

SOMMET CLIMATE CHANCE EUROPE

07-08 mars 2022

#SCCE2022



Nature-based solutions: myth or reality? Concrete proposals from local actors

Description :

Responding to the challenges of adaptation will require adjustments and changes in the way we live. Nature-based solutions have been very present at climate conferences for the past 10 years and aim to respond to these challenges, while adding other opportunities, in particular to strengthen biodiversity. In France, Europe and throughout the world, numerous projects are emerging to show that these solutions can be an alternative to heavy and often more expensive investments. What funding and long-term monitoring is needed for this type of solution? What is the real impact on biodiversity? How can the population be involved? What are the European frameworks for these solutions and how can they be strengthened for a change of scale?

Chair : Jean-Sébastien GUITTON- Mayor of Orvault - Vice-President of Nantes Métropole - Water cycle and biodiversity

Speakers :

- Stéphane CROUZAT, French Climate Ambassador, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs
- Aurélie TAILLEUR, Climate change adaptation officer, ADEME
- Naïg COZANNET, President of the Rewilding France Association
- Claire TUTENUIT, General Delegate of Entreprises pour l'Environnement
- Alain CHABROLLE, Director, France Nature Environnement
- Marguerite CULOT, Director of Programmes, Development and Institutional Relations, Finance For Tomorrow

Summary of discussions :

The speakers and participants of the "Nature-based Solutions" workshop held on 7 March from 16:00 to 18:00 in the framework of the SCCE 2022 debated the following proposals (some of which were not supported by the whole panel):

While the European Union has several plans and programmes aimed at promoting Nature-based Solutions (biodiversity plan for 2030, EU soil strategy, guidelines on state aid for climate, environmental protection and energy, etc.), it would be appropriate to work on the following topic



THEMATIC DRAFT PROPOSALS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL

N°	Topic	European policy	Proposal
1		EU strategy for adaptation to climate change, Biodiversity Strategy 2030	Clarify the concept of Nature-based Solutions (Nature-based Adaptation Solutions?) and ensure, without getting locked into overly restrictive definitions, that the term NBS is defended as complementary to the ecosystem-based approach, for example based on the new definition of NBS agreed at UNEA-5[1] to : a. Transcribe it to the scale of sectors, based in particular on CEN (European Committee for Standardization), ISO and taxonomy standards b. Strengthen the commitment in terms of adaptation and biodiversity (not only treated as co-benefits) -> systematically take into account climate change in the design of Nature-based Solutions
2		EU strategy for adaptation to climate change, Biodiversity Strategy 2030	Using SfNs for greater climate-biodiversity convergence in international negotiations
3			Ensure a rapprochement of SfN between countries of the North and the South, paying particular attention to a- the rights of indigenous peoples and the involvement of local populations in the implementation of these solutions b- strengthening the European Union's aid to the countries of the South
4		European funds	Encourage experimentation, for example through H2020 schemes. Capitalize on feedback: set up permanent monitoring and evaluation systems, share good practices, quantify returns on investment
5		EU strategy for adaptation to climate change, Biodiversity Strategy 2030	Cultivate the heterogeneity of SfN by integrating all dimensions: urban, mountain, forest, agriculture, rewilding

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6		European funds	<p>Strengthen the presence of SfN in the major policies and instruments of the European Union (CAP, Green Pact, LIFE, etc.) but also in the Structural Funds and the various programmes (ERDF, EAFRD, Interreg, etc.), in particular by</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Defining binding targets for each Member State for the restoration of nature and the recovery of biodiversity Increasing the share of agricultural land used for organic farming beyond 25%. Encouraging an appropriate land policy and integrating SfN into green and blue belts Including training-education components on SfN in each of these measures, aimed in particular at bringing children back into contact with nature Establishing eco-conditionality criteria for European aid aimed at eliminating any support for SfN that is falsely beneficial to the environment and biodiversity
7		European funds	<p>Strengthen funding for SfNs by developing :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Blended finance (private, public and/or philanthropic funding) Work to identify appropriate funding models Setting up platforms to link projects and funding Massification and clustering of SfN projects so that they can be more easily financed by the banking sector
8			<p>Support all the actors in the value chain by setting up appropriate local governance, in particular through</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Increased support for civil society and associations by including an "associations/civil society" component in all programmes, as is done for the private sector or local authorities
9			<p>Work towards the recognition of the legal personality of certain ecosystems (rivers for example)</p>

[1] "...actions to protect, conserve, restore, sustainably use and manage natural or modified ecosystems, whether terrestrial, freshwater, coastal or marine, that respond to social, economic and environmental challenges in an effective and adaptable manner, while simultaneously providing benefits in terms of human well-being, ecosystem services, resilience and biodiversity". The "Resolution on Nature-based Solutions to Support Sustainable Development" also calls on UNEP to support the implementation of NBSs, which protect the rights of communities and indigenous peoples.