



Consultation within TSG 3: Construction Activities in the Sea and on the Seashore and Achieving good environmental status of the Sea



Obnova narave v kontekstu znanosti in politike: kaj pomeni za gradnjo?

The imperative of restoration of nature – what does it mean for construction in the Sea and on the Seashore?

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EU countries rubberstamp Nature Restoration Law after months of deadlock

By Sofia Sanchez Manzanaro | Euractiv ⌚ Est. 2min

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'A momentous day for nature': EU approves first-of-its-kind law that could bring back biodiversity





2024/1991

29.7.2024

REGULATION (EU) 2024/1991 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

of 24 June 2024

on nature restoration and amending Regulation (EU) 2022/869

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 192(1) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee ⁽¹⁾,

Having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions ⁽²⁾,

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure ⁽³⁾,

Whereas:

- (1) It is necessary to lay down rules at Union level on the restoration of ecosystems to ensure the recovery of biodiverse and resilient nature across the Union territory. Restoring ecosystems also contributes to the Union's climate change mitigation and climate change adaptation objectives.
- (2) The communication of the Commission of 11 December 2019 entitled 'The European Green Deal' (the 'European Green Deal') sets out an ambitious roadmap to transform the Union into a fair and prosperous society, with a modern, resource-efficient and competitive economy, aiming to protect, conserve and enhance the Union's natural capital, and to protect the health and well-being of citizens from environment-related risks and impacts. As part of the European Green Deal, the communication of the Commission of 20 May 2020 entitled 'EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 Bringing nature back into our lives' sets out the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030.
- (3) The Union and its Member States are parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity ⁽⁴⁾. As such, they are committed to the long-term strategic vision, adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to that Convention on 18-29 October 2010

Restoration of nature

- More recent approach in governance of seas
- Alongside established approaches to conservation of species, habitats and ecosystems, sustainable use and climate action
- Necessary in the context of deepening of ecological crisis
- Restoration is implicit in the Convention on Biodiversity – CBD (1992), and required by the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (2022):
 - Goal B – restoration of degraded ecosystems; Target 2 – 30% ecosystems in restoration by 2030
- EU law – translates this into a law
- UN Decade 2021-2030



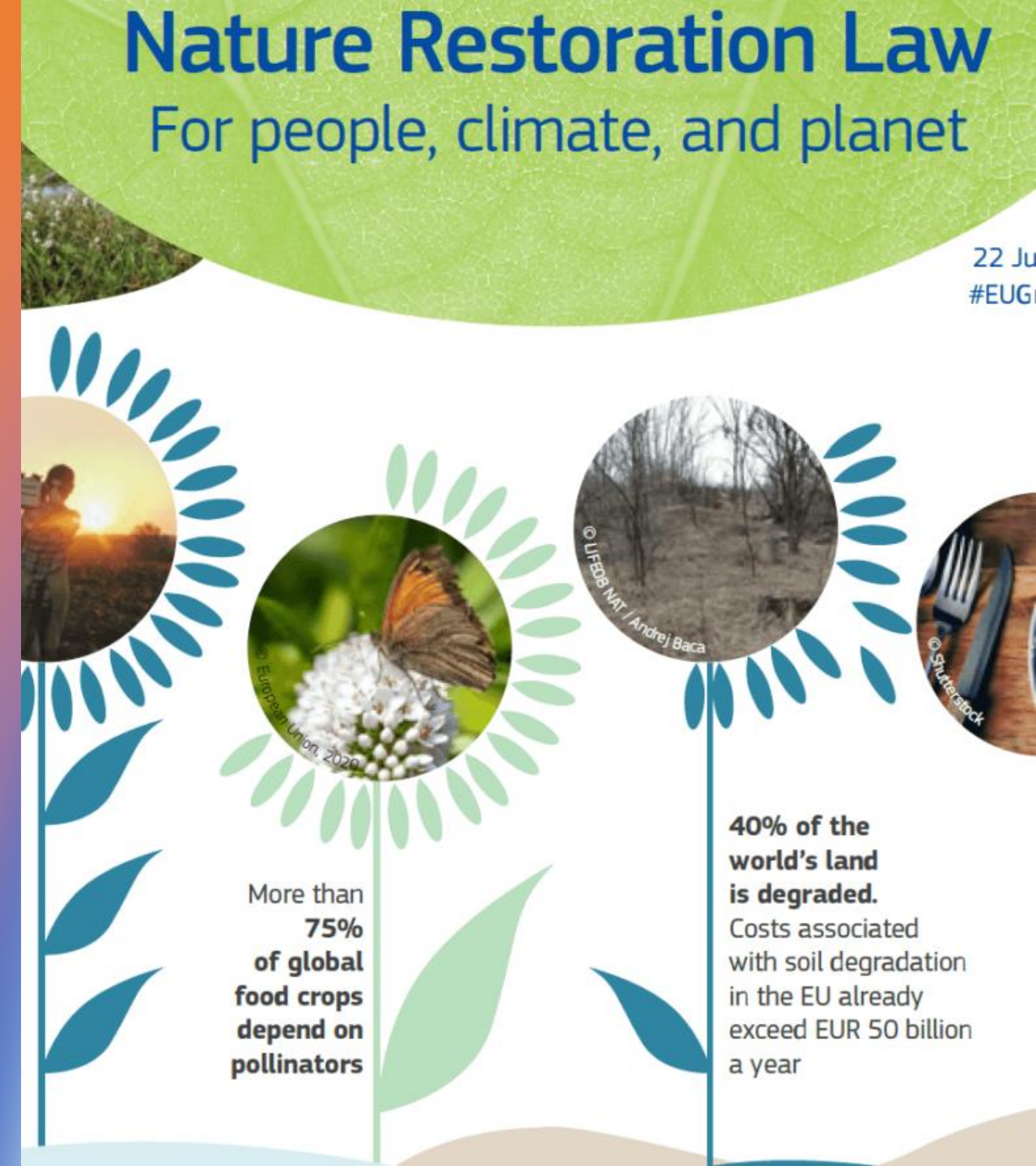
Nature Restoration Law

For people, climate, and planet

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EU Nature Restoration Law

- Nature restoration linked with climate change mitigation and adaptation, land degradation prevention, food security etc.
- By 2030 – 20% degraded ecosystems on land and sea are in restoration, by 2050 – 100%
- Marine ecosystems – 30% by 2030
 - Ecosystems in Annex II have special attention: seagrass beds, macroalgal forests, shellfish beds, rhodolites/maerl beds



More than
75%
of global
food crops
depend on
pollinators

**40% of the
world's land
is degraded.**

Costs associated
with soil degradation
in the EU already
exceed EUR 50 billion
a year

- ‘restoration’ means the process of **actively or passively assisting the recovery of an ecosystem** in order to improve its structure and functions, with the aim of conserving or enhancing biodiversity and ecosystem resilience, through improving an area of a habitat type to good condition, **re-establishing** favourable reference area, and improving a habitat of a species to sufficient quality and quantity
- ‘good condition’ means, as regards an area of a habitat type, a state where the key characteristics of the habitat type, in particular its structure, functions and typical species or typical species composition reflect the high level of **ecological integrity, stability and resilience necessary to ensure its long-term maintenance ...**



Shortcomings of NRL...

- Not sufficiently ambitious
- Complex read
- Derogations, exceptions
- Nature restoration plans by 2026

NRL can...

Introduce a new approach:
from accepting some damage
to contributing for a better
outcome



In implementation, the focus should be on:

- Root causes of: biodiversity decline, pollution, climate change
- Linking measures with relational aspects – restoring human's relationship with nature
- Participatory design and equity

