (Art. 17)

- EU MS report every 6 years on conservation status of habitats and species listed in annexes II, IV and V
- First EU composite report published in July 2009, covering the period 2001-2006
- = About **1500** species and habitats of European concern

- Unfavourable – Bad
- Unfavourable - Inadequate
- Favourable

(also 'unknown', including 'unknown but unfavourable')





SEBI 2010 – the process

- Initiated in 2005 to select a set of indicators to monitor progress towards 2010 in Europe
- SEBI 2010 built on the conceptual framework provided by the CBD, and worked with a set of headline indicators within the CBD focal areas.
- Coordination Team
Experts sought from all countries, 6 EG, 3 WGs
- Strict process... based on objective criteria and expert opinion





SEBI indicators

Table 1.1 SEBI 2010 indicators within CBD focal areas and headline indicators

CBD focal area	Headline indicator	SEBI 2010 specific indicator
Status and trends of the composition (diversity)	Trends in the abundance and distribution	1. Abundance and distribution of selected



CBD focal area	Headline indicators	SEBI indicator
Status and trends of the composition (diversity)	Trends in genetic diversity of plants, animals, and fungi	Livestock genetic diversity
...
...	Change in status of the selected similar or different protected species	Species of European Interest
...	...	Red List Index of European species
...
...

What about Plant Genetic Diversity ?

Red list for vascular plants in preparation (selected CWR covered?)





SEBI indicators responsibilities

A roadmap for the production of the SEBI indicators has been developed

- identification of data sources
- update date
- body responsible,
- needs for specific agreements

Biodiversity Data Centre:

03 Species of European interest

05 Habitats of European interest

07 Nationally designated protected areas

08 Sites designated under the EU Habitats & Birds Directives

Other data centers outside the Group of four

06 Livestock genetic diversity

(ERFP - European Regional Focal Point for Animal GR)

....



[European Topic Centre Biological Diversity \(ETC/BD\)](#)

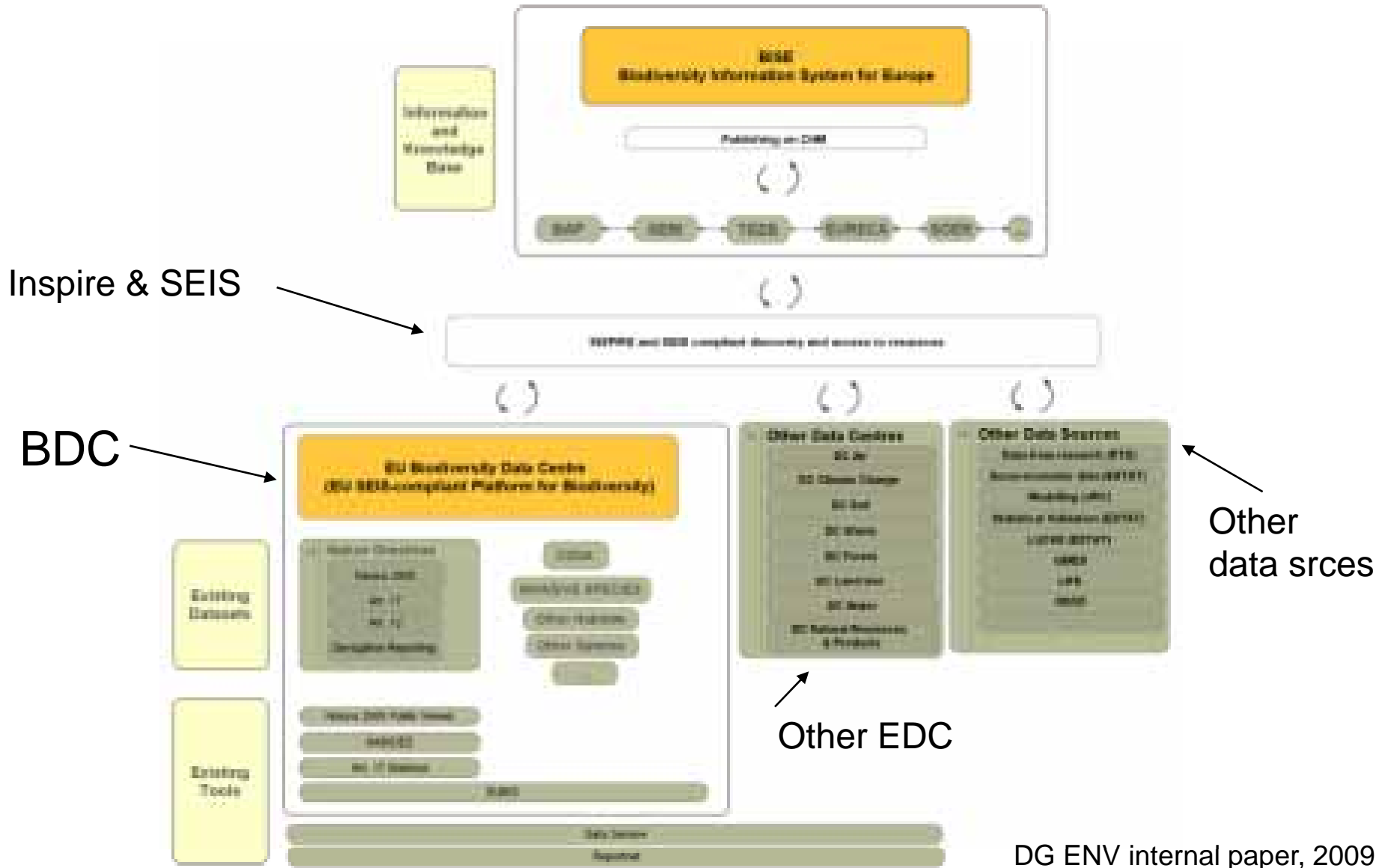


Data resulting from **reporting** on Genetic Resources

- **Eurostat** Unit 'Environment (E.3) as the leader of the Environmental Data Centre on **Natural Resources and Products** is supposed to coordinate the European institutions which host information related to the above mentioned policy areas in order to create a "single entry point" for **DG ENV** to gather information for their policy making.



BISE key elements



DG ENV internal paper, 2009





BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION
SYSTEM FOR EUROPE



Biodiversity Information System for Europe

BISE is a partnership between the European Commission (DG Environment, Joint Research Centre, Eurostat) and the European Environment Agency (EEA). It incorporates the network of the European Clearing House Mechanism.

[About BISE](#)

[About EEA](#)



[Policy](#)

[Topics](#)

[Data](#)

[Research](#)

[Countries & Networks](#)

News - Europe

- SCALES, 19/09/2010: [Earthscan launches online Manual of European Environmental Policy](#)
- EEA, 09/09/2010: [Putting a value on nature](#)
- EU CHM, 27/08/2010: [The public consultation on the post-2010 EU biodiversity strategy is now on](#)
- EEA, 25/08/2010: [Europe's coasts: reconciling development and conservation](#)
- COST, 30/08/2010: [Cancelled German COST participants](#)
- COST, 05/08/2010: [Did you know that underwater robots prove their fee?](#)
- Alto-net, 18/08/2010: [Concerning biodiversity hotspots](#)

News - World

- CEO, 04/09/2010: [Corporate doom: Extinction threat for world's smallest seabirds](#)
- CEO, 04/09/2010: [The dead sea: Global warming blamed for 40 year cold decline in the ocean's photoplankton](#)
- CEO, 04/09/2010: [Can Termites Predict Climate Change?](#)
- ICCN, 07/08/2010: [A better way](#)
- ICCN, 07/08/2010: [ICCN Reuters-UNEP Asia Media Awards announce regional winners](#)
- ICCN, 08/08/2010: [The future of water in the face of climate change](#)



European Commission



European Environment Agency



International Year of Biodiversity



Example: Countries & networks->Austria

home | login



BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION SYSTEM FOR EUROPE

Quick links

- Austria
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Italy
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg

Austria

Link to [the Article 17 report \(2008\)](#)

Link to [information provided for the EU Biodiversity Action Plan \(2010\)](#)

- Link to national inventory on CWR
- Link to national inventory of LR

The screenshot shows the BISE website interface. On the left, there is a navigation menu with a list of countries. The main content area features a search bar and a list of links. The right sidebar has a green background and a search bar. The page title is 'Austria' and the content area contains a list of links related to the national inventory on CWR and LR.

Conclusions

- BISE is the gateway to information on Biodiversity in Europe
- including information on Agrobiodiversity (Intern. Treaty on GR,...)
- driver of requirements for information in BISE are Info needed for the post-2010 biodiversity targets, sub-targets, needs of the Group of four
- Improvement of information networking still necessary (list of CWR available for BDC?)
- Need to develop SEBI indicator for plant genetic diversity and to establish the regular production of these indicators



visit BISE at
<http://biodiversity.europa.eu>



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