

Financing Nature and Biodiversity Conservation in Slovakia

How much is enough?

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Content

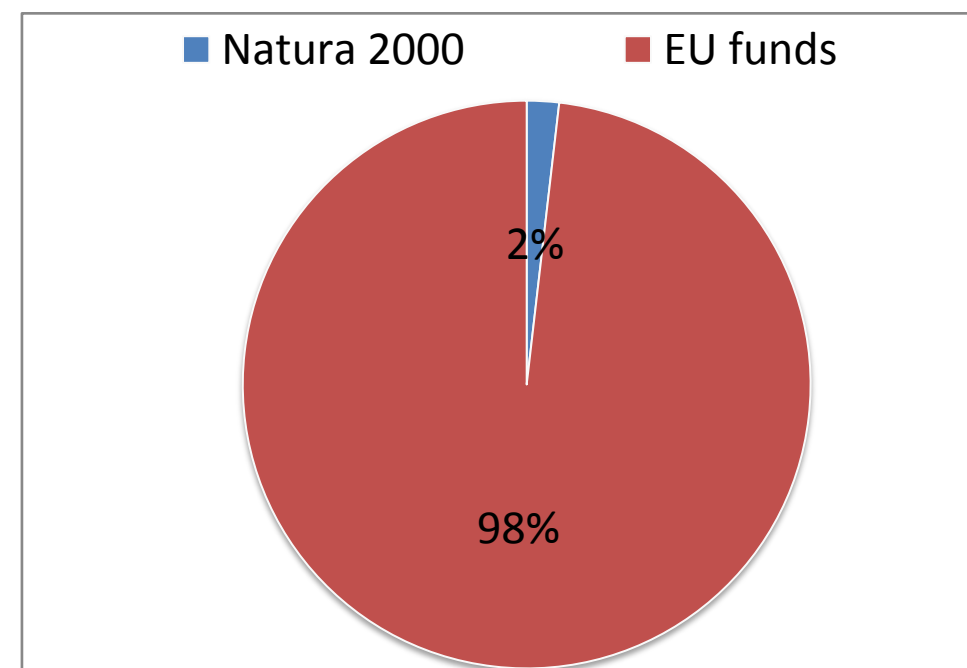
- Why to finance Nature and Biodiversity Conservation?
- Spending for Natura 2000 in Slovakia 2007-2013
- Experience with LIFE Programme
- Needs and identification of priorities - PAF 2014-2020
- What we need for the future?

Why to finance?

- Nature and biodiversity financing is seen only as cost
- Numerous reports describe benefits of Nature and Biodiversity, mostly for society. Balance sheets yet to be constructed and accounted.
- Nature on private lands? Restrictions needs to be compensated vs. benefits are consumed by others without any economic link to producers of these benefits
- Economic affairs are lacking behind Nature and Biodiversity Conservation management
- Financing of Nature and Biodiversity to be seen as investment

Finanancing for Natura 2000

- 2007-2013 Period Natura 2000 spending from RDP, OP Environment, Cross-border cooperation - cca 2%
- National spending was very limited cca 15 mil Eur
- Practical experience with EU funds for Nature is mixed. Positive, but also negative exmples



Experience with LIFE

- 14 Life Nature and Biodiversity projects awarded in Slovakia in 2007-2013 period and cca 19 mill Eur spent
- Dedicated project funding for Nature projects. Rules fit for purpose, not too much administration. Great results in the field. Limited impact due limited extent.
- National co-financing mechanism in place.

PAF 2014-2020

- In Slovakia 2 versions of PAF - 1st April 2013, updated 2nd version from June 2015. Is used as background for programming documents.
- PAF - very usefull structure and format; good use during programming period.
- Not all priorties will be easy to achieve in context of Structural and Cohesion funds. These are not really established for Nature and Biodiversity Conservation
- PAF was aimed to bring integration in EU Funds, overall its impact on integration was limited. (RDP, OP Integrated infrastructure)

OP Quality of Environment 2014-2020

Possibilities for Nature and Biodiversity financing:

- Priority Axis 1, Investment priority 2 (Water), specific goal 1.2.3 Action B - lateral connectivity of rivers
- Priority Axis 1, Investment priority 3 (Nature), specific goal 1.3.1., Actions A,B,C - Nature, Biodiversity, Monitoring (D Communication)
- Priority Axis 2, Investment Priority 1 (Climate), specific goal 2.1.1 Action A - Adaptation

What we need for the future? (1)

- Public money for public goods!
- Eliminate harmful subsidies
- More money for Nature and Biodiversity financing - proportionate to the benefits they provide
- Bigger, better and more streamlined dedicated fund for Nature and Biodiversity (e.g. LIFE?)
- Integration should continue only where it makes really sense (e.g. RDP, crossborder cooperation, big integrated projects...)
- Better tracking tools for Nature and Biodiversity expenditure (hopefully on its way and will deliver)

What we need for the future?(2)

- Interlinked measures aimed at Nature and Biodiversity priorities - species, habitats and sites rule the performance, not the fund tries to rule the Nature
- Criteria and indicators for financing based on species, habitat and sites priorities
- Efficiency and effectiveness of expenditure

**Thank you for
attention!**

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