



*Analysis of Natura 2000
management measures eligible
for financing in 2014-2020*

Financing Guidance Handbook Natura 2000

*Europe Direct is a service to help you find answers
to your questions about the European Union.*

Freephone number(*):

00 800 6 7 8 9 10 11

(* The information given is free, as are most calls (though some operators, phone boxes or hotels may charge you)

More information on the European Union is available on the Internet (<http://europa.eu>).

Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union, 2014

ISBN: 978-92-79-38632-9

doi: 10.2779/19708

© European Union, 2014

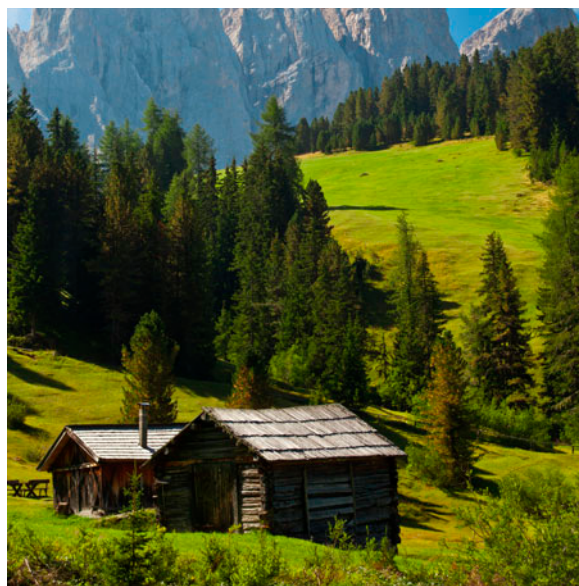
Reproduction is authorised provided the source is acknowledged.

Online publication

Financing Natura 2000 Guidance Handbook

part II

Analysis of Natura 2000 management measures eligible for financing in 2014-2020



Commissioned by the European
Commission DG Environment

June 2014

Strengthening the uptake of EU funds for Natura 2000
(ENV.B.3/SER/2012/002)

Prepared by:
Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP), WWF and ICF GHK



Disclaimer:

Strengthening the uptake of EU funds for Natura 2000 (Service contract 070307/2012/629992/SER/B3).

This publication has been prepared in the framework of a service contract; it is not legally binding.

Drafted by:

Marianne Kettunen (IEEP)

Editors:

Marianne Kettunen (IEEP) and Peter Torkler (WWF)

With support from:

Stephanie Newman (IEEP); Jana Poláková (IEEP); Henrietta Menadue (IEEP); David Baldock (IEEP); Clunie Keenleyside (IEEP); Andrew McConville (IEEP); Evelyn Underwood (IEEP); Sara Green (IEEP); Alberto Arroyo Schnell (WWF); Andreas Baumüller (WWF)

Layout:

© WWF / Ekopress Publishing Agency
photo on the cover: Alberto Zorretta / shutterstock.com

The document should be cited as follows:

Kettunen, M., Green, S., McConville, A., Menadue, H., Newman, S., Poláková, J., Torkler, P. and Underwood, E. (2014) *Financing Natura 2000 Guidance Handbook. Part II – Analysis of Natura 2000 management measures eligible for financing in 2014-2020*, a publication commissioned by the European Commission DG Environment (June 2014)

This document supports:

Kettunen, M., Torkler, P. and Rayment, M. (2014) *Financing Natura 2000 Guidance Handbook. Part I – EU funding opportunities in 2014-2020*, a publication commissioned by the European Commission DG Environment (June 2014)

Context:

The Handbook is one of three tasks of a project 'Strengthening the uptake of EU funds for Natura 2000' (ENV.B.3/SER/2012/0020) funded by the European Commission. The tasks include:

1. Financing Natura 2000 Handbook, a revision and update of the existing Handbook for the financial period 2007-2013;
2. Toolkit to assess the consistency of Prioritised Action Frameworks (PAFs) and the Operational Programmes; and
3. National seminars to discuss the 2014-2020 funding opportunities for Natura 2000.

For further information please see: www.financing-natura2000.eu

Acknowledgements:

The authors would like to thank all national authorities and partners who supported the organisation of 24 national workshops which helped to shape our ideas and analysis included in this Guidance Handbook.

Part II of the Guidance Handbook supports Part I and consists of the following chapters:

Chapter 1: The use of EU funds for Natura 2000 management measures – detailed 'measure-by-measure' analysis (p. 1-119)

Chapter 2: Using EU funds for Natura 2000 in Member States in 2007-2013 – case studies (p. 121-148)

chapter **1** The use of EU funds
for Natura 2000 management
measures – detailed
'measure-by-measure' analysis



© WWF / Torkler



Table of contents

Measure 1:	Administration of site selection process	6
Measure 2:	Scientific studies/inventories for the identification of sites	7
Measure 3:	Preparation of initial information and publicity material	11
Measure 4:	Pilot projects	15
Measure 5:	Preparation of management plans, strategies and schemes	22
Measure 6:	Establishment of management bodies	25
Measure 7:	Consultation – public meetings, liaison with landowners	27
Measure 8:	Review of management plans, strategies and schemes	32
Measure 9:	Running costs of management bodies	36
Measure 10:	Maintenance of facilities for public access	37
Measure 11:	Staff	41
Measure 12:	Conservation management measures – habitats	42
Measure 13:	Conservation management measures – species	53
Measure 14:	Conservation management measures in relation to invasive alien species (IAS)	63
Measure 15:	Implementation of management schemes and agreements	76
Measure 16:	Provision of services; compensation for rights foregone and loss of income; developing acceptability ,liaison' with neighbours	80
Measure 17:	Monitoring and surveying	83
Measure 18:	Risk management	88
Measure 19:	Surveillance of the sites (ongoing)	94
Measure 20:	Provision of information and publicity material	96
Measure 21:	Training and education	101
Measure 22:	Facilities to encourage visitor use and appreciation of Natura 2000 sites	108
Measure 23:	Land purchase, including compensation for development rights	111
Measure 24:	Infrastructure needed for the restoration of habitat or species	112
Measure 25:	Infrastructure for public access, interpretation works, observatories and kiosks, etc.	117

Measure 1:
Administration of site selection process

<i>Article</i>	<i>Short description</i>	<i>Target group</i>	<i>Restrictions re: land type, applicability etc.</i>	<i>Examples</i>	<i>Examples of socio-economic benefits</i>
EAFRD					
Not applicable					
EMFF					
Article 83(2)(b)	Coordination and cooperation among Member States to develop maritime spatial planning and integrated coastal zone management	Public authorities	Spatial planning between two or more MS	Funds could be used to coordinate meetings between experts, stakeholders and public authorities to implement marine spatial planning, within which MPAs could be an integral component	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
ERDF (inc. ETC*)					
Not applicable					
ESF					
Not applicable					
Cohesion					
Not applicable					
Horizon 2020					
Not applicable					
LIFE					
Articles 18, 19 and 22	Activities and eligibility criteria	All possible			

* Cross-border and transnational cooperation is possible in the context of all identified opportunities for ERDF, given they follow the principles of European Territorial Cooperation (ETC), see section 4.3.4 in Handbook Part I.

Scientific studies/inventories for the identification of sites

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions re: land type, applicability etc.	Examples	Examples of socio-economic benefits
EAFRD					
Article 20(1)(f)	Basic services and village renewal in rural areas: studies and investments associated with maintenance, restoration and upgrading of the cultural and natural heritage, rural landscapes and high nature value sites	Public administrations; farmers; foresters; NGOs; private landowners; public landowners; land managers; SMEs; educational organisations	See Art 20(2-3)	This could include research on site inventories allowing local skills development and facilitating future eco-tourism	Recreation and tourism Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
Article 35	Cooperation: for example joint approaches to environmental projects, ongoing environmental practices and preservation of agricultural landscapes and also cooperation in the context of European Innovation Partnership (EIP)	All (must be a collaboration of actors)	Refers to agricultural land and/or forests See also Art 35(7-8)	This could support partnerships between farmers, foresters, producers and other rural actors to carry out research on site inventories, production and packaging methods, as long as they are related to the development of a business plan, forest management plan or local development strategy	Food security Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment Research and innovation
Leader (Articles 42-44)	Support for local action groups and LEADER start-up kits	All (must be Local Action Group)	See Art 44	In the framework of a local development strategy, at the level of the Local Action Group, public/ private partnership could be used to carry out research on site inventories, could include species census, allowing local skills development, and facilitating future eco-tourism opportunities for the area concerned	Recreation and tourism Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
EMFF					
Article 28(1)(a-b) and (2)	Partnerships between scientists and fishermen, with a view to transfer knowledge: data collection and management activities, studies, pilot projects, dissemination of knowledge and research results, seminars and best practices	Fishermen; others (scientists; public authorities etc.)		Networks of scientists and fishermen can help to improve accuracy and precision of ecological models which could be used to inform site selection. Data collection could be done to inform scientists of the presence/ absence of priority species for protection	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article (40)(1)(d)	Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and compensation regimes: studies, drawing-up, monitoring and updating of protection and management plans for fishery-related activities relating to Natura 2000 sites etc.	Fishermen; others (scientists; public authorities; NGOs)		Scientific studies/inventories supporting the identification and future management of new marine Natura 2000 sites	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 44(3)	Inland fishing and inland aquatic fauna and flora: development and facilitation [...] for the advisory services in accordance with Article 27 and for partnerships between scientists and fishermen in accordance with Article 28	Fishermen; others (scientists; public authorities; NGOs)		Networks of scientists and fishermen can help to improve accuracy and precision of ecological models which could be used to inform site selection. Data collection could be done to inform scientists of the presence/ absence of priority species for protection	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site

Measure 2:

Scientific studies/inventories for the identification of sites

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 51(1)(a-b)	Increasing the potential of aquaculture sites: identification and mapping of the most suitable areas for developing aquaculture and improvement and development of support facilities and infrastructures required to [...]to reduce the negative environmental impact of aquaculture	Aquaculturists, others		Scientific studies/inventories supporting the identification and future management of extended inland water Natura 2000 sites, as relates to aquaculture areas	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 76(2)(d)	CFP control and enforcement: implementation of programs aiming at exchanging and analysing data between Member States	Public authorities		Data collection and exchange to improve the monitoring of marine environment, including for the purposes of identifying and establishing new Natura 2000 sites	Research and innovation
Article 77(2)(a-d, f)	Data collection	Public authorities; others (scientists)		Measures related to data collection could be used to, for example, to: identify possible sites and assess their condition, sample areas to assess their condition or the presence/ absence of priority species for protection, measure catch compositions and access levels of bycatch, and determine presence/ absence of priority species for protection	Food security (information on sustainable level of fisheries and status of fish stocks) Research and innovation (species inventories)
Article 79(1)(b)	Protection of the marine environment, in particular biodiversity and MPAs such as Natura 2000 sites, the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources, and the further definition of boundaries of the sustainability of human activities that have an impact on the marine environment	All	See also Art 80	Scientific studies/inventories supporting the identification of Natura 2000 sites	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site and/or types of measures adopted
Article 83(1)(a)(b)(f)(g)	Support to Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP): studies, projects, development operation and maintenance of IT systems, and training projects	Public authorities; others (scientists)		Studies on the implementation of IMP could include baseline studies assessing the condition of possible new Natura 2000 areas, or modelling the effects of spatial measures on these sites	Food security (information on sustainable level of fisheries and status of fish stocks) Research and innovation (species inventories)
Article 86(2)(a)	Scientific advice and knowledge to accompany measures for CFP and IMP: studies and pilot projects	Fishermen; others (scientists)		Studies on the implementation of IMP could include baseline studies assessing the condition of possible new Natura 2000 areas, or modelling the effects of spatial measures on these sites	Food security (information on sustainable level of fisheries and status of fish stocks) Research and innovation (species inventories)
86(2)(b)(c)(e)	Scientific advice and knowledge to accompany measures for CFP and IMP: scientific opinions and advice, participation of experts in meetings and cooperation activities between Member States	Others (scientists); public authorities (of a scientific research nature)		Provision of scientific advice for the conservation status of certain species within potential Natura 2000 sites / MPAs. Studies on the implementation of the CFP could include baseline studies assessing the condition of possible new Natura 2000 areas, or modelling the effects of spatial measures on these sites	Food security (information on sustainable level of fisheries and status of fish stocks) Research and innovation (species inventories) Cultural and natural heritage (maintaining species with cultural importance)

Scientific studies/inventories for the identification of sites

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
ERDF (inc. ETC*)					
Article 5.1(a)	Strengthening research, technological development and innovation: research and innovation (R&I) infrastructure	All possible		As a part of a broader R&I project, developing improved / cost-effective ways for identifying and mapping priority areas for biodiversity (e.g. areas for marine Natura 2000 sites)	Research and innovation
Article 5.1(b)	Strengthening research, technological development and innovation: business R&I investment in innovation and research [...]	All possible		As a part of a broader R&I project, developing products and services related to ecosystem mapping and/or land-use planning that can also support identification of priority areas for biodiversity (e.g. areas for marine Natura 2000 sites)	Research and innovation
Article 5.6(d)(f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (d) protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure and (f) promoting innovative technologies to improve environmental protection and resource efficiency	All possible		Restoration and/or management of Natura 2000 sites can result in several cost-effective green infrastructure solutions such as nature-based prevention of flooding, wild fires, droughts and soil erosion. Consequently, ERDF support to the establishment of Natura 2000 sites (e.g. in coastal and marine areas) can help to maintain / restore green infrastructure	Research and innovation Employment (restoration) Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.6(e)(f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (e) improving the urban environment including regeneration of brownfield sites and also (f) promoting innovative technologies to improve environmental protection and resource efficiency	All possible		As with Article 5.6(d) but in the urban context	As with Article 5.6(d) but in the urban context.
Articles 7-9 Articles 10-12	Specific provisions for territorial features: urban areas Areas with special needs: Areas with natural or demographic handicaps	All possible		As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)	As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)
ESF					
Article 3.1(c)	Investing in education, training and vocational training for skills and lifelong learning through, for example, enhancing access to lifelong learning, upgrading the knowledge, skills and competences of the workforce and increasing the labour market relevance of education and training systems	Educational organisations		In cooperation with relevant research institutions, using site identification (e.g. marine sites) as a means to increase capacity, upgrade skills and/or upgrade environmental monitoring systems	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment (acquiring new skills) Education Research and innovation
Cohesion					
Article 4(c)(iii)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: protecting and restoring biodiversity, soil protection and restoration and promoting ecosystem services including through Natura 2000 and green infrastructures	All possible	MS with GNI per inhabitant less than 90% of EU27 average	Restoration and/or management of Natura 2000 sites can result in several cost-effective green infrastructure solutions such as nature-based prevention of flooding, wild fires, droughts and soil erosion. Consequently, CF support to the establishment of Natura 2000 sites (e.g. in coastal and marine areas) can help to maintain / restore green infrastructure	Research and innovation Employment (restoration) Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site

Measure 2:**Scientific studies/inventories for the identification of sites**

<i>Article</i>	<i>Short description</i>	<i>Target group</i>	<i>Restrictions</i>	<i>Examples</i>	<i>Benefits</i>
Horizon 2020					
Article 5.2 / Part III / Themes 5, 2 and 4	Research activities related to climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials; food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research, and the bioeconomy; and smart, green and integrated transport	All possible	Transnational cooperation	Supporting a cross-border study comparing similar sites. Information collected could be used to identify priority. Study could develop an improved method for site identification (e.g. complementing Natura 2000 network with national designations to enhance ecological connectivity of the overall network	Research and innovation
LIFE					
Articles 18, 19 and 22	Activities and eligibility criteria	All possible			

Preparation of initial information and publicity material

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions re: land type, applicability etc.	Examples	Examples of socio-economic benefits
EAFRD					
Article 14	Knowledge transfer and information action: vocational training and skills acquisition actions, demonstration activities and information actions	Farmers; foresters; SMEs; private landowners; public landowners; others	See Art 14(2-4)	This can include training courses, workshops and coaching for land managers. For example, vocational training for protected area managers about natural values of cultural landscape/ traditional forms of land use	Food security Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
Article 15	Advisory services, farm management and farm relief services: setting up and use of these services and to promote the training of advisors	Farmers, foresters; SMEs; other land managers		This can include training courses for advisors and support to farmers and forest holders using advice, including information related to climate change mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity and protection of water	Food security Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
Article 20(1)(a)	Basic services and village renewal in rural areas: drawing up and updating development plans including protection and management plans relating to Natura 2000 sites and other areas of high nature value	Public administrations; farmers; foresters; NGOs; private landowners; public landowners; land managers; SMEs; educational organisations	See Art 20(2-3)	This could include for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information material for use in the training courses, workshops and coaching for land managers. • Production of training materials on the benefits of Natura 2000, potential impacts of Natura on local development – could involve both staff responsible for local development strategy and a regional or wider network of actors involved in local development public-private partnerships • Preparing exhibitions about natural heritage and traditional land use linked to Natura 2000 sites • Production of initial series of site 'brochures' aimed at nature tourists, highlighting individual Natura sites, or the national or regional network 	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment Cultural and natural heritage
Article 35	Cooperation: for example joint approaches to environmental projects, ongoing environmental practices and preservation of agricultural landscapes and also cooperation in the context of European Innovation Partnership (EIP)	All (must be a collaboration of actors)	Refers to agricultural land and/or forests See also Art 35(7-8)	This could support partnerships between farmers, foresters, producers and other rural actors to participate in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training courses, workshops and coaching for land managers. • Production of training materials on the benefits of Natura 2000, potential impacts of Natura on local development – could involve both staff responsible for local development strategy and a regional or wider network of actors involved in local development public-private partnerships. • Preparing exhibitions about natural heritage and traditional land use linked to Natura 2000 sites • Vocational training for protected area managers about natural values of cultural landscape/ traditional forms of land use. • Production of initial series of site 'brochures' aimed at nature tourists, highlighting individual Natura sites, or the national or regional network 	Food security Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment

Measure 3: Preparation of initial information and publicity material

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Leader (Articles 42-44)	Support for local action groups and LEADER start-up kits	All (must be Local Action Group)	See Art 44	Could support a series of site 'brochures' aimed at nature tourists, highlighting individual Natura sites, or the national or regional network, as long as it is integrated into a local development strategy	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment Cultural and natural heritage
EMFF					
Article 40(1)(g)	Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and compensation regimes: environmental awareness, involving fishermen, with regard to the protection and restoration of marine biodiversity	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen; NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen / FLAGS		Increasing awareness on Natura 2000 sites and other MPAs among fishermen, including related socio-economic opportunities	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
Article 48.1(h)	Productive investments in aquaculture: diversification of the income of aquaculture enterprises through the development of complementary activities outside aquaculture (i.e. aquaculture environmental services)	Aquaculturists	See Art 48.2	Complementary activities outside aquaculture could include MPA related green business opportunities / activities	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
Article 79(1)(b)	Protection of the marine environment, in particular biodiversity and MPAs such as Natura 2000 sites, the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources, and the further definition of boundaries of the sustainability of human activities that have an impact on the marine environment	All	See also Art 80	Preparation of information and publicity material supporting the establishment and future management of marine Natura 2000 sites	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site and/or types of measures adopted
Article 83(1)(c)	Support to Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP): public information, publicity campaigns, stakeholder platforms, communications, to promote protection of the marine environment	Public authorities		Publicity campaigns promoting the protecting of the environment, including through marine protected areas such as Natura 2000 sites	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
ERDF (inc. ETC*)					
Article 5.3(a)	SME competitiveness: entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms	SMEs		Preparing information and publicity material In the context of a broader project aimed at promoting nature-based entrepreneurship, e.g. Natura 2000 in the context of ecotourism.	Recreation & tourism Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
Article 5.6(c)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage	Not specified		Preparing Natura 2000 related information and publicity material In the context of a broader project aimed at promoting cultural heritage. Relevant for sites with natural and cultural heritage value.	Cultural and natural heritage Recreation and tourism

Preparation of initial information and publicity material

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 5.6(d)(f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (d) protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure and (f) promoting innovative technologies to improve environmental protection and resource efficiency	All possible		Preparing information and publicity material on the socio-economic benefits of Natura 2000	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site Employment (restoration of green infrastructure)
Article 5.6(e)(f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (e) improving the urban environment including regeneration of brownfield sites and also (f) promoting innovative technologies to improve environmental protection and resource efficiency	All possible		As with Article 5.6(d) but in the urban context	As with Article 5.6(d) but in the urban context.
Article 5.9(a) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: (b) health and social infrastructure [...] also through cultural and recreational services, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		Preparing information and publicity material on the health benefits of Natura 2000 in the context of a broader project promoting local / regional health	Health benefits (physical and mental) Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods
Article 5.9(b) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: physical, economic and social regeneration of deprived communities in urban and rural areas, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		Preparing information and publicity material on the socio-economic benefits of Natura 2000 (e.g. employment impacts) in the context of a broader project promoting urban / rural sustainability	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.9(c) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: social enterprises, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		As with Article 5.9(b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises, e.g. involving unemployed people, people in rehabilitation etc.	As with Article 5.9(b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises
Article 5.10	Education, training and lifelong learning: education, skills and lifelong learning by developing education and training infrastructure	Not specified but in practice primarily educational organisations		Preparing information and publicity material on the socio-economic benefits of nature (including Natura 2000) in the context of a broader project promoting education, skills and lifelong learning	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Articles 7-9 Articles 10-12	Specific provisions for territorial features: urban areas Areas with special needs: Areas with natural or demographic handicaps	All possible		As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)	As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)

Measure 3: Preparation of initial information and publicity material

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
ESF					
Article 3.1(a)	Promoting sustainable and quality employment and supporting labour mobility, e.g. access to employment through local employment initiatives and support for labour mobility; self-employment, entrepreneurship and business creation; adaptation of workers, enterprises and entrepreneurs to change	Not specified		As a part of broader initiative, promoting Natura 2000 in the context of related employment opportunities (e.g. opportunities / benefits related to tourism, recreation etc.)	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment (e.g. SMEs) Education
Article 3.1(b)	Promoting social inclusion, combating poverty and any discrimination through, for example, active inclusion, integration of marginalised communities, promoting the social economy and social enterprises, and community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Educational organisations		As a part of broader initiative, promoting Natura 2000 in the context of education and acquiring new skills (e.g. opportunities for environmental education, possibilities for local stakeholders to develop skills in the context of management, monitoring etc. initiatives)	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment (acquiring new skills) Education Research and innovation
Article 3.1(c)	Investing in education, training and vocational training for skills and lifelong learning through, for example, enhancing access to lifelong learning, upgrading the knowledge, skills and competences of the workforce and increasing the labour market relevance of education and training systems	Educational organisations		Promoting Natura 2000 as a part of broader initiative addressing social inclusion, including using Natura 2000 sites as a means for inclusion (e.g. creating management related job opportunities for unemployed)	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods) Education Health benefits (mental health via social inclusion)
Article 3.1(d)	Enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and efficient public administration through i) investment in institutional capacity and in the efficiency of public administrations and public services and ii) capacity building for stakeholders delivering education, lifelong learning, training and employment and social policies	Public administrations	See Art 3.1 (d i)	As a part of broader initiative, producing information to public administrators on Natura 2000 and its socio-economic benefits	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment (acquiring new skills) Education Research and innovation
Cohesion					
Article 4(c)(iii)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: protecting and restoring biodiversity, soil protection and restoration and promoting ecosystem services including through Natura 2000 and green infrastructures	All possible	MS with GNI per inhabitant less than 90% of EU27 average	In the context of a broader project, preparing information and publicity material on the socio-economic benefits of Natura 2000 promoting local / regional sustainability	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site Employment (restoration of green infrastructure)
Horizon 2020					
Not applicable					
LIFE					
Articles 18, 19 and 22	Activities and eligibility criteria	All possible			

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions re: land type, applicability etc.	Examples	Examples of socio-economic benefits
EAFRD					
Article 16	Quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs: participation by farmers and groups of farmers in quality/ value added product or certification schemes	Farmers; groups of farmers	Only possible where permitted in the Implementing Acts and Delegated Acts	Can be used to set up pilot initiatives aimed at helping farmers to establish certification schemes for and/or develop value added products related to Natura 2000 friendly products	Food security Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods
Article 17(1)(d)	Investments in physical assets: non-productive investments linked to the achievement of agri-environment – climate objectives, including biodiversity conservation status of species and habitat as well as enhancing the public amenity value of a Natura 2000 area or other high nature value systems to be defined in the programme	All		For example, if required for Natura 2000 pilot projects: restoring or introducing hedges and other boundary features and terraces; restoration of local riverine species through removal of modifications to waterways, and restorative planting	Food security (revival of riverine fish stocks) Recreation and tourism (landscape amenity) Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment (restoration) Cultural and natural heritage
Article 27	Setting up producer groups and organisations	SMEs	See Art 27(2)	Can be used to help Natura 2000 farmers achieve the benefits of economy of scale through support to establishing producer groups to adapt to market requirements, joint marketing, develop rules on product information, developing business skills and innovation	Food security (piloting sustainable methods for food production) Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
Article 35	Cooperation: for example joint approaches to environmental projects, ongoing environmental practices and preservation of agricultural landscapes and also cooperation in the context of European Innovation Partnership (EIP)	All (must be a collaboration of actors)	See also Art 35(7-8) Relevant only to: agricultural land; forests	This could support participation of groups, clusters and networks created by farmers, foresters, producers and other rural actors in Natura 2000 pilot projects. The support can cover studies, training and networking, running costs of co-operation, direct costs of specific Natura 2000 projects linked to the implementation of a farm business plan a local development strategy, and costs of promotion activities	Food security (piloting sustainable methods for food production) Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
Leader (Articles 42-44)	Support for local action groups and LEADER start-up kits	All (must be Local Action Group)	See Art 44	Pilot community involvement in nature management, education scheme, scheme to increase tourism or to develop areas surrounding Natura site. Must be integrated into local development strategy	Recreation and tourism Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
EMFF					
Article 28(1)(a-b) and (2)	Partnerships between scientists and fishermen, with a view to transfer knowledge: data collection and management activities, studies, pilot projects, dissemination of knowledge and research results, seminars and best practices	Fishermen; others (scientists; public authorities; NGOs)		Pilot projects related to joint data collection, management etc. activities	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site

Measure 4: Pilot projects

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article (40)(1)(d)	Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and compensation regimes: studies, drawing-up, monitoring and updating of protection and management plans for fishery-related activities relating to Natura 2000 sites etc.	Fishermen; others (scientists; public authorities; NGOs)		Pilot projects related to drawing-up, monitoring and updating of protection and management plans for fishery-related activities relating to Natura 2000 sites	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 44(3)	Inland fishing and inland aquatic fauna and flora: development and facilitation [...] for the advisory services in accordance with Article 27 and for partnerships between scientists and fishermen in accordance with Article 28	Fishermen; others (scientists; public authorities; NGOs)		Pilot projects related to joint data collection, management etc. activities	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 76(2)(g)	CFP control and enforcement: innovative control and monitoring systems and pilot projects related to fisheries control, including fish DNA analysis and websites related to control	Public authorities		Pilot projects making advances in control and enforcement could benefit enforcement of area closures or fisheries restrictions in MPAs	Food security (sustainable level of fisheries and fish stocks)
Article 79(1)(b)	Protection of the marine environment, in particular biodiversity and MPAs such as Natura 2000 sites, the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources, and the further definition of boundaries of the sustainability of human activities that have an impact on the marine environment	All	See also Art 80	Development and implementation of pilot projects to support the establishment and future management of marine Natura 2000 sites	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site and/or types of measures adopted
Article 86(2)(a)	Scientific advice and knowledge to accompany measures for CFP and IMP: studies and pilot projects	Public authorities; fishermen, others (scientists)		Pilot projects experimenting with spatial management measures.	Food security (sustainable level of fisheries and fish stocks)
ERDF (inc. ETC*)					
Article 5.1(a)	Strengthening research, technological development and innovation: research and innovation (R&I) infrastructure	Not specified		As a part of a broader R&I project, exploring active cooperation between research sector and opportunities for research and innovation provided by Natura 2000 sites. For example, cooperating in environmental monitoring, development of innovative environmental technologies, development of sustainable bioeconomy (pharmaceuticals and other bioinnovations) etc.	Research and innovation
Article 5.1(b)	Strengthening research, technological development and innovation: business R&I investment in innovation and research [...]	Not specified		As a part of a broader R&I project, exploring active cooperation between research sector and opportunities for research and innovation provided by Natura 2000 sites. For example, cooperating in environmental monitoring, risk management development of innovative environmental technologies, development of sustainable bioeconomy (pharmaceuticals and other bioinnovations) etc.	Research and innovation

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 5.2(c)	Information and communication technologies (ICT): ICT applications for e-government, e-learning, e-inclusion and e-health	Not specified		As a part of a broader ICT project, exploring active cooperation between ICT innovations and Natura 2000 sites. For example, piloting e-solutions in environmental monitoring.	Research and innovation
Article 5.3(a)(c)	SME competitiveness: entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms	SMEs		Developing pilot projects on Natura 2000 related entrepreneurship, e.g. start-up investment in ecotourism, sustainable bioinnovations and other new business ideas	Recreation & tourism Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
Article 5.4(a)	Low-carbon economy: energy derived from renewable sources	Not specified		As a part of a larger initiative, could be used to pilot the removal of excess biomass (such as restoration of wetlands overgrown with <i>Phragmites australis</i> due to eutrophication) from Natura 2000 site, including further use of biomass as biofuel	Energy security Climate change mitigation Research and innovation
Article 5.4(c)	Low-carbon economy: energy efficiency, smart energy management and renewable energy use in public infrastructures and in the housing sector	Not specified		As a part of a larger initiative, could be used to pilot the use of energy efficient and/or renewable energy using techniques in Natura 2000 related infrastructure, such as visitor centres	Energy security Climate change mitigation Research and innovation
Article 5.4(e)	Low-carbon economy: low-carbon strategies for all types of territories, in particular for urban areas	Not specified		As a part of a larger urban initiative, could be used to pilot Natura 2000 as a part of low-carbon and/or energy efficient solutions, such as restoration of Natura 2000 wetlands to manage urban runoff water	Climate change mitigation Climate change adaptation Research and innovation
Article 5.5(a)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches	Not specified		As a part of a larger initiative, could be used to pilot nature-based solutions to adapt to climate change such as restoring wetlands for water purification, restoring floodplains as part of flood control planning etc.	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards Research and innovation
Article 5.5(b)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: addressing specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems	Not specified		As a part of a larger initiative, could be used to pilot nature-based solutions to risk management such as restoring floodplains as part of flood control planning, restoring native vegetation to mitigate risks for wild fires etc.	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards Research and innovation
Article 5.6(a) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (a) waste sector, including (f) promoting innovative technologies	Not specified		As a part of a larger initiative, could be used to pilot innovative and increasingly biodiversity friendly solutions for waste management	Research and innovation Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.6(b) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (b) water sector, including (f) promoting innovative technologies	Not specified		As a part of a larger initiative, could be used to pilot nature-based solutions for water management, such as restoring wetlands for water purification	Water security Research and innovation
Article 5.6(c)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage	Not specified		Investing in Natura 2000 management (infrastructure, restoration etc.) in the context of a broader project aimed at promoting cultural heritage. Relevant for sites with natural and cultural heritage value	Cultural and natural heritage Recreation and tourism

Measure 4: Pilot projects

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 5.6(d) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (d) protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure, including (f) innovative technologies	Not specified		Could be used to pilot nature-based solutions for water management, such as restoring wetlands for water management while also contributing to Natura 2000 management / restoration	Research and innovation Employment (restoration) Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.6(e) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (e) improving the urban environment including regeneration of brownfield sites and also (f) including innovative technologies	Not specified		As a part of a larger initiative, could be used to pilot nature-based solutions for sustainable management, such as improving the quality of areas around Natura 2000 sites (buffer zones) by restoring woodland vegetation to purify urban air	Health benefits (due to improved air quality) Research and innovation
Article 5.7(c)	Sustainable transport: environment-friendly and low-carbon transport systems to promote sustainable regional and local mobility	Not specified		Pilot new methods of developing nature-friendly/low-risk transport corridors (e.g. new technology for over-passes and under-passes) as a part of larger transport network projects	Recreation and tourism Research and innovation
Article 5.8(a)	Employment and labour mobility: business incubators and investment support for self-employment, micro-enterprises and business creation	Not specified		As a part of broader business creation and innovation, exploring active cooperation between business and Natura 2000 sites. For example, creating business opportunities related to ecotourism, value added products, sustainable bioeconomy initiatives etc.	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
Article 5.8(b)	Employment and labour mobility: employment-friendly growth through [...] enhancement of accessibility to, and development of, specific natural and cultural resources	Not specified		As a part of broader business creation and innovation, developing access to Natura 2000 sites to enhance related business opportunities. For example, creating infrastructure related to ecotourism etc.	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
Article 5.8(c)	Employment and labour mobility: local initiatives and aid for structures providing neighbourhood services to create new jobs, where such actions are outside the scope of ESF	Not specified		As with Article 5.8(a) but at regional level (cross-border sites, multiple sites within a region)	As with Article 5.8(a) but at regional level (cross-border sites, multiple sites within a region)
Article 5.9(a) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: (b) health and social infrastructure [...] also through cultural and recreational services, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		Launching pilot projects that aim to maximise health benefits of Natura 2000 (in the context of a broader project promoting local / regional health)	Health benefits (physical and mental) Support of sustainable rural livelihoods
Article 5.9(b) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: physical, economic and social regeneration of deprived communities in urban and rural areas, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		Launching pilot projects aimed at exploring / utilising socio-economic benefits of Natura 2000 in urban or rural contexts (e.g. creating employment, restoring environmental quality)	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.9(c) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: social enterprises, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		As with Article 5.9(b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises, e.g. involving unemployed people, people in rehabilitation etc.	As with Article 5.9(b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 5.10	Education, training and lifelong learning: education, skills and lifelong learning by developing education and training infrastructure	Not specified but in practice primarily educational organisations		Promoting pilot projects related to education, research and innovation opportunities associated with Natura 2000 sites and/or their management. For example, piloting the development of PES schemes and other innovative policy tools with stakeholders on Natura 2000 areas	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment (new skills) Education Research and innovation
Article 5.11	Enhancing institutional capacity and efficiency of public authorities and stakeholders: efficiency of public administrations and public services related to the implementation of the ERDF and ESF	Public administrations		Developing pilot projects aimed at improving public administration, including cooperation between relevant authorities on Natura 2000 management (excess to / co-analysis of sectoral information etc.). For example, pilot projects exploring the most cost-effective and successful administrative framework for establishing PES schemes	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods (better governance) Employment (acquiring new skills) Education Research and innovation
Articles 7-9 Articles 10-12	Specific provisions for territorial features: urban areas Areas with special needs: Areas with natural or demographic handicaps	All possible		As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)	As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)
ESF					
Article 3.1(a)	Promoting sustainable and quality employment and supporting labour mobility, e.g. access to employment through local employment initiatives and support for labour mobility; self-employment, entrepreneurship and business creation; adaptation of workers, enterprises and entrepreneurs to change	Not specified		Promoting pilot projects related to employment opportunities associated with Natura 2000 sites and/or their management, especially in the context of SMEs	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment (e.g. SMEs) Education Research and innovation
Article 3.1(b)	Promoting social inclusion, combating poverty and any discrimination through, for example, active inclusion, integration of marginalised communities, promoting the social economy and social enterprises, and community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Educational organisations		Promoting pilot projects related to education, research and innovation opportunities associated with Natura 2000 sites and/or their management. For example, piloting the development of PES schemes and other innovative policy tools with stakeholders on Natura 2000 areas	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment (new skills) Education Research and innovation
Article 3.1(c)	Investing in education, training and vocational training for skills and lifelong learning through, for example, enhancing access to lifelong learning, upgrading the knowledge, skills and competences of the workforce and increasing the labour market relevance of education and training systems	Not specified		Promoting pilot projects on social inclusion with opportunities associated with Natura 2000 sites and/or their management. For example, using Natura 2000 public outreach and information system as a test platform to develop new e-learning systems	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Education Research and innovation Health benefits (mental health via social inclusion)

Measure 4: Pilot projects

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 3.1(d)	Enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and efficient public administration through i) investment in institutional capacity and in the efficiency of public administrations and public services and ii) capacity building for stakeholders delivering education, lifelong learning, training and employment and social policies	Public administrations	See Art 3.1(d i)	Developing pilot projects aimed at improving public administration, including cooperation between relevant authorities on Natura 2000 management (access to / co-analysis of sectoral information etc.). For example, pilot projects exploring the most cost-effective and successful administrative framework for establishing PES schemes	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods (better governance) Employment (acquiring new skills) Education Research and innovation
Cohesion					
Article 4(a)(i)	Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy: production and distribution of energy derived from renewable sources	Not specified	MS with GNI per inhabitant less than 90% of EU27 average	As a part of a larger initiative, could be used to pilot the removal of excess biomass (such as restoration of wetlands overgrown with <i>Phragmites australis</i> due to eutrophication) from Natura 2000 site, including further use of biomass as biofuel	Energy security Climate change mitigation Research and innovation
Article 4(a)(iii)	Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy: energy efficiency, smart energy management and renewable energy use in public infrastructure, including in public buildings, and in the housing sector	Not specified	As above	As a part of a larger initiative, could be used to pilot the use of energy efficient and/or renewable energy using techniques in Natura 2000 related infrastructure, such as visitor centres	Energy security Climate change mitigation Research and innovation
Article 4(a)(v)	Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy: low-carbon strategies for all types of territories, in particular for urban areas	Not specified	As above	As a part of a larger urban initiative, could be used to pilot Natura 2000 as a part of low-carbon and/or energy efficient solutions, such as restoration of Natura 2000 wetlands as a low-energy / carbon solution to manage urban runoff water	Climate change mitigation Climate change adaptation Research and innovation
Article 4(b)(i)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches	Not specified	As above	As a part of a larger initiative, could be used to pilot nature-based solutions to adapt to climate change such as restoring wetlands for water purification, restoring floodplains as part of flood control planning etc.	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards Research and innovation
Article 4(b)(ii)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: addressing specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems	Not specified	As above	As a part of a larger initiative, could be used to pilot nature-based solutions to risk management such as restoring floodplains as part of flood control planning, restoring native vegetation to mitigate risks for wild fires etc.	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards Research and innovation
Article 4(c)(i)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: investment in waste sector	Not specified	As above	In the context of a broader project, could be used to develop small pilot projects alongside larger related development projects, e.g. trial new fish corridors alongside dam developments	Research and innovation Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 4(c)(ii)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: investment in water sector	Not specified	As above	As a part of a larger initiative, could be used to pilot nature-based solutions for water management, such as restoring wetlands for water purification	Water security Research and innovation

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 4(c)(iii)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: protecting and restoring biodiversity, soil protection and restoration and promoting ecosystem services including through Natura 2000 and green infrastructures	Not specified	As above	As a part of a larger initiative, could be used to pilot nature-based solutions for water management, such as restoring wetlands for water management. Also, could be used to improve landscape connectivity and ecosystem resilience via large scale initiatives on connectivity / ecological corridors	Research and innovation Employment (restoration) Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Article 4(c)(iv)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: urban environment, including regeneration of brownfield sites, reduction of air pollution and promoting noise-reduction measures	Not specified	As above	As a part of a larger initiative, could be used to pilot nature-based solutions for sustainable management, such as improving the quality of areas around Natura 2000 sites (buffer zones) by restoring woodland vegetation to purify urban air	Health benefits (due to improved air quality) Research and innovation
Article 4(d)(ii)	Sustainable transport: environment-friendly and low-carbon transport systems to promote sustainable regional and local mobility	Not specified	As above	Pilot new methods of developing nature-friendly/low-risk transport corridors (e.g. new technology for over-passes and under-passes) as a part of larger transport network projects	Recreation and tourism Research and innovation
Article 4(e)	Institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders: institutional capacity and the efficiency of public administrations and public services related to the implementation of the Cohesion Fund	Public administrations	As above	As a part of a larger initiative, could use management of Natura 2000 as a backdrop to pilot approaches and methods aimed at improving public administration, e.g. new methods for sharing sectoral information	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Horizon 2020					
Article 5.2 / Part III / Themes 5, 2 and 4	Research activities related to climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials; food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research, and the bioeconomy; and smart, green and integrated transport	All possible	Transnational cooperation	Supporting pilot projects aimed at trialling new management approaches and methods, for example approaches that aim to establish synergies between reaching conservation objectives while also sustainably utilising sites' ecosystem services (e.g. sustainable bio-economy innovations)	Research and innovation
LIFE					
Articles 18, 19 and 22	Activities and eligibility criteria	All possible			

Measure 5: Preparation of management plans, strategies and schemes

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions re: land type, applicability etc.	Examples	Examples of socio-economic benefits
EAFRD					
Article 20(1)(a)	Basic services and village renewal in rural areas: drawing up and updating development plans including protection and management plans relating to Natura 2000 sites and other areas of high nature value	Public administrations; farmers; foresters; NGOs; private landowners; public landowners; land managers; SMEs; educational organisations	See Art 20(2-3)	This could fund the development of a management plan for a Natura 2000 site in any rural area – e.g. a national park with forest, wetland, riverine areas. Could be a management plan addressing requirements for Natura 2000 farms	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 35	Cooperation: for example joint approaches to environmental projects, ongoing environmental practices and preservation of agricultural landscapes and also cooperation in the context of European Innovation Partnership (EIP)	All (must be a collaboration of actors)	See also Art 35(7-8) Relevant only to: agricultural land; forests	This could support partnerships between farmers, foresters, producers and other rural actors to develop management plans for a Natura 2000 site	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Leader (Articles 42-44)	Support for local action groups and LEADER start-up kits	All (must be Local Action Group)	See Art 44	Local Action Groups could include the development of site management plans as an objective of local development strategy. Projects could then be developed that encourage the sustainable management of environmentally sensitive habitats	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
EMFF					
Article (40)(1)(d)	Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and compensation regimes: studies, drawing-up, monitoring and updating of protection and management plans for fishery-related activities relating to Natura 2000 sites etc.	Fishermen; others (scientists; public authorities; NGOs)		Drawing-up, monitoring and updating of protection and management plans for fishery-related activities relating to Natura 2000 sites	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 79(1)(b)	Protection of the marine environment, in particular biodiversity and MPAs such as Natura 2000 sites, the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources, and the further definition of boundaries of the sustainability of human activities that have an impact on the marine environment	All	See also Art 80	Preparation of management plans, strategies and schemes for the establishment and future management of marine Natura 2000 sites	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site and/or types of measures adopted
Article 83(2)(b)	Support to activities of coordination and cooperation among Member States to develop maritime spatial planning and integrated coastal zone management	Public authorities		Integrating Natura 2000 sites and other MPAs into the management of broader sea-scape	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site

Preparation of management plans, strategies and schemes

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
ERDF (inc. ETC*) ERDF					
Article 5.4(e)	Low-carbon economy: low-carbon strategies for all types of territories, in particular for urban areas	Not specified	Urban areas	Developing Natura 2000 management plans (or parts of plans) as a part of broader strategies aimed at enhancing / promoting low-carbon strategies for urban areas	„Energy security Climate change mitigation“
Article 5.6(c)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage	Not specified		Developing Natura 2000 management plans (or parts of plans) as a part of broader strategies aimed at enhancing / promoting local or regional cultural heritage. Relevant for sites with natural and cultural heritage value	Cultural and natural heritage Recreation and tourism
Article 5.6(d) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (d) protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure, including (f) innovative technologies	Not specified		Developing Natura 2000 management plans (or parts of plans) aimed at enhancing / promoting local or regional sustainable development	Support and diversification of sustainable livelihoods Other direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.6(e) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (e) improving the urban environment including regeneration of brownfield sites and also (f) including innovative technologies	Not specified		As with Article 5.6 (d) but in the urban context	As with Article 5.6 (d) but in the urban context
Article 5.8(b)	Employment and labour mobility: employment-friendly growth through [...] enhancement of accessibility to, and development of, specific natural and cultural resources	Not specified		As a part of a broader business creation and innovation, developing access to Natura 2000 sites to enhance related business opportunities. For example, creating infrastructure related to ecotourism etc.	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
Article 5.9(b) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: physical, economic and social regeneration of deprived communities in urban and rural areas, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		Developing Natura 2000 management plans (or parts of plans) as a part of broader strategies aimed at enhancing / promoting urban or rural sustainable development	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.9(c) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: social enterprises, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		As with Article 5.9 (b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises, e.g. involving unemployed people, people in rehabilitation etc.	As with Article 5.9 (b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises
Articles 7-9 Articles 10-12	Specific provisions for territorial features: urban areas Areas with special needs: Areas with natural or demographic handicaps	All possible		As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)	As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)

Measure 5: Preparation of management plans, strategies and schemes

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
ESF					
Article 3.1(d)	Enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and efficient public administration through i) investment in institutional capacity and in the efficiency of public administrations and public services and ii) capacity building for stakeholders delivering education, lifelong learning, training and employment and social policies	Public administrations	See Art 3.1(d i)	Improving public administration, including cooperation between relevant authorities on Natura 2000 management (access to / co-analysis of sectoral information etc.). For example, promoting the preparation of PES schemes aimed at maintaining and/or restoring Natura 2000 related green infrastructure (e.g. wetlands for water purification)	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods (better governance) Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Cohesion					
Article 4(c)(iii)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: protecting and restoring biodiversity, soil protection and restoration and promoting ecosystem services including through Natura 2000 and green infrastructures	Not specified	MS with GNI per inhabitant less than 90% of EU27 average	In the context of broader strategies, developing Natura 2000 management plans (or parts of plans) aimed at enhancing / promoting local or regional sustainable development	Support and diversification of sustainable livelihoods Other direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Horizon 2020					
Not applicable					
LIFE					
Articles 18, 19 and 22	Activities and eligibility criteria	All possible			

Establishment of management bodies

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions re: land type, applicability etc.	Examples	Examples of socio-economic benefits
EAFRD					
Article 35	Cooperation: for example joint approaches to environmental projects, ongoing environmental practices and preservation of agricultural landscapes and also cooperation in the context of European Innovation Partnership (EIP)	All (must be a collaboration of actors)	See also Art 35(7-8) Relevant only to: agricultural land; forests	This could support some costs of the newly shaped management bodies if they involve at least two types of partners such as: farmers, food producers, foresters and other rural actors. The support can cover organisation of training, networking and the recruitment of new members, as well as the running costs of co-operation. Could also support public/private partnerships	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Leader (Articles 42-44)	Support for local action groups and LEADER start-up kits	All (must be Local Action Group)	See Art 44	In the context of a local development strategy, site-specific Natura management bodies could be established, perhaps as public/private partnerships	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
EMFF					
Article 92(c)	Technical assistance at the initiative of the Commission: technical assistance, the setting up of a European network of Fisheries Local Action Groups (FLAGs) aiming at capacity building, disseminating information, exchanging experience and best practice and supporting cooperation between local partnerships	Public authorities; fishermen; NGOs; others		FLAGs could have an active role in the management of a Natura site	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
ERDF (inc. ETC*)					
Article 5.6(d) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (d) protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure, including (f) innovative technologies	Not specified		One-off investment in establishing and/or "upgrading" Natura 2000 management bodies (e.g. facilities and IT solutions)	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.6(e) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (e) improving the urban environment including regeneration of brownfield sites and also (f) including innovative technologies	Not specified		As with Article 5.6 (d) but in the urban context	As with Article 5.6 (d) but in the urban context.
Article 5.9(b) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: physical, economic and social regeneration of deprived communities in urban and rural areas, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		Improving sustainable environmental governance at urban or rural areas by establishing new management structures. Such structures could also be aimed at coordinating / improving the management of Natura 2000 sites (e.g. governance of PES schemes)	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.9(c) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: social enterprises, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		As with Article 5.9 (b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises, e.g. involving unemployed people, people in rehabilitation etc.	As with Article 5.9 (b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises

Measure 6: Establishment of management bodies

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 5.10	Education, training and lifelong learning: education, skills and lifelong learning by developing education and training infrastructure	Not specified but in practice primarily educational organisations		Integrating (certain aspects of) Natura 2000 management into broader education and training infrastructure	Education Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.11	Enhancing institutional capacity and efficiency of public authorities and stakeholders: efficiency of public administrations and public services related to the implementation of the ERDF and ESF	Public administrations		Improving sustainable environmental governance by establishing new management structures. Such structures could also be aimed at coordinating / improving the management of Natura 2000 sites (e.g. governance of PES schemes)	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Articles 7-9 Articles 10-12	Specific provisions for territorial features: urban areas Areas with special needs: Areas with natural or demographic handicaps	All possible		As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)	As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)
ESF					
Article 3.1(d)	Enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and efficient public administration through i) investment in institutional capacity and in the efficiency of public administrations and public services and ii) capacity building for stakeholders delivering education, lifelong learning, training and employment and social policies	Public administrations	See Art 3.1 (d i)	Improving public administration, including cooperation between relevant authorities on Natura 2000 management (access to / co-analysis of sectoral information etc.)	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods (better governance) Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site.
Cohesion					
Article 4(c)(iii)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: protecting and restoring biodiversity, soil protection and restoration and promoting ecosystem services including through Natura 2000 and green infrastructures	Not specified	MS with GNI per inhabitant less than 90% of EU27 average	As part of larger initiative, one-off investment in establishing and/or „upgrading“ Natura 2000 management bodies (e.g. facilities and IT solutions)	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Horizon 2020					
Not applicable					
LIFE					
Articles 18, 19 and 22	Activities and eligibility criteria	All possible			

Consultation – public meetings, liaison with landowners

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions re: land type, applicability etc.	Examples	Examples of socio-economic benefits
EAFRD					
Article 35	Cooperation: for example joint approaches to environmental projects, ongoing environmental practices and preservation of agricultural landscapes and also cooperation in the context of European Innovation Partnership (EIP)	All (must be a collaboration of actors)	See also Art 35(7-8) Relevant only to: agricultural land; forests	Could support networking and capacity building as long as this can be linked to an environmental objective. Could be used (for example) to share experiences of rural communities in managing Natura; highlight commercial and social opportunities; disseminate information to landowners, or to co-develop closed local resource loops, or local added value chains linked to Natura management	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods; Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Leader (Articles 42-44)	Support for local action groups and LEADER start-up kits	All (must be Local Action Group)	See Art 44	Could support networking on a regional or wider basis (in relation to local development plans) to encourage uptake of best practice. Could be used (for example) to share experiences of rural communities in managing Natura; highlight commercial and social opportunities; or to disseminate information to landowners	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods; Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
EMFF					
Article 37(1)(b)	Design and implementation of conservation measures and regional cooperation: stakeholder participation and cooperation between Member States	Public authorities		This measure could fund collaboration with stakeholders in the design and implementation of MPAs	Food security (sustainable fisheries and fish stocks) Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods
Article 40(1)(g)	Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and compensation regimes: increasing environmental awareness, involving Fishermen, with regard to the protection and restoration of marine biodiversity	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen; NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen / FLAGs		Involving fishermen in Natura 2000 related planning and management, though public consultation and meetings etc.	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 63	Community-led local development strategies: strengthening the role of fisheries communities in local development and the governance of local fisheries resources and maritime activities	Fishermen, others	See Art 63.2	Strengthening the role of fisheries communities in local development could translate to consulting them more frequently on local development issues	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods
Article 79(1)(b)	Protection of the marine environment, in particular biodiversity and MPAs such as Natura 2000 sites, the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources, and the further definition of boundaries of the sustainability of human activities that have an impact on the marine environment	All	See also Art 80	Support to public meetings and stakeholder consultations activities related to the management of marine Natura 2000 sites	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site and/or types of measures adopted

Measure 7:**Consultation – public meetings, liaison with landowners**

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 83(1)(c)	Support to Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP): public information, publicity campaigns, stakeholder platforms, communications, to promote protection of the marine environment	Fishermen; public authorities; NGOs		This measure could fund public meetings among stakeholders, or establish stakeholder platforms, with links to Natura 2000 management and planning	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods
Article 83(1)(d)(e)	Support to Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP): conferences, seminars, fora and workshops, coordination activities, including information-sharing networks, and development support for sea-basin strategies	Fishermen; public authorities; NGOs		This measure could fund public meetings among stakeholders, or establish stakeholder platforms, with links to Natura 2000 management and planning	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods
Article 91(b)	Communication activities under the CFP and the IMP: travel and accommodation costs of stakeholder representatives invited by the Commission to meetings	Fishermen; aquaculturists; NGOs, others		Funding of fisheries industry representatives invited to participate in Commission events relating to Natura 2000 and MPAs	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
ERDF (inc. ETC*)					
Article 5.1(b)	Strengthening research, technological development and innovation: business R&I investment in innovation and research [...]	Not specified		Exploring possibilities for cooperation and establishing synergies between Natura 2000 and R&I community, in the context of broader R&I planning	Research and innovation
Article 5.2(c)	Information and communication technologies (ICT): ICT applications for e-government, e-learning, e-inclusion and e-health	Not specified		As a part of a broader ICT project, exploring active cooperation between ICT innovations and Natura 2000 sites. For example, piloting e-solutions for stakeholder consultations	Research and innovation
Article 5.3(a)(c)	SME competitiveness: entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms	SMEs		In the context of broader initiatives aimed at job creation and employment, establishing cooperation between Natura 2000 management and the entrepreneurship “community”. This could further lead to benefits to both Natura 2000 sites (visibility and income) and entrepreneurs (new business opportunities and branding)	Employment Education (skill development)
Article 5.4(a)	Low-carbon economy: energy derived from renewable sources	Not specified		Exploring possibilities for cooperation between Natura 2000 and stakeholders of energy sector, for example, to explore the possibilities for sustainable biofuel production at / around Natura 2000 sites	Energy security Climate change mitigation
Article 5.4(e)	Low-carbon economy: low-carbon strategies for all types of territories, in particular for urban areas	Not specified		Consultation to scope for cooperation between urban stakeholders, to utilise the possibilities for low-carbon solutions provided by Natura 2000 areas (e.g. nature-based solutions for mitigation and adaptation)	Energy security Climate change mitigation
Article 5.5(a)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches	Not specified		Consultation to scope for cooperation between urban stakeholders, to utilise Natura 2000 related, ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change adaptation (e.g. mitigation of environmental risks)	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards

Consultation – public meetings, liaison with landowners

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 5.5(b)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: addressing specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems	Not specified		Consultation to scope for cooperation between urban stakeholders, to utilise Natura 2000 related, ecosystem-based mitigation of environmental risks	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Article 5.6(a) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (a) waste sector, including (f) promoting innovative technologies	Not specified		Consultation to scope for cooperation between waste sector and other relevant stakeholders, to adopt ecosystem-based waste management. For example, restoring wetlands to support the purification of runoff water and/or explore possibilities to establish PES schemes for water purification between land managers and water sector	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.6(b) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (b) water sector, including (f) promoting innovative technologies	Not specified		Consultation to scope for cooperation between water sector and other relevant stakeholders, to adopt ecosystem-based water management. For example, restoring wetlands to support the purification of runoff water and/or explore possibilities to establish PES schemes for water management between land managers and water sector	Water security
Article 5.6(c)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage	Not specified		Consultation to scope for cooperation between different urban or rural stakeholders, for example, to explore their interest to be involved in / support Natura 2000 management activities contributing to the maintenance of natural and cultural heritage	Cultural and natural heritage Recreation and tourism
Article 5.6(d) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (d) protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure, including (f) innovative technologies	Not specified		Consultation to scope for cooperation between different urban or rural stakeholders, for example, to explore their interest to be involved in / support Natura 2000 management activities (e.g. PES schemes)	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.6(e) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (e) improving the urban environment including regeneration of brownfield sites and also (f) including innovative technologies	Not specified		As with Article 5.6 (d) but in the urban context	As with Article 5.6 (d) but in the urban context.
Article 5.9(b) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: physical, economic and social regeneration of deprived communities in urban and rural areas, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		Consultation to scope for cooperation between different urban or rural stakeholders, for example, to explore their interest to be involved in / support Natura 2000 management activities	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site

Measure 7:**Consultation – public meetings, liaison with landowners**

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 5.9(c) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: social enterprises, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		As with Article 5.9 (b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises, e.g. involving unemployed people, people in rehabilitation etc.	As with Article 5.9 (b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises
Article 5.11	Enhancing institutional capacity and an efficient public administration by strengthening of institutional capacity and the efficiency of public administrations and public services related to implementation of the ERDF, and in support of actions in institutional capacity and in the efficiency of public administration supported by the ESF	Public administrations		Consultation to scope for cooperation between different sectoral administrations, to explore their capacity and capability to be involved in / support Natura 2000 management activities	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Articles 7-9 Articles 10-12	Specific provisions for territorial features: urban areas Areas with special needs: Areas with natural or demographic handicaps	All possible		As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)	As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)
ESF					
Article 3.1(a)	Promoting sustainable and quality employment and supporting labour mobility, e.g. access to employment through local employment initiatives and support for labour mobility; self-employment, entrepreneurship and business creation; adaptation of workers, enterprises and entrepreneurs to change	Not specified		As a part of broader initiative, carrying out dedicated meetings / consultation to inform stakeholders about the socio-economic benefits and/or opportunities of well-managed Natura 2000 sites. Furthermore, explore public-private partnerships with SMEs etc.	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment (e.g. SMEs)
Article 3.1(b)	Promoting social inclusion, combating poverty and any discrimination through, for example, active inclusion, integration of marginalised communities, promoting the social economy and social enterprises, and community-led local development (CLLD) (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		As a part of broader local development strategies, carrying out dedicated meetings / consultation to explore – and secure equitable sharing of – different benefits provided by Natura 2000 to different stakeholders (economic and welfare values, conflicting interest etc.)	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Education Research and innovation Health benefits (mental health via social inclusion)
Article 3.1(d)	Enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and efficient public administration through i) investment in institutional capacity and in the efficiency of public administrations and public services and ii) capacity building for stakeholders delivering education, lifelong learning, training and employment and social policies	Public administrations	See Art 3.1 (d i)	As a part of broader local development strategies, carrying out dedicated meetings / consultation to explore how to improve cooperation between administrative bodies and/or administrative bodies and stakeholders, with a view to improve environmental governance (e.g. explore the possibilities to establish PES schemes between stakeholders to support Natura 2000)	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site

Consultation – public meetings, liaison with landowners

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Cohesion					
Article 4(b)(i)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches	Not specified	MS with GNI per inhabitant less than 90% of EU27 average	As part of a larger initiative, consultation to scope for cooperation between urban stakeholders, to utilise Natura 2000 related, ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change adaptation (e.g. mitigation of environmental risks)	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Article 4(c)(iii)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: protecting and restoring biodiversity, soil protection and restoration and promoting ecosystem services including through Natura 2000 and green infrastructures	Not specified	As above	As part of a larger initiative, consultation to scope for cooperation between different urban or rural stakeholders, for example, to explore their interest to be involved in / support Natura 2000 management activities (e.g. PES schemes)	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Horizon 2020					
Article 5.2 / Part III / Themes 5, 2 and 4	Research activities related to climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials; food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research, and the bioeconomy; and smart, green and integrated transport	All possible	Transnational cooperation	Support to stakeholder workshops in the context of a research project, for example a pilot project aiming to identify possible socio-economic benefits of Natura 2000 site and assess the acceptability of novel management practices building on these benefits (e.g. consultations to explore the willingness for PES schemes)	Research and innovation
LIFE					
Articles 18, 19 and 22	Activities and eligibility criteria	All possible			

Measure 8:
Review of management plans, strategies and schemes

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions re: land type, applicability etc.	Examples	Examples of socio-economic benefits
EAFRD					
Article 20(1)(a)	Basic services and village renewal in rural areas: drawing up and updating development plans including protection and management plans relating to Natura 2000 sites and other areas of high nature value	Public administrations; farmers; foresters; NGOs; private landowners; public landowners; land managers; SMEs; educational organisations	See Art 20(2-3)	Review of management plans, strategies and schemes to keep track of progress and support success of, for example, future eco-tourism	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods with concrete opportunities depending on the characteristics of a site (e.g. recreation & tourism)
Leader (Articles 42-44)	Support for local action groups and LEADER start-up kits	All (must be Local Action Group)	See Art 44	Could support review of schemes where this is relevant for local development goals – e.g. revisit management plans to enable a greater focus on community engagement and educational opportunities (in partnership with relevant authorities)	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods with concrete opportunities depending on the characteristics of a site (e.g. recreation & tourism)
EMFF					
Article (40)(1)(c-f) (i)	Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and compensation regimes: (c) better management or conservation of marine biological resources, (d) studies, drawing-up, monitoring and updating of protection and management plans for fishery-related activities relating to Natura 2000 sites etc., (e) management, restoration and monitoring of Natura 2000 sites, (f) management, restoration and monitoring of MPAs in view of the implementation of the MSFD, (i) other actions aimed at maintaining and enhancing biodiversity and ecosystem services	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen which are recognised by the Member State, or by NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen or in partnership with FLAGs	See Art 40.2	Could support review of management plans where this forms an integral part of the conservation and sustainable management of resources	Food security Protection against natural hazards Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods with concrete opportunities depend on the characteristics of a site (e.g. recreation & tourism)
Article 79(1)(b)	Protection of the marine environment, in particular biodiversity and MPAs such as Natura 2000 sites, the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources, and the further definition of boundaries of the sustainability of human activities that have an impact on the marine environment	All	See also Art 80	Review of Natura 2000 management plans, for example to take into consideration synergies with coastal and marine ecosystem services	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site and/or types of measures adopted
Article 83(2)(b)	Support to Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP): coordination and cooperation among Member States to develop maritime spatial planning and integrated coastal zone management	Public authorities	Spatial planning between two or more MS	Review of management plans, strategies and schemes in the context of broader maritime spatial planning	Protection against natural hazards Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods with concrete opportunities depending on the characteristics of a site (e.g. recreation & tourism)

Review of management plans, strategies and schemes

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
ERDF (inc. ETC*)					
Article 5.2(c)	Information and communication technologies (ICT): ICT applications for e-government, e-learning, e-inclusion and e-health	Not specified		As a part of a broader ICT project, exploring active cooperation between ICT innovations and Natura 2000 sites. For example, new ways of making plans available online, development of integrated spatial planning tools to avoid conflicts with different land-uses and conservation goals etc.	Research and innovation
Article 5.3(a)(c)	SME competitiveness: entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms	SMEs		As a part of broader sustainable development strategy, review and updating Natura 2000 management plans to include cooperation with SMEs (e.g. recreation and tourism, nature-based infrastructure development, sustainable bioinnovations etc.). This could further lead to benefits to both Natura 2000 sites (visibility and income) and entrepreneurs (new business opportunities and branding)	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment (e.g. SMEs) Education
Article 5.4(a)	Low-carbon economy: energy derived from renewable sources	Not specified		As a part of broader sustainable development strategy, review and updating Natura 2000 management plans to include cooperation / joint management initiatives with renewable energy sector (e.g. removal of excess biomass from Natura 2000 sites)	Energy security Climate change mitigation
Article 5.4(e)	Low-carbon economy: low-carbon strategies for all types of territories, in particular for urban areas	Not specified		As a part of broader sustainable development strategy, review and updating Natura 2000 management plans to integrate low-carbon initiatives (e.g. nature-based solutions for climate change mitigation in urban areas)	Energy security Climate change mitigation
Article 5.5(a)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches	Not specified		As a part of broader sustainable development strategy, review and updating Natura 2000 management plans to integrate possible nature-based solutions for climate change adaptation (e.g. wetland restoration, flood plain creation etc.)	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Article 5.5(b)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: addressing specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems	Not specified		As a part of broader sustainable development strategy, review and updating Natura 2000 management plans to integrate possible nature-based solutions for risk prevention (e.g. wetland restoration, flood plain creation etc.)	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Article 5.6(c)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage	Not specified		As a part of broader sustainable development strategy, review and updating Natura 2000 management plans to integrate possible initiatives promoting cultural heritage on Natura 2000 sites	

Measure 8: Review of management plans, strategies and schemes

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 5.6(d) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (d) protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure, including (f) innovative technologies	Not specified		Review and updating Natura 2000 management plans to integrate possible initiatives on green infrastructure (e.g. wetland restoration, flood plain creation, nature-based solutions for soil erosion control etc.)	Cultural and natural heritage Recreation and tourism
Article 5.6(e) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (e) improving the urban environment including regeneration of brownfield sites and also (f) including innovative technologies	Not specified		As with Article 5.6 (d) but in the urban context.	As with Article 5.6 (d) but in the urban context
Article 5.9(a) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: (b) health and social infrastructure [...] also through cultural and recreational services, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		As a part of broader health strategy, review and updating Natura 2000 management plans to integrate possible initiatives related to nature and health (e.g. promoting of Natura 2000 sites as „natural gyms“)	Health benefits (physical and mental) Support of sustainable rural livelihoods
Article 5.9(b) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: physical, economic and social regeneration of deprived communities in urban and rural areas, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		As a part of broader sustainable urban / rural development strategy, review and updating Natura 2000 management plans to proactively promote and manage socio-economic benefits	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.9(c) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: social enterprises, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		As with Article 5.9(b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises, e.g. involving unemployed people, people in rehabilitation etc.	As with Article 5.9(b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises
Article 5.11	Enhancing institutional capacity and efficiency of public authorities and stakeholders: efficiency of public administrations and public services related to the implementation of the ERDF and ESF	Public administrations		As a part of broader review of environmental and/or natural resource governance, review and update the requirements and mechanisms for cooperation between different sectoral administrations involved in Natura 2000 management	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Articles 7-9 Articles 10-12	Specific provisions for territorial features: urban areas Areas with special needs: Areas with natural or demographic handicaps	All possible		As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)	As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)
ESF					
Article 3.1(a)	Promoting sustainable and quality employment and supporting labour mobility, e.g. access to employment through local employment initiatives and support for labour mobility; self-employment, entrepreneurship and business creation; adaptation of workers, enterprises and entrepreneurs to change	Not specified		As a part of broader local development strategy, review and updating Natura 2000 management plans to include cooperation with SMEs (e.g. recreation and tourism, nature-based infrastructure development etc.)	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment (e.g. SMEs) Education

Review of management plans, strategies and schemes

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 3.1(b)	Promoting social inclusion, combating poverty and any discrimination through, for example, active inclusion, integration of marginalised communities, promoting the social economy and social enterprises, and community-led local development (CLLD) (CLLD) strategies	Educational organisations		As a part of broader local development strategy, review and updating Natura 2000 management plans to include cooperation with educational organisations, research and innovation	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment (acquiring new skills) Education Research and innovation
Article 3.1(c)	Investing in education, training and vocational training for skills and lifelong learning through, for example, enhancing access to lifelong learning, upgrading the knowledge, skills and competences of the workforce and increasing the labour market relevance of education and training systems	Not specified		As a part of broader local development strategy, review and updating Natura 2000 management plans to include initiatives that benefit both site management and social inclusion (job opportunities for unemployed people, activities targeted to marginalised communities etc.)	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods) Education Health benefits (mental health via social inclusion)
Article 3.1(d)	Enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and efficient public administration through i) investment in institutional capacity and in the efficiency of public administrations and public services and ii) capacity building for stakeholders delivering education, lifelong learning, training and employment and social policies	Public administrations	See Art 3.1(d i)	As a part of broader local development strategy, review and updating Natura 2000 management plans to include activities aimed at improving environmental governance, e.g. cooperation between different sectors	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Cohesion					
Article 4(b)(i)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches	Not specified	MS with GNI per inhabitant less than 90% of EU27 average	As a part of broader sustainable development strategy, review and updating Natura 2000 management plans to integrate possible nature-based solutions for climate change adaptation (e.g. wetland restoration, flood plain creation etc.)	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Article 4(c)(iii)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: protecting and restoring biodiversity, soil protection and restoration and promoting ecosystem services including through Natura 2000 and green infrastructures	Not specified	As above	As a part of broader sustainable development strategy, review and updating Natura 2000 management plans to integrate possible initiatives on green infrastructure (e.g. wetland restoration, flood plain creation, nature-based solutions for soil erosion control etc.)	Cultural and natural heritage Recreation and tourism
Horizon 2020					
Article 5.2 / Part III / Themes 5, 2 and 4	Research activities related to climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials; food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research, and the bioeconomy; and smart, green and integrated transport	All possible	Transnational cooperation	Support for research projects / components of research projects aimed at determining effectiveness of original management plans and developing ideas to be included in future management of sites (e.g. integrating management of ecosystem services into the management plans, updating plans to integrate aspects of food and water security etc.)	Research and innovation
LIFE					
Articles 18, 19 and 22	Activities and eligibility criteria	All possible			

Measure 9:
Running costs of management bodies

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions re: land type, applicability etc.	Examples	Examples of socio-economic benefits
EAFRD					
Article 35	Cooperation: for example joint approaches to environmental projects, ongoing environmental practices and preservation of agricultural landscapes and also cooperation in the context of European Innovation Partnership (EIP)	All (must be a collaboration of actors)	See also Art 35(7-8) Relevant only to: agricultural land; forests	Support to running costs of management related to forest Natura 2000 sites, with links to sustainable food production	Food security Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Leader (Articles 42-44)	Support for local action groups and LEADER start-up kits	All (must be Local Action Group)	See Art 44	Support to running costs of management related to Natura 2000 sites when linked with / integral part of the local development strategy	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
EMFF					
Not applicable					
ERDF (inc. ETC*)					
Not applicable					
ESF					
Not applicable					
Cohesion					
Not applicable					
Horizon 2020					
Not applicable					
LIFE					
Articles 18, 19 and 22	Activities and eligibility criteria	All possible			

Maintenance of facilities for public access

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions re: land type, applicability etc.	Examples	Examples of socio-economic benefits
EAFRD					
Article 17(1)(d)	Investments in physical assets: non-productive investments linked to the achievement of agri- environment – climate objectives, including biodiversity conservation status of species and habitat as well as enhancing the public amenity value of a Natura 2000 area or other high nature value systems to be defined in the programme	All		For example, if required for Natura 2000 objectives: maintaining temporary fencing or pathways to keep tourists away from wetlands, peatlands and waterways	Recreation and tourism, and related employment Cultural and natural heritage
Article 21(1)(d)	Basic services and village renewal in rural areas: investments in basic rural services and infrastructure	Public administrations; farmers; foresters; NGOs; private landowners; public landowners; land managers; SMEs; educational organisations	See Art 20(2-3)	For example, maintenance of public restrictions or temporary fencing or pathways to keep tourists away from wetlands, peatlands and waterways	Recreation and tourism, and related employment
Article 35	Cooperation: for example joint approaches to environmental projects, ongoing environmental practices and preservation of agricultural landscapes and also cooperation in the context of European Innovation Partnership (EIP)	All (must be a collaboration of actors)	See also Art 35(7-8) Relevant only to: agricultural land; forests	This could support partnerships between farmers, foresters, producers and other rural actors to maintain shared areas for example, maintenance of public restrictions or temporary fencing or pathways to keep tourists away from wetlands, peatlands and waterways. If required by a specific project under a local development strategy or under a business plan involving partnerships between farmers, foresters, producers and other rural actors: maintaining shared areas for access to Natura 2000 sites; maintaining public restrictions or fencing or maintaining pathways to keep tourists away from wetlands, peatlands and waterways	Recreation and tourism, and related employment
Leader (Articles 42-44)	Support for local action groups and LEADER start-up kits	All (must be Local Action Group)	See Art 44	For example, maintenance of public restrictions or temporary fencing or pathways to keep tourists away from wetlands, peatlands and waterways	Recreation and tourism, and related employment
EMFF					
Article 30(1)	Diversification and new forms of income: diversification of the income of Fishermen through the development of complementary activities, including investments on board, angling tourism, restaurants, environmental services related to fishing and educational activities concerning fishing	Fishermen	See Art 30(2-4)	Small scale vessels could be converted to vessels for other purposes (e.g. research, tourism, control)	Recreation and tourism Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment Education Research and innovation

Measure 10:
Maintenance of facilities for public access

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 44(4)	Inland fishing and inland aquatic fauna and flora: diversification of inland fishing activities to complementary activities under the conditions laid down in Article 30	Fishermen		Investments in angling tourism, restaurants, environmental services related to fishing and educational activities concerning fishing, with support to Natura 2000 sites	Recreation and tourism Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment Education Research and innovation
Article 79(1)(b)	Protection of the marine environment, in particular biodiversity and MPAs such as Natura 2000 sites, the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources, and the further definition of boundaries of the sustainability of human activities that have an impact on the marine environment	All	See also Art 80	Investments in public access to coastal and marine Natura 2000 sites, with possible links to recreation and related business opportunities	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site and/or types of measures adopted
ERDF (inc. ETC*)					
Article 5.1(a)	Strengthening research, technological development and innovation: research and innovation (R&I) infrastructure	Not specified		As a part of a broader R&I project, supporting establishment of field bases (e.g. scientific institutions) that are linked with the management structures of protected areas.	Research and innovation
Article 5.2(c)	Information and communication technologies (ICT): ICT applications for e-government, e-learning, e-inclusion and e-health	Not specified		Investment in novel and innovative mechanisms for public access (e.g. access to information on using Natura 2000 sites), likely as a part of broader ICT initiative	Recreation and tourism Education Research and innovation
Article 5.3(a)(c)	SME competitiveness: entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms	SMEs		Investment in infrastructure that facilitates business opportunities related to Natura 2000 sites, such as footpaths and camping facilities	Employment Education (skill development)
Article 5.4(c)	Low-carbon economy: energy efficiency, smart energy management and renewable energy use in public infrastructures and in the housing sector	Not specified		As a part of a larger initiative, could be used to develop energy efficient and/or renewable energy using techniques in Natura 2000 related infrastructure, such as visitor centres and other facilities	Energy security Climate change mitigation
Article 5.6(c)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage	Not specified		Investment in infrastructure that increases the cultural heritage value of Natura 2000 sites, such as development of information boards on the links between cultural and natural heritage in the area	Cultural and natural heritage Recreation and tourism
Article 5.6(d) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (d) protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure, including (f) innovative technologies	Not specified		Investment in infrastructure that supports public access to Natura 2000 sites and in this way supports conservation efforts. Investment in infrastructure that prevents the over-use and degradation (e.g. soil erosion) of sensitive areas within Natura 2000 sites	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.6(e) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (e) improving the urban environment including regeneration of brownfield sites and also (f) including innovative technologies	Not specified		Investment in urban regeneration that both provides benefits to biodiversity (e.g. improves ecological connectivity in the vicinity of Natura 2000 sites) and facilitates public access to green urban environment	Several direct / concrete benefits, depending on the characteristics of a site

Maintenance of facilities for public access

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 5.7(c)	Sustainable transport: environment-friendly and low-carbon transport systems to promote sustainable regional and local mobility	Not specified		As a part of larger transport network projects, develop nature-friendly/ low-risk transport corridors that facilitate public access to Natura 2000 sites, increasing visitor flows	Recreation and tourism
Article 5.8(b)	Employment and labour mobility: employment-friendly growth through [...] enhancement of accessibility to, and development of, specific natural and cultural resources	Not specified		As a part of broader business creation and innovation, developing access to Natura 2000 sites to enhance related business opportunities. For example, creating infrastructure related to ecotourism etc.	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
Article 5.9(a) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: (b) health and social infrastructure [...] also through cultural and recreational services, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		Investment in infrastructure that supports public access to and use of Natura 2000 areas for recreation, bringing health benefits	Health benefits (physical and mental) Support of sustainable rural livelihoods
Article 5.9(b) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: physical, economic and social regeneration of deprived communities in urban and rural areas, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		Investment in infrastructure that supports integration of Natura 2000 sites into broader urban and rural regeneration, such infrastructure for public access (public, wellbeing benefits) and business development (private, economic benefits)	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.9(c) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: social enterprises, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		As with Article 5.9 (b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises, e.g. involving unemployed people, people in rehabilitation etc.	As with Article 5.9 (b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises
Article 5.10	Education, training and lifelong learning: education, skills and lifelong learning by developing education and training infrastructure	Not specified but in practice primarily educational organisations		Investment in infrastructure that supports the use of Natura 2000 sites in broader environmental education (e.g. visitor centres with research / training facilities)	Education Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Articles 7-9 Articles 10-12	Specific provisions for territorial features: urban areas Areas with special needs: Areas with natural or demographic handicaps	All possible		As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)	As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)
ESF					
Article 3.1(b)	Promoting social inclusion, combating poverty and any discrimination through, for example, active inclusion, integration of marginalised communities, promoting the social economy and social enterprises, and community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		As a part of broader local development strategy, establishing facilities that allow access to all to Natura 2000 sites (e.g. easy access to recreational benefits) and/or related information (e.g. e-learning platforms)	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods) Health benefits (mental health via social inclusion)
Cohesion					
Article 4(a)(iii)	Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy: energy efficiency, smart energy management and renewable energy use in public infrastructure, including in public buildings, and in the housing sector	Not specified	MS with GNI per inhabitant less than 90% of EU27 average	As a part of a larger initiative, could be used to pilot the use of energy efficient and/or renewable energy using techniques in Natura 2000 related infrastructure, such as visitor centres and other facilities	Energy security Climate change mitigation

Measure 10:
Maintenance of facilities for public access

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 4(c)(iii)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: protecting and restoring biodiversity, soil protection and restoration and promoting ecosystem services including through Natura 2000 and green infrastructures	Not specified	As above	Investment in infrastructure that supports public access to Natura 2000 sites and in this way supports conservation efforts. Investment in infrastructure that prevents the over-use and degradation (e.g. soil erosion) of sensitive areas within Natura 2000 sites	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Article 4(d)(ii)	Sustainable transport: environment-friendly and low-carbon transport systems to promote sustainable regional and local mobility	Not specified	As above	As a part of larger transport network projects, develop nature-friendly/low-risk transport corridors that facilitate public access to Natura 2000 sites, increasing visitor flows	Recreation and tourism
Horizon 2020					
Not applicable					
LIFE					
Articles 18, 19 and 22	Activities and eligibility criteria	All possible			

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions re: land type, applicability etc.	Examples	Examples of socio-economic benefits
EAFRD					
Article 35	Cooperation: for example joint approaches to environmental projects, ongoing environmental practices and preservation of agricultural landscapes and also cooperation in the context of European Innovation Partnership (EIP)	All (must be a collaboration of actors)	See also Art 35(7-8) Relevant only to: agricultural land; forests	Staff costs linked specifically with organising / facilitating cooperation between relevant stakeholders (agriculture, food chain, forestry, rural development)	Employment Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
EMFF					
Not applicable					
ERDF (inc. ETC*)					
Not applicable					
ESF					
Not applicable					
Cohesion					
Not applicable					
Horizon 2020					
Not applicable					
LIFE					
Articles 18, 19 and 22	Activities and eligibility criteria	All possible			

Measure 12:
Conservation management measures – habitats

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions re: land type, applicability etc.	Examples	Examples of socio-economic benefits
EAFRD					
Article 16	Quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs: participation by farmers and groups of farmers in quality/ value added product or certification schemes	Farmers; groups of farmers	Only possible where permitted in the Implementing Acts and Delegated Acts	Can be used to help Natura 2000 farmers gain access to markets for certified / value added products, in this way supporting income streams and enabling continued management of Natura 2000 sites.	Food security Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods
Article 17(1)(d)	Investments in physical assets: non-productive investments linked to the achievement of agri- environment – climate objectives, including biodiversity conservation status of species and habitat as well as enhancing the public amenity value of a Natura 2000 area or other high nature value systems to be defined in the programme	All		For example, if required for Natura 2000 objectives: Could enable capital investments needed for the restoration of wetlands. Could support artificial nests and nest boxes installation; perching poles installation; restoring or introducing hedges and other boundary features and terraces. Could support establishment of small vegetated ponds. Could support restoration of local riverine habitats through removal of modifications to waterways, and restorative planting	Cultural and natural heritage Recreation and tourism, including related employment Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 18	Restoring agricultural production potential damaged by natural disasters and catastrophic events: preventive actions aimed at reducing the consequences of probable natural disasters	Farmers; groups of farmers, or public entities where a link between the investment and agricultural production potential can be established	Support is only offered where damage affects at least 30 % of agricultural potential Relevant only to: agricultural land	Could support projects aimed at restoring agricultural production potential damaged by natural hazards, linking with a risk management strategy and habitat restoration in Natura 2000 sites	Protection against natural hazards Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 20(1)(e)	Basic services and village renewal in rural areas: investments for public use in recreational infrastructure, tourist information and small scale tourism infrastructure	Public administrations; farmers; foresters; NGOs; private landowners; public landowners; land managers; SMEs; educational organisations	See Art 20(2-3)	Could fund, for example, rural eco-tourism initiatives	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, e.g. recreation and tourism
Article 20(1)(f)	Basic services and village renewal in rural areas: studies and investments associated with maintenance, restoration and upgrading of the cultural and natural heritage, rural landscapes and high nature value sites	Public administrations; farmers; foresters; NGOs; private landowners; public landowners; land managers; SMEs; educational organisations	See Art 20(2-3)	For example, if required for Natura 2000 objectives: Could enable capital investments needed for the restoration of wetlands. Could support artificial nests and nest boxes installation; perching poles installation. Could support establishment of small vegetated ponds. Could support restoration of local riverine habitats through removal of modifications to waterways, and restorative planting	Cultural and natural heritage Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site

Conservation management measures – habitats

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 21(1)(a) and Article 22	Forest area development and improvement of the viability of forests: afforestation and creation of woodland using species adapted to environmental and climatic conditions	Private landholders; public landholders	See Art 22 Both agricultural and non-agricultural land	NOTE: Be careful to avoid adverse effects of intensive forestry. Could fund restoration of patches of native forests, where these have been lost; could link to other restoration projects to facilitate creation of a contiguous network of Natura 2000 sites. Careful consideration of biodiversity interest needs to be given in cases of afforestation as the biodiversity value of an area could decrease following afforestation, depending on what has been replaced. Afforested land could help develop wildlife corridors between Natura sites	Climate change mitigation Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods
Article 21(1)(b) and Article 23	Forest area development and improvement of the viability of forests: establishment of agroforestry systems	Private landholders; other (municipalities)	See Art 23 Relevant only to: agricultural land	Could enable restoration of degraded permanent grasslands by introducing a system close to traditional wooded pasture	Climate change mitigation Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods
Article 21(1)(c) and Article 24	Forest area development and improvement of the viability of forests: prevention and restoration of damage to forests from forest fires and natural disasters and catastrophic events	Private and public forest holders; other private law and public bodies	Damage must affect at least 30% of relevant forest potential Relevant only to: forests	Replanting with native trees to restore lost forest ecosystems and eventually encourage restoration of natural habitats and return of rare species	Climate change mitigation Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods
Article 21(1)(d) and Article 25	Forest area development and improvement of the viability of forests: resilience and environmental value of forest ecosystems, e.g. climate change mitigation potential	Private forest holders; public forest holders; other private law and public bodies	For holdings above a certain size, the activity must be linked to the national forest management plan or an equivalent instrument Relevant only to: agricultural land; Other non-agricultural land	Replanting with native trees to restore lost forest ecosystems and eventually encourage return of rare species	Climate change mitigation Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods
Article 27	Setting up producer groups and organisations: setting up of producer groups and organisations in the agriculture and forestry sectors for the purpose of market requirements, establishing common rules on production information, development of business and marketing skills and the organisation and facilitation of the innovation processes etc.	SMEs	See Art 27(2)	Can be used to help Natura 2000 farmers achieve the benefits of economy of scale through support to establishing producer groups (joint marketing of branded products, developing business skills and innovation etc.) and this way supporting income streams and enabling continued management of Natura 2000 sites	Food security (sustainable methods for food production) Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment

Measure 12: Conservation management measures – habitats

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 28	<p>Agri-environment-climate: agricultural practices that make a positive contribution to the environment and climate, including in Natura 2000</p> <p>Note: the introduction of 'green payment' under Pillar I influences the baseline for these measures (see Handbook Part I Box 4.1)</p>	Farmers (individuals and groups); land managers	Cannot receive this payment if receiving support for organic farming Relevant only to: agricultural land	Agri-environment schemes can be targeted to specific biodiversity needs and tailored to local conditions. The requirements must go beyond the environmental baseline. Schemes could be targeted at agricultural land between key Natura 2000 sites in order to develop wildlife corridors linking important habitats. Payments could incentivise continuation of traditional extensive sustainable agricultural practice in areas where this is necessary for the maintenance of valuable habitat – e.g. grazing of alpine meadows or open steppe	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 39	Organic farming: on a voluntary basis, to convert to or maintain organic farming practices and methods	Farmers	Relevant only to: agricultural land	Compensatory payments to support organic farming can support activities and management measures that have clear synergies with / pro-actively contribute to biodiversity conservation goals, including Natura 2000. Note: organic farming activities need to be permitted by site-specific rules / suit site-specific conservation objectives	Food security (sustainable methods for food production) Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
Article 30	<p>Natura 2000 and Water Framework Directive payments: compensating beneficiaries for additional costs and income foregone resulting from disadvantages in the Natura 2000 areas and in other delimited nature protection areas with environmental restrictions applicable to farming or forests which contribute to Article 10 of the Habitats Directive</p> <p>Note: the introduction of 'green payment' under Pillar I influences the baseline for these measures (see Handbook Part I Box 4.1)</p>	Farmers; foresters (private or associations of private foresters); land managers (only if justified)	See Art 30(6) Relevant only to: agricultural land; forests	The payments for restriction on land use in Natura 2000 sites, as long as they are specified in Natura management plan or equivalent. The requirements could include e.g. phased mowing, restrictions on new drainage systems, requirements in relation to hedgerow management. The payment the farmer/landowner receives is for costs incurred	Water security Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 31	Payments to areas facing natural or other specific constraints: support granted to farmers in mountain areas and other areas facing natural or other specific constraints in order to compensate farmers for the additional costs and income foregone related to the constraints	Farmers	See Art 31, Relevant only to: agricultural land	Payments could be used as a complement to agri-environment climate schemes, or in a larger package of measures to sustain viability of farms. Note that no environmental criteria are attached other than those pertaining to cross compliance, unless additional criteria (e.g. stocking density) are specified in the rural development programme (RDP) (RDP) by a Member State.	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site

Conservation management measures – habitats

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 34	Forest-environmental and climate services and forest conservation: on a voluntary basis, to carry out operations consisting of one or more forest-environment and climate commitments	Public and private forest holders; other private law and public bodies (municipalities, SMEs)	Relevant only to: forests	Could support forest-environment schemes with management requirements that go beyond the mandatory habitat management established in the national forest plan or equivalent. The requirements could include for example the retention of dying/old trees in selectively logged forests, e.g. at a rate of 10% per hectare; wide spacing between trees; mix of appropriate local species for stand regeneration; the use of horses for transport of harvested wood	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including climate change mitigation and/or adaptation
Article 35	Cooperation: for example joint approaches to environmental projects, ongoing environmental practices and preservation of agricultural landscapes and also cooperation in the context of European Innovation Partnership (EIP)	All (must be a collaboration of actors)	See Art 35(7-8) Relevant only to: agricultural land; forests	This could support partnerships between farmers, foresters, producers and other rural actors to manage a Natura 2000 site	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Leader (Articles 42-44)	Support for local action groups and LEADER start-up kits	All (must be Local Action Group)	See Art 44	For example, if required by a transnational Leader project: restoration of local riverine species through removal of modifications to waterways, and restorative planting	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
EMFF					
Article 33	Support for measures for temporary cessation of fishing activities in case of implementation of Commission measures or MS emergency measures or of conservation measures (as laid out in the CFP Regulation 1380/2013)	Fishermen		Temporary cessation of fishing activities with a view to support the conservation of marine environment, including reducing pressure on Natura 2000 habitats in a certain area	Food security (sustainable level of fisheries and fish stocks) Cultural and natural heritage (maintaining species with cultural importance) Several direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 36	Investments contributing to transferable fishing concessions in order to adapt fishing activities to fishing opportunities	Public authorities; fishermen and/or fishermen organisations		Supporting the design, development, monitoring, evaluation and management of systems for allocating fishing opportunities, with a systematic view to directing fishing activities to areas where they have no negative impacts on Natura 2000 sites	Food security (sustainable level of fisheries and fish stocks) Cultural and natural heritage (maintaining species with cultural importance) Several direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site

Measure 12:**Conservation management measures – habitats**

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 38.1(a-d)	Limitation of the impact of fishing on the marine environment and adaptation of fishing to the protection of species: (a) equipment improving size selectivity or species selectivity of fishing gear, (b) on board or in equipment that eliminates discards by avoiding and reducing unwanted catches of commercial stocks, (c) equipment that limits and, where possible, eliminates the physical and biological impacts of fishing on ecosystem or sea bed, (d) equipment that protects gear and catches from mammals and birds protected by Habitats and Birds Directives	Fishermen	See Art 38(4-5)	Improving conservation status of habitats via improvements in fishing gear. Reducing bycatch of target and non-target species, this way reducing negative impacts on habitats. Reducing impact on benthic marine habitats	Food security (sustainable level of fisheries and fish stocks) Cultural and natural heritage (maintaining species with cultural importance) Several direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 39	Innovation linked to the conservation of marine biological resources: developing or introducing new technical or organisational knowledge that reduces the impact of fishing activities on the environment	Scientific or technical body; others	See Art 39(4-5)	Reducing impact on benthic marine habitats	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site Research and innovation
Article 40(1)(a)	Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and compensation regimes: collection of waste such as the removal of lost fishing gear and marine litter	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen; NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen / FLAGS	See Art 40.2	Removal of fishing gear from marine protected area, leading to enhanced quality habitat	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 40(1)(b)	Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and compensation regimes: construction, installation or modernisation of static or movable facilities intended to protect and enhance marine fauna and flora	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen; NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen / FLAGS	See Art 40.2	Installation of 'cages' in order to protect fragile benthic species and habitats (e.g. sea grass beds, sea fans)	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 40(1)(c)	Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and compensation regimes: better management or conservation of marine biological resources	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen; NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen / FLAGS	See Art 40.2	Could be used to contribute to sustainable management of marine and freshwater species, e.g. enhancement of spawning grounds to improve stock numbers.	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including food security via improved stock numbers

Conservation management measures – habitats

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 40(1)(e-f)	Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and compensation regimes: management, restoration and monitoring of Natura 2000 sites and other MPAs	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen; NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen / FLAGs	See Art 40.2	Management, restoration and monitoring of Natura 2000 sites and other MPAs	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including food security via improved stock numbers, employment related to restoration, climate change mitigation via maintenance of coastal carbon rich habitats etc.
Article 40(1)(i)	Support to the participation in other actions aimed at maintaining and enhancing biodiversity and ecosystem services, such as the restoration of specific marine and coastal habitats in support of sustainable fish stocks	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen; NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen / FLAGs	See Art 40.2	Enhancement of marine and coastal Natura 2000 sites, for example when they include spawning areas or habitat for fish/shellfish	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including food security via improved stock numbers, employment related to restoration etc.
Article 44(6)(a)	Inland fishing and inland aquatic fauna and flora: management, restoration and monitoring of Natura 2000 sites which are affected by fishing activities, and the rehabilitation of inland waters in accordance with the Water Framework Directive	Fishermen		Management of water quality could enable restoration/return of freshwater invertebrates. Replanting of riverside vegetation could increase spawning success	Food security (sustainable level of fisheries and fish stocks) Employment (restoration)
Article 44(6)(b)	Inland fishing and inland aquatic fauna and flora: construction, modernisation or installation of static or movable facilities intended to protect and enhance aquatic fauna and flora	Fishermen		Installation of 'cages' in order to protect fragile species and habitats	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 48(1)(e)	Productive investments in aquaculture: reducing the negative impact or enhancing the positive effects on the environment and increasing resource efficiency	Aquaculturists		Funding to enable aquaculturists to support techniques that involve low/no chemical use, leading to cleaner waterways and higher nature values (e.g. Natura 2000 areas)	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including for example improved water quality, recovery of charismatic species etc.
Article 48(1)(g)	Productive investments in aquaculture: restoration of existing aquaculture ponds or lagoons through the removal of silt, or investments aimed at the prevention of silt deposits	Aquaculturists		Improve existing habitats through improvements at aquaculture sites, e.g. planting of aquatic vegetation	Employment (restoration) Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 48(1)(i-j)	Productive investments in aquaculture: reduction in the impact of aquaculture enterprises on water usage and quality, including closed aquaculture systems minimising water use	Aquaculturists		Funding to enable aquaculturists to support techniques that involve low/no chemical use, leading to cleaner waterways and higher nature values downstream (e.g. Natura 2000 areas)	Water security (improved water quality) Health benefits (related to improved water quality, e.g. reduced frequency of algal blooms) Recreation and tourism (benefiting from water quality)

Measure 12: Conservation management measures – habitats

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 53(1)(a – b)	Eco-management and audit schemes and organic aquaculture: conversion of conventional aquaculture production methods into organic aquaculture and participation in the Union eco-management and audit scheme (EMAS)	Aquaculturists	See Art 53.2	Introduction of organic standards, marketing for organic products from within Natura sites (where organic aquaculture is compatible with site objectives). Improvement of aquaculture sites, including the reduction of environmental impacts via EMAS schemes	Food security Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment Research and innovation
Article 54(1)(a)	Aquaculture providing environmental services: aquaculture methods compatible with specific environmental needs and subject to specific management requirements resulting from the designation of Natura 2000 areas	Aquaculturists		Improvement of aquaculture sites, including the reduction of environmental impacts. Support for maintenance of traditional fishponds which may represent important habitat for Natura 2000 species	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including for example improved water quality
Article 54(1)(c)	Aquaculture providing environmental services: conservation and improvement of the environment and of biodiversity, and management of the landscape and traditional features of aquaculture zones	Aquaculturists		Improvement of aquaculture sites, including the reduction of environmental impacts. Support for maintenance of traditional fishponds which may represent important habitat for Natura 2000 species	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including for example improved water quality
Article 79(1)(b)	Protection of the marine environment, in particular biodiversity and MPAs such as Natura 2000 sites, the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources, and the further definition of boundaries of the sustainability of human activities that have an impact on the marine environment	All	See also Art 80	Investment in habitat protection measures in coastal and marine Natura 2000 sites	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site and/or types of measures adopted
ERDF (inc. ETC*)					
Article 5.1(b)	Strengthening research, technological development and innovation: business R&I investment in innovation and research [...]	Not specified		(One-off) investment to improve / restore habitats when carried out as an integral part of R&I projects. For example, testing the development of ecosystem-based solutions and/ or bio-innovations as a basis for increasing process technology / cost-effectiveness	Research and innovation Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.3(a)(c)	SME competitiveness: entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms	SMEs		(One-off) investment to improve / restore habitats when carried out as an integral part of initiatives promoting entrepreneurship (e.g. improvement / restoration of inland water corridors via sediment removal linked with the development of kayaking tourism etc.)	Employment Education (skill development)
Article 5.4(a)	Low-carbon economy: energy derived from renewable sources	Not specified		Could be used to support the removal of excess biomass (such as restoration of wetlands overgrown with <i>Phragmites australis</i> due to eutrophication) from Natura 2000 site, including further use of biomass as biofuel	Energy security Climate change mitigation

Conservation management measures – habitats

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 5.4(e)	Low-carbon economy: low-carbon strategies for all types of territories, in particular for urban areas	Not specified		Management of Natura 2000 sites could form an integral part of urban low-carbon strategies, for example conservation of Natura 2000 carbon storages (peatlands) or restoration of wetlands to manage urban runoff water in resource efficient manner	Energy security Climate change mitigation
Article 5.5(a)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches	Not specified		Natura 2000 sites can help the adaptation to climate change, for example, by providing natural protection against climate induced natural hazards (flooding, wild fires etc.), droughts and soil erosion etc. ERDF could provide (one-off) investment in management measures that support the maintenance / restoration of these ecosystem services	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Article 5.5(b)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: addressing specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems	Not specified		Restoration and/or management of Natura 2000 sites can provide natural protection against natural hazards (flooding, wild fires etc.), droughts and soil erosion etc. ERDF could provide (one-off) investment in management measures that support the maintenance / restoration of these ecosystem services	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Article 5.6(a) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (a) waste sector, including (f) promoting innovative technologies	Not specified		Minimising risks / negative impacts to Natura 2000: support to the construction of waste treatment plant with result of improved water quality at Natura site	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.6(b) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (b) water sector, including (f) promoting innovative technologies	Not specified		Support to the construction of water treatment plant with result of improved water quality at Natura site. Alternatively, support to (one-off) investment aimed at enhancing / restoring habitats with the view of improving conservation status and water purification / retention.	Water security Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.6 (c)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage	Not specified		(One-off) investment to improve / restore culturally important characteristics of Natura 2000 sites (e.g. traditional landscapes)	Cultural and natural heritage Recreation and tourism
Article 5.6(d) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (d) protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure, including (f) innovative technologies	Not specified		Restoration and/or management of Natura 2000 sites can results in several cost-effective green infrastructure solutions such as nature-based prevention of flooding, wild fires, droughts and soil erosion. ERDF could provide (one-off) investment in management measures that support the maintenance / restoration of these ecosystem services	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site Employment (restoration)
Article 5.6(e) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (e) improving the urban environment including regeneration of brownfield sites and also (f) including innovative technologies	Not specified		As a part of a larger initiative, could be used to improve quality of urban areas (including Natura 2000 areas / their buffer zones) by using restoration of vegetation to help to purify urban air	Health benefits (due to improved air quality) Urban recreation and tourism

Measure 12:
Conservation management measures – habitats

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 5.7(c)	Sustainable transport: environment-friendly and low-carbon transport systems to promote sustainable regional and local mobility	Not specified		Introducing improvements to reduce fragmentation effects of (existing or new) transport infrastructure (e.g. roads, rail corridors) for example through addition of underpasses/overpasses	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.8(a)	Employment and labour mobility: business incubators and investment support for self-employment, micro-enterprises and business creation	Not specified		(One-off) investment to improve / restore habitats when carried out as an integral part of initiatives promoting self-employment and business creation (e.g. improvement / restoration of habitats linked with creation of sustainable biobusiness)	Employment Education (skill development)
Article 5.8(b)	Employment and labour mobility: employment-friendly growth through [...] enhancement of accessibility to, and development of, specific natural and cultural resources	Not specified		As a part of a broader business creation and innovation, developing access to Natura 2000 sites to enhance related business opportunities. For example, creating infrastructure related to ecotourism etc.	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
Article 5.8(c)	Employment and labour mobility: local initiatives and aid for structures providing neighbourhood services to create new jobs, where such actions are outside the scope of ESF	Not specified		As with Article 5.8(a) but at regional level (cross-border sites, multiple sites within a region)	As with Article 5.8 (a) but at regional level (cross-border sites, multiple sites within a region)
Article 5.9(a) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: (b) health and social infrastructure [...] also through cultural and recreational services, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		(One-off) investment to improve / restore habitats when carried out as an integral part of initiatives promoting health and/or social wellbeing (e.g. improvement / restoration of habitats linked with improved public enjoyment and access)	Health benefits (due to improved air quality) Recreation and tourism
Article 5.9(b) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: physical, economic and social regeneration of deprived communities in urban and rural areas, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		(One-off) investment to improve / restore habitats when carried out as an integral part of initiatives promoting socio-economic wellbeing of urban areas or rural communities	Support and diversification of sustainable urban and rural livelihoods
Article 5.9(c) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: social enterprises, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		As with Article 5.9 (b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises, e.g. involving unemployed people, people in rehabilitation etc.	As with Article 5.9 (b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises
Article 5.10	Education, training and lifelong learning: education, skills and lifelong learning by developing education and training infrastructure	Not specified but in practice primarily educational organisations		(One-off) investment to improve / restore habitats when carried out as an integral part of initiatives promoting education and training (e.g. improvement of sites used as a part of school curriculum)	Education
Articles 7-9 Articles 10-12	Specific provisions for territorial features: urban areas Areas with special needs: Areas with natural or demographic handicaps	All possible		As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)	As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)

Conservation management measures – habitats

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
ESF					
Article 3.1 (b)	Promoting social inclusion, combating poverty and any discrimination through, for example, active inclusion, integration of marginalised communities, promoting the social economy and social enterprises, and community led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		Developing initiatives for social inclusion with links to Natura 2000 sites, including employing unemployed people to carry out management measures, developing activities for marginalised groups (camps, hikes etc.)	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods) Health benefits (mental health via social inclusion)
Article 3.1(d)	Enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and efficient public administration through i) investment in institutional capacity and in the efficiency of public administrations and public services and ii) capacity building for stakeholders delivering education, lifelong learning, training and employment and social policies	Public administrations	See Art 3.1 (d i)	Improving public administration to support the establishment of PES schemes aimed at maintaining and/or restoring Natura 2000 related green infrastructure (e.g. wetlands for water purification)	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment (acquiring new skills) Education Research and innovation
Cohesion					
Article 4(a)(i)	Promoting the production and distribution of renewable energy sources	Not specified	MS with GNI per inhabitant less than 90% of EU27 average	As a part of a larger initiative, could be used to support the removal of excess biomass (such as restoration of wetlands overgrown with <i>Phragmites australis</i> due to eutrophication) from Natura 2000 site, including further use of biomass as biofuel	Energy security Climate change mitigation
Article 4(a)(v)	Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy: low-carbon strategies for all types of territories, in particular for urban areas	Not specified	As above	Natura 2000 sites could form an integral part of urban low-carbon strategies, for example conservation of Natura 2000 carbon storages (peatlands) or restoration of wetlands to manage urban runoff water in a resource efficient manner.	Energy security Climate change mitigation
Article 4(b)(i)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches	Not specified	As above	Natura 2000 sites can help the adaptation to climate change, for example, by providing natural protection against climate induced natural hazards (flooding, wild fires etc.), droughts and soil erosion etc. CF could provide (one-off) investment in management measures that support the maintenance / restoration of these ecosystem services	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Article 4(b)(ii)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: addressing specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems	Not specified	As above	Restoration and/or management of Natura 2000 sites can provide natural protection against natural hazards (flooding, wild fires etc.), droughts and soil erosion etc. CF could provide (one-off) investment in management measures that support the maintenance / restoration of these ecosystem services	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Article 4(c)(i)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: investment in waste sector	Not specified	As above	Support to the construction of waste treatment plant with result of improved water quality at Natura site	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site

Measure 12:
Conservation management measures – habitats

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 4(c)(ii)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: investment in water sector	Not specified	As above	Support to the construction of water treatment plant with result of improved water quality at Natura site	Water security Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 4(c)(iii)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: protecting and restoring biodiversity, soil protection and restoration and promoting ecosystem services including through Natura 2000 and green infrastructures	Not specified	As above	Restoration and/or management of Natura 2000 sites can result in several cost-effective green infrastructure solutions such as nature-based prevention of flooding, wild fires, droughts and soil erosion. CF could provide (one-off) investment in management measures that support the maintenance / restoration of these ecosystem services	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site Employment (restoration)
Article 4(c)(iv)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: urban environment, including regeneration of brownfield sites, reduction of air pollution and promoting noise-reduction measures	Not specified	As above	As a part of a larger initiative, could be used to improve quality of urban areas (including Natura 2000 areas / their buffer zones) by using restoration of vegetation to help to purify urban air	Health benefits (due to improved air quality) Urban recreation and tourism
Article 4(d)(ii)	Sustainable transport: environment-friendly and low-carbon transport systems to promote sustainable regional and local mobility	Not specified	As above	As a part of larger transport network projects, develop nature-friendly/low-risk transport corridors that limit impacts on Natura 2000 sites (e.g. minimise fragmentation)	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Horizon 2020					
Article 5.2 / Part III / Themes 5, 2 and 4	Research activities related to climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials; food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research, and the bioeconomy; and smart, green and integrated transport	All possible	Transnational cooperation	Supporting research projects aimed at developing more (cost-) effective management measures for specific sites / habitat types or exploring combinations of measures that can both help to deliver conservation goals and support sustainable management of Natura 2000 related ecosystem services	Research and innovation
LIFE					
Articles 18, 19 and 22	Activities and eligibility criteria	All possible			

Conservation management measures – species

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions re: land type, applicability etc.	Examples	Examples of socio-economic benefits
EAFRD					
Article 16	Quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs: participation by farmers and groups of farmers in quality/ value added product or certification schemes	Farmers; groups of farmers	Only possible where permitted in the Implementing Acts and Delegated Acts	Can be used to help Natura 2000 farmers gain access to markets for certified / value added products, in this way supporting income streams and enabling continued management of Natura 2000 sites	Food security Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods
Article 17(1)(d)	Investments in physical assets: Non-productive investments linked to the achievement of agri- environment – climate objectives, including biodiversity conservation status of species and habitat as well as enhancing the public amenity value of a Natura 2000 area or other high nature value systems	All		For example, if required for Natura 2000 objectives: restoring or introducing hedges and other boundary features and terraces; restoration of local riverine species through removal of modifications to waterways, and restorative planting	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including cultural and natural heritage and/or tourism opportunities related to charismatic species
Article 18	Restoring agricultural production potential damaged by natural disasters and catastrophic events: preventive actions aimed at reducing the consequences of probable natural disasters	Farmers; groups of farmers; or public entities where a link between the investment and agricultural production potential can be established	Support is only offered where damage affects at least 30 % of agricultural potential Relevant only to: agricultural land	Could support projects aimed at restoring agricultural production potential damaged by natural hazards, linking with a risk management strategy and species restoration in Natura 2000 sites	Protection against natural hazards Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 20(1)(f)	Basic services and village renewal in rural areas: investments associated with the maintenance, restoration and upgrading of the cultural and natural heritage of villages, rural landscapes and high nature value sites, included socio-economic aspects, as well as environmental awareness actions	Public administrations; Farmers; foresters; NGOs; private landowners; public landowners; land managers; SMEs; educational organisations	See Art 20(2-3)	For example, the restoration of local riverine species through removal of modifications to waterways, and restorative planting to facilitate eco-tourism	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, e.g. food security (restoration of riverine fish species) and recreation and tourism
Article 21(1)(a) and Article 22	Forest area development and improvement of the viability of forests: afforestation and creation of woodland using species adapted to environmental and climatic conditions	Private landholders; public landholders	See Art 22 Both agricultural and non-agricultural land	NOTE: Be careful to avoid adverse effects of intensive forestry. Could fund restoration of native forests, where these have been lost; could link to other restoration projects to facilitate creation of a contiguous network of Natura 2000 sites. Careful consideration of biodiversity interest needs to be given in cases of afforestation as the biodiversity value of an area could decrease following afforestation, depending on what has been replaced. Afforested land could be eligible for a forest-environment payment to ensure sustainable forest management. Afforested land could help develop wildlife corridors between Natura sites	Climate change mitigation Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods

Measure 13:
Conservation management measures – species

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 21(1)(b) and Article 23	Forest area development and improvement of the viability of forests: establishment of agro-forestry systems	Private land-holders; other (municipalities)	See Art 23 Relevant only to: agricultural land	Could enable restoration of traditional agro-forestry systems such as dehesa/montado in areas where these have been lost; restoration of degraded permanent grasslands to introduce a system close to traditional wooded pasture	Climate change mitigation Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods
Article 21(1)(c) and Article 24	Forest area development and improvement of the viability of forests: prevention and restoration of damage to forests from forest fires and natural disasters and catastrophic events	Private and public forest holders; other private law and public bodies	Damage must affect at least 30% of relevant forest potential Relevant only to: forests	Replanting with native trees to restore lost forest ecosystems and eventually encourage return of rare species	Climate change mitigation Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods
Article 21(1)(d) and Article 25	Forest area development and improvement of the viability of forests: resilience and environmental value of forest ecosystems, e.g. climate change mitigation potential	Private forest holders; Public forest holders; other private law and public bodies	For holdings above a certain size, the activity must be linked to the national forest management plan or an equivalent instrument Relevant only to: agricultural land; Other non-agricultural land	Replanting with native trees to restore lost forest ecosystems and eventually encouraging the return of rare species	Climate change mitigation Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods
Article 27	Setting up producer groups and organisations: setting up of producer groups and organisations in the agriculture and forestry sectors for the purpose of market requirements, establishing common rules on production information, development of business and marketing skills and the organisation and facilitation of the innovation processes etc.	SMEs	See Art 27(2)	Can be used to help Natura 2000 farmers achieve the benefits of economy of scale through support for establishing producer groups (joint marketing of branded products, developing business skills and innovation etc.) and in this way supporting income streams and enabling continued management of Natura 2000 sites	Food security (sustainable methods for food production) Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
Article 28	Agri-environment-climate: agricultural practices that make a positive contribution to the environment and climate, including in Natura 2000 Note: the introduction of 'green payment' under Pillar I influences the baseline for these measures (see Handbook Part I Box 4.1)	Farmers (individuals and groups); land managers	Cannot receive this payment if receiving support for organic farming Relevant only to: agricultural land	Agri-environment schemes can be targeted to specific biodiversity needs and tailored to local conditions. The requirements must go beyond the environmental baseline. For example, payments could incentivise continued farming that maintains open fields which in turn enable breeding of alpine butterflies; maintenance of pastures in flooded state to encourage wading birds	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site

Conservation management measures – species

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 39	Organic farming: on a voluntary basis, to convert to or maintain organic farming practices and methods	Farmers	Relevant only to: agricultural land	Compensatory payments to support organic farming can support activities and management measures that have clear synergies with / pro-actively contribute to biodiversity conservation goals, including Natura 2000. Note: organic farming activities need to be permitted by site-specific rules / suit site-specific conservation objectives	Food security (sustainable methods for food production) Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
Article 30	Natura 2000 and Water Framework Directive payments: compensating beneficiaries for additional costs and income foregone resulting from disadvantages in the Natura 2000 areas and in other delimited nature protection areas with environmental restrictions applicable to farming or forests which contribute to Article 10 of the Habitats Directive Note: the introduction of 'green payment' under Pillar I influences the baseline for these measures (see Handbook Part I Box 4.1)	Farmers; Foresters (private or associations of private foresters); land managers (only if justified)	See Art 30(6) Relevant only to: agricultural land; forests	The payments for restrictions on land use in Natura 2000 sites, as long as they are specified in Natura management plan or equivalent. The requirements could include e.g. retention of dying and old trees in selectively logged forests, at a rate of 10% per hectare	Water security Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 31	Payments to areas facing natural or other specific constraints: support granted to farmers in mountain areas and other areas facing natural or other specific constraints in order to compensate farmers for the additional costs and income foregone related to the constraints	Farmers	See Art 31, Relevant only to: agricultural land	Payments could be used as a complement to agri-environment climate schemes, or in a larger package of measures to sustain viability of farms. Note that no environmental criteria are attached other than those pertaining to cross compliance, unless additional criteria (e.g. stocking density) are specified in the rural development programme (RDP) (RDP) by a Member State	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 34	Forest-environmental and climate services and forest conservation: on a voluntary basis, to carry out operations consisting of one or more forest-environment and climate commitments	Forest-environmental and climate services and forest conservation)	Relevant only to: forests	Could support forest-environment schemes with management requirements that go beyond the mandatory habitat management established in the national forest plan or equivalent. The requirements could include e.g. a requirement for the retention of dying/old trees in selectively logged forests, at a rate of 10% per hectare; the use of horses for the transport of harvested wood	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including climate change mitigation and/or adaptation

Measure 13:
Conservation management measures – species

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 35	Cooperation: for example joint approaches to environmental projects, ongoing environmental practices and preservation of agricultural landscapes and also cooperation in the context of European Innovation Partnership (EIP)	All (must be a collaboration of actors)	See also Art 35(7-8) Relevant only to: agricultural land; forests	Could support partnerships between farmers, foresters, producers and other rural actors to, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-develop actions aimed at climate change mitigation and/or adaptation and closely linked with Natura management • Management of species to facilitate objectives of a Natura 2000 business plan or local development plan, e.g. reintroduction of water voles into river systems to fulfil objective of eco-tourism along rivers • Implementation of forest management plan, including conservation requirements relevant to specific species 	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including climate change mitigation and/or adaptation
Leader (Articles 42-44)	Support for local action groups and LEADER start-up kits	All (must be Local Action Group)	See Art 44	For example, if required by the specific inter-territorial or transnational Leader project: Management of species to facilitate objectives of local development plan e.g. reintroduction of water voles into river systems to fulfil objective of eco-tourism along rivers	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including cultural and natural heritage and/or tourism opportunities related to charismatic species
EMFF					
Article 33	Support for measures for temporary cessation of fishing activities in case of implementation of Commission measures or MS emergency measures or of conservation measures (as laid out in the CFP Regulation 1380/2013)	Fishermen		Temporary cessation of fishing activities with a view to support the conservation of marine environment, including reducing pressure on marine species	Food security (sustainable level of fisheries and fish stocks) Cultural and natural heritage (maintaining species with cultural importance) Several direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 36	Investments contributing to transferable fishing concessions in order to adapt fishing activities to fishing opportunities	Public authorities; fishermen and/or fishermen organisations		Supporting the design, development, monitoring, evaluation and management of systems for allocating fishing opportunities, with a systematic view to directing fishing activities to areas where they have no negative impacts on marine species	Food security (sustainable level of fisheries and fish stocks) Cultural and natural heritage (maintaining species with cultural importance) Several direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site

Conservation management measures – species

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 38.1(a-d)	Limitation of the impact of fishing on the marine environment and adaptation of fishing to the protection of species: (a) equipment improving size selectivity or species selectivity of fishing gear, (b) on board or in equipment that eliminates discards by avoiding and reducing unwanted catches of commercial stocks, (c) equipment that limits and, where possible, eliminates the physical and biological impacts of fishing on ecosystem or sea bed, (d) equipment that protects gear and catches from mammals and birds protected by Habitats and Birds Directives	Fishermen	See Art 38(4-5)	Improving conservation status of species targeted by fishing gear. Reducing bycatch of target and non-target species. Reducing impact on benthic marine habitats and their species	Food security (fish stocks) Cultural and natural heritage (maintaining species with cultural importance)
Article 39	Innovation linked to the conservation of marine biological resources: developing or introducing new technical or organisational knowledge that reduces the impact of fishing activities on the environment	Scientific or technical body; others	See Art 39(4-5)	Reducing impact on benthic marine habitats and their species	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including food security via improved stock numbers
Article 40(1)(a)	Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and compensation regimes: collection of waste such as the removal of lost fishing gear and marine litter	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen; NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen / FLAGS	See Art 40.2	Removal of fishing gear from MPAs, leading to enhanced quality habitat and positive impacts on related species	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including food security via improved stock numbers
Article 40(1)(b)	Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and compensation regimes: construction, installation or modernisation of static or movable facilities intended to protect and enhance marine fauna and flora	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen; NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen / FLAGS	See Art 40.2	Installation of 'cages' in order to protect fragile benthic species and habitats (e.g. sea grass beds, sea fans)	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including food security via improved stock numbers
Article 40(1)(c)	Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and compensation regimes: better management or conservation of marine biological resources	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen; NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen / FLAGS	See Art 40.2	Improving conservation status of species targeted by fishing gear	Food security (fish stocks) Cultural and natural heritage (maintaining species with cultural importance)

Measure 13:
Conservation management measures – species

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 40(1)(e-f)	Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and compensation regimes: management, restoration and monitoring of Natura 2000 sites and other MPAs	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen; NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen / FLAGS	See Art 40.2	Enhancement of Natura 2000 sites that include spawning areas or habitat for protected fish/shellfish	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including food security via improved stock numbers, employment related to restoration, climate change mitigation via maintenance of coastal carbon rich habitats etc.
Article 40(1)(i)	Support to the participation in other actions aimed at maintaining and enhancing biodiversity and ecosystem services, such as the restoration of specific marine and coastal habitats in support of sustainable fish stocks	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen; NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen / FLAGS	See Art 40.2	Enhancement of Natura 2000 sites that include spawning areas or habitat for fish/shellfish	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including food security via improved stock numbers, employment related to restoration etc.
Article 44(6)(a)	Inland fishing and inland aquatic fauna and flora: management, restoration and monitoring of Natura 2000 sites which are affected by fishing activities, and the rehabilitation of inland waters in accordance with the Water Framework Directive	Fishermen		Management of water quality could enable restoration/return of freshwater invertebrates. Replanting of riverside vegetation could increase spawning success	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including food security via improved stock numbers, employment related to restoration etc.
Article 44(6)(b)	Inland fishing and inland aquatic fauna and flora: construction, modernisation or installation of static or movable facilities intended to protect and enhance aquatic fauna and flora	Fishermen			
Article 48(1)(d)	Productive investments in aquaculture: improvements and modernisation related to animal health and welfare, including the purchase of equipment aiming at protecting the farms from wild predators	Aquaculturists		Support for installations to protect fish farms from predation by dolphins, ensuring coexistence of MPAs and aquaculture	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 48(1)(e)	Productive investments in aquaculture: reducing the negative impact or enhancing the positive effects on the environment and increasing resource efficiency	Aquaculturists		Incentives for maintaining / improving environmental quality (e.g. water quality to suit migratory/ breeding bird species)	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including via improved water quality
Article 48(1)(g)	Productive investments in aquaculture: restoration of existing aquaculture ponds or lagoons through the removal of silt, or investments aimed at the prevention of silt deposits	Aquaculturists		Support to maintain local historic fishponds which may be important for migrating birds and/or amphibians and reptiles	Employment (restoration) Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 48(1)(i-j)	Productive investments in aquaculture: reduction in the impact of aquaculture enterprises on water usage and quality, including closed aquaculture systems minimising water use	Aquaculturists		Incentives for maintaining water quality at the level suitable for species. Incentives for maintaining levels to suit migratory/breeding bird species	Water security (improved water quality) Health benefits (related to improved water quality, e.g. reduced frequency of algal blooms) Recreation and tourism (benefiting from water quality)
Article 53(1)(a – b)	Eco-management and audit schemes and organic aquaculture: conversion of conventional aquaculture production methods into organic aquaculture and participation in the Union eco-management and audit scheme (EMAS)	Aquaculturists	See Art 53.2	Introduction of organic standards, marketing for organic products from within Natura sites (where organic aquaculture is compatible with site objectives). Improvement of aquaculture sites, including the reduction of environmental impacts	Food security Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment Research and innovation
Article 54(1)(a)	Aquaculture providing environmental services: aquaculture methods compatible with specific environmental needs and subject to specific management requirements resulting from the designation of Natura 2000 areas	Aquaculturists		Improvement of aquaculture sites, including the reduction of environmental impacts	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including via improved water quality
Article 54(1)(b)	Aquaculture providing environmental services: participation in ex-situ conservation and reproduction of aquatic animals, within the framework of conservation and biodiversity restoration programmes	Aquaculturists		Reproduction of aquatic animals for the purposes of restocking rivers (for conservation reasons)	Food security (fish stocks) Cultural and natural heritage (maintaining species with cultural importance)
Article 54(1)(c)	Aquaculture providing environmental services: conservation and improvement of the environment and of biodiversity, and management of the landscape and traditional features of aquaculture zones	Aquaculturists		Maintaining local historic fishponds which may be important for migrating birds and/or amphibians and reptiles	Cultural and natural heritage Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 79(1)(b)	Protection of the marine environment, in particular biodiversity and MPAs such as Natura 2000 sites, the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources, and the further definition of boundaries of the sustainability of human activities that have an impact on the marine environment	All	See also Art 80	Investment in species protection measures in coastal and marine Natura 2000 sites	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site and/or types of measures adopted
ERDF (inc. ETC*)					
Article 5.1(b)	Strengthening research, technological development and innovation: business R&I investment in innovation and research [...]	Not specified		(One-off) investment to improve species conservation when carried out as an integral part of R&I projects. For example, testing the development of ecosystem-based solutions and/or bio-innovations as a basis for increasing process technology / cost-effectiveness	Research and innovation Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site

Measure 13:
Conservation management measures – species

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 5.3(a)(c)	SME competitiveness: entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms	SMEs		(One-off) investment to improve / restore Natura 2000 sites for species conservation when carried out as an integral part of initiatives promoting entrepreneurship (e.g. improvement / restoration of species important for tourism etc.)	Employment Education (skill development)
Article 5.5(a)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches	Not specified		Natura 2000 sites can help the adaptation to climate change, for example, by providing natural protection against climate induced natural hazards (flooding, wild fires etc.), droughts and soil erosion etc. ERDF could provide (one-off) investment in management measures that support both species conservation and the maintenance / restoration of these ecosystem services	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Article 5.5(b)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: addressing specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems	Not specified		Restoration and/or management of Natura 2000 sites can provide natural protection against natural hazards (flooding, wild fires etc.), droughts and soil erosion etc. ERDF could provide (one-off) investment in management measures that support both species conservation and the maintenance / restoration of these ecosystem services (e.g. re-planting of native, fire resistant species)	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Article 5.6(a) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (a) waste sector, including (f) promoting innovative technologies	Not specified		Minimising risks / negative impacts to Natura 2000: support to the construction of waste treatment plant with result of improved water quality at Natura site, with a specific goal to improve conservation status of aquatic species	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.6(b) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (b) water sector, including (f) promoting innovative technologies	Not specified		Support to (one-off) investment aimed at enhancing / restoring habitats with a view to both improving conservation status of aquatic species and enhancing water quality for human wellbeing	Water security Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.6 (c)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage	Not specified		(One-off) investment to improve / restore species with cultural significance	Cultural and natural heritage Recreation and tourism
Article 5.6(d) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (d) protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure, including (f) innovative technologies	Not specified		Restoration and/or management of Natura 2000 sites can results in several cost-effective green infrastructure solutions such as nature-based prevention of flooding, wild fires, droughts and soil erosion. ERDF could provide (one-off) investment in management measures that support both species conservation and the maintenance / restoration of these ecosystem services	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site Employment (restoration)

Conservation management measures – species

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 5.6(e) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (e) improving the urban environment including regeneration of brownfield sites and also (f) including innovative technologies	Not specified		As a part of a larger initiative, could be used to improve quality of urban areas (including Natura 2000 areas / their buffer zones) by using restoration of vegetation to help to purify urban air and, at the same time, supporting species conservation by creating habitats for threatened plants, insects etc.	Health benefits (due to improved air quality) Urban recreation and tourism
Article 5.7(c)	Sustainable transport: environment-friendly and low-carbon transport systems to promote sustainable regional and local mobility	Not specified		Introducing improvements to reduce fragmentation effects of (existing or new) transport infrastructure (e.g. roads, rail corridors) for example through addition of underpasses/overpasses	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.9(b) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: physical, economic and social regeneration of deprived communities in urban and rural areas, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		(One-off) investment to improve species conservation status when carried out as an integral part of initiatives promoting self-employment and business creation (e.g. improvement / restoration of species linked with ecotourism, creation of sustainable biobusiness etc.)	Support and diversification of sustainable livelihoods Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.9(c) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: social enterprises, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		As with Article 5.9 (b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises, e.g. involving unemployed people, people in rehabilitation etc.	As with Article 5.9 (b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises
Article 5.10	Education, training and lifelong learning: education, skills and lifelong learning by developing education and training infrastructure	Not specified but in practice primarily educational organisations		(One-off) investment to improving species conservation status when carried out as an integral part of initiatives promoting health and/or social wellbeing (e.g. improvement / restoration of flagship species linked with improved public enjoyment and increased recreational use of sites)	Education (skill development)
Articles 7-9 Articles 10-12	Specific provisions for territorial features: urban areas Areas with special needs: Areas with natural or demographic handicaps	All possible		As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)	As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)
ESF					
Article 3.1 (b)	Promoting social inclusion and combating poverty through, for example active inclusion, integration of marginalised communities, promoting the social economy and social enterprises, and community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		Developing initiatives for social inclusion with links to Natura 2000 sites, including employing unemployed people to carry out management measures, developing activities for marginalised groups (camps, hikes etc.)	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Health benefits (mental health via social inclusion)

Measure 13:
Conservation management measures – species

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 3.1(d)	Enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and efficient public administration through i) investment in institutional capacity and in the efficiency of public administrations and public services and ii) capacity building for stakeholders delivering education, lifelong learning, training and employment and social policies	Public administrations	See Art 3.1 (d i)	Improving public administration to support the establishment of PES schemes aimed at maintaining and/or restoring Natura 2000 related green infrastructure with specific co-benefits to species conservation (e.g. sustainable management of wetlands for the purpose of bird conservation and water purification)	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment (acquiring new skills) Education Research and innovation
Cohesion					
Article 4(b)(i)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches	Not specified	MS with GNI per inhabitant less than 90% of EU27 average	Natura 2000 sites can help the adaptation to climate change, for example, by providing natural protection against climate induced natural hazards (flooding, wild fires etc.), droughts and soil erosion etc. Could provide (one-off) investment in management measures that support both species conservation and the maintenance / restoration of these ecosystem services	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Article 4(c)(ii)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: investment in water sector	Not specified	As above	As a part of a larger initiative, could be used to adopt nature-friendly solutions for water management with specific focus on species conservation, such as development of fish bypasses as a part of water infrastructure development	Water security Food security (recovery of fish stocks) Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 4(c)(iii)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: protecting and restoring biodiversity, soil protection and restoration and promoting ecosystem services including through Natura 2000 and green infrastructures	Not specified	As above	As a part of a larger initiative, could be used to create or restore green infrastructure with specific co-benefits for species conservation, such as restoration of wetlands for wetland birds	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site Employment (restoration)
Article 4(c)(iv)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: urban environment, including regeneration of brownfield sites, reduction of air pollution and promoting noise-reduction measures	Not specified	As above	As a part of a larger initiative, could be used to restore urban brownfields with specific co-benefits for species conservation, such creation of habitats for certain plant or insect species (e.g. threatened butterflies)	Health benefits (due to improved air quality) Urban recreation and tourism
Horizon 2020					
Article 5.2 / Part III / Themes 5, 2 and 4	Research activities related to climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials; food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research, and the bioeconomy; and smart, green and integrated transport	All possible	Transnational cooperation	Supporting research projects aimed at developing more (cost-) effective management measures for specific sites / habitat types or exploring combinations of measures that can help to both deliver conservation goals and support sustainable management of Natura 2000 related ecosystem services	Research and innovation
LIFE					
Articles 18, 19 and 22	Activities and eligibility criteria	All possible			

Conservation management measures in relation to invasive alien species (IAS)

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions re: land type, applicability etc.	Examples	Examples of socio-economic benefits
EAFRD					
Article 17(1)(d)	Investments in physical assets: Non-productive investments linked to the achievement of agri- environment – climate objectives, including biodiversity conservation status of species and habitat as well as enhancing the public amenity value of a Natura 2000 area or other high nature value systems	All		For example, if required for Natura 2000 objectives; control of invasive plants (e.g. ragweed, giant hogweed) to prevent further spread	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS on agricultural production and inland water quality) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on rural environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control)
Article 20(1)(f)	Basic services and village renewal in rural areas: studies and investments associated with maintenance, restoration and upgrading of the cultural and natural heritage, rural landscapes and high nature value sites	Public administrations; farmers; foresters; NGOs; private landowners; public landowners; land managers; SMEs; educational organisations	See Art 20(2-3)	Could support management of invasive species to facilitate objectives of local development plan e.g. removal of invasive aquatic plants and fish from river systems to fulfil objective of eco-tourism (focussed on native wildlife) along rivers	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS on agricultural production and inland water quality) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on rural environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control)
Article 21(1)(d) and Article 25	Forest area development and improvement of the viability of forests: resilience and environmental value of forest ecosystems, e.g. climate change mitigation potential	Private forest holders; Public forest holders; other private law and public bodies	Relevant only to: forests	E.g. Investment in dedicated management measures aimed at removal of invasive plant species that degrade native plants and forest structure	Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on rural environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods (preventing risks of IAS on wood production) Employment (IAS control)

Measure 14:**Conservation management measures in relation to invasive alien species (IAS)**

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 28	<p>Agri-environment-climate: agricultural practices that make a positive contribution to the environment and climate, including in Natura 2000</p> <p>Note: the introduction of 'green payment' under Pillar I influences the baseline for these measures (see Handbook Part I Box 4.1)</p>	Farmers (individuals and groups); land managers	Cannot receive this payment if receiving support for organic farming Relevant only to: agricultural land	Agri-environment schemes can be targeted to specific biodiversity needs and tailored to local conditions. The requirements must go beyond the environmental baseline. For example, payments could incentivise maintaining native plant species that are of food value to native wildlife, especially in buffer zone around Natura site; on removing invasive aquatic plants from waterways, or removing invasive plant species that degrade native plants, as part of environmental management requirements	<p>Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS on agricultural production and inland water quality)</p> <p>Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health)</p> <p>Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on rural environment)</p> <p>Cultural and natural heritage (as above)</p> <p>Employment (IAS control)</p>
Article 34	Forest-environmental and climate services and forest conservation: on a voluntary basis, to carry out operations consisting of one or more forest-environment and climate commitments	Public and private forest holders; other private law and public bodies (municipalities, SMEs)	Relevant only to: forests	Could support forest-environment schemes with management requirements that go beyond the mandatory habitat management established in the national forest plan or equivalent. The requirements could include for example the removal of invasive plant species that degrade native plants and forest structure	<p>Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS on agricultural production and inland water quality)</p> <p>Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health)</p> <p>Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on rural environment)</p> <p>Cultural and natural heritage (as above)</p> <p>Employment (IAS control)</p>
Article 35	Cooperation: for example joint approaches to environmental projects, ongoing environmental practices and preservation of agricultural landscapes and also cooperation in the context of European Innovation Partnership (EIP)	All (must be a collaboration of actors)	See also Art 35(7-8) Relevant only to: agricultural land; forests	Could support management that facilitates objectives of a Natura 2000 farm business plan or local development strategy, e.g. involving maintenance of native plant species that are of food value to native wildlife, especially in buffer zone around Natura site	<p>Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS on agricultural production and inland water quality)</p> <p>Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health)</p> <p>Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on rural environment)</p> <p>Cultural and natural heritage (as above)</p> <p>Employment (IAS control)</p>

Conservation management measures in relation to invasive alien species (IAS)

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Leader (Articles 42-44)	Support for local action groups and LEADER start-up kits	All (must be Local Action Group)	See Art 44	For example, the management of invasive species to facilitate objectives of local development plan e.g. removal of invasive aquatic plants and fish from river systems to fulfil objective of eco-tourism (focussed on native wildlife) along rivers	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS on agricultural production and inland water quality) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on rural environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control)
EMFF					
Article 28	Partnerships between scientists and Fishermen, with a view to transfer knowledge: activities carried out by a network composed by one or more independent scientific bodies and Fishermen or one or more organisations of Fishermen (cover data collection and management activities, studies, pilot projects, dissemination of knowledge and research results, seminars and best practices)	Fishermen		Promotion of partnerships between scientists and operators in relation to research on prevention of spread, and/or removal and control of IAS	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment Research and innovation
Article 40(1)(b)	Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and compensation regimes: construction, installation or modernisation of static or movable facilities intended to protect and enhance marine fauna and flora	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen; NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen / FLAGs	See Art 40.2	Construction or installation of facilities to prevent the spread of IAS	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS on fish stocks) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on marine environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (infrastructure development)
Article 40(1)(c)	Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and compensation regimes: better management or conservation of marine biological resources	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen; NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen / FLAGs	See Art 40.2	Management of marine Natura 2000 sites and/or surrounding areas with a specific view to protecting them from negative impacts of IAS	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS on fish stocks) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on marine environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above)

Measure 14:**Conservation management measures in relation to invasive alien species (IAS)**

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 40(1)(e-f)	Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and compensation regimes: management, restoration and monitoring of Natura 2000 sites and other MPAs	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen; NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen / FLAGS	See Art 40.2	Protection, enhancement and/or restoration of the environment through control and/or removal of IAS, e.g. restoration of inland waters important for spawning through removal of invasive plants	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS on fish stocks) Climate change mitigation (prevention of negative impacts of IAS on coastal carbon rich habitats) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on marine environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (restoration)
Article 40(1)(i)	Support to the participation in other actions aimed at maintaining and enhancing biodiversity and ecosystem services, such as the restoration of specific marine and coastal habitats in support of sustainable fish stocks.	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen; NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen / FLAGS	See Art 40.2	Rehabilitation of marine, coastal or inland areas affected by IAS, for example with a specific view to recover fish stocks	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS on fish stocks) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on marine environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control)
Article 44(6)(a)	Inland fishing and inland aquatic fauna and flora: management, restoration and monitoring of Natura 2000 sites which are affected by fishing activities, and the rehabilitation of inland waters in accordance with the Water Framework Directive	Fishermen		Protection, enhancement and/or restoration of the fishing areas through control and/or removal of IAS, e.g. restoration of inland waters important for spawning through removal of invasive plants	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS on fish stocks) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on marine environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control and restoration)

Conservation management measures in relation to invasive alien species (IAS)

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 44(6)(b)	Inland fishing and inland aquatic fauna and flora: construction, modernisation or installation of static or movable facilities intended to protect and enhance aquatic fauna and flora	Fishermen		Protection, enhancement and/or restoration of the through control and/or removal of IAS, e.g. instalment of facilities that prevent spread of IAS	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS on fish stocks) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on marine environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control and restoration)
Article 48(1)(e)	Productive investments in aquaculture: reducing the negative impact or enhancing the positive effects on the environment and increasing resource efficiency	Aquaculturists		Improvement of aquaculture sites, including the reduction of possible risks related to IAS	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS on fish stocks) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on marine environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above)
Article 48(1)(g)	Productive investments in aquaculture: restoration of existing aquaculture ponds or lagoons through the removal of silt, or investments aimed at the prevention of silt deposits	Aquaculturists		Improvement of aquaculture sites, could be combined with removal of IAS	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS on fish stocks) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on marine environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control and restoration)
Article 48(1)(h)	Productive investments in aquaculture: diversification of the income of aquaculture enterprises through the development of complementary activities outside aquaculture (i.e. aquaculture environmental services)	Aquaculturists	See Art 47.2	Diversify employment through the creation of jobs related to Natura 2000 management, including control of IAS	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment (IAS control and restoration)
Article 48(1)(i-j)	Productive investments in aquaculture: reduction in the impact of aquaculture enterprises on water usage and quality, including closed aquaculture systems minimising water use	Aquaculturists		Improvement of aquaculture sites, including the reduction of possible risks related to IAS and water quality	Water security (limiting risks of IAS on water quality) Health benefits (related to improved water quality) Recreation and tourism (benefiting from water quality)

Measure 14:**Conservation management measures in relation to invasive alien species (IAS)**

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 53(1)(a – b)	Eco-management and audit schemes and organic aquaculture: conversion of conventional aquaculture production methods into organic aquaculture and participation in the Union eco-management and audit scheme (EMAS)	Aquaculturists	See Art 53.2	Improvement of aquaculture sites, including the reduction of risks related to IAS via actively supporting the use of native species	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS on fish stocks) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on marine environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (markets for sustainable products)
Article 54(1)(a)	Aquaculture providing environmental services: aquaculture methods compatible with specific environmental needs and subject to specific management requirements resulting from the designation of Natura 2000 areas	Aquaculturists		Compensation for aquaculturists for additional costs due to restrictions, e.g. restriction regarding the use of alien species (e.g. in the vicinity of Natura 2000 sites)	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS on fish stocks) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on marine environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above)
Article 54(1)(b)	Aquaculture providing environmental services: participation in ex-situ conservation and reproduction of aquatic animals, within the framework of conservation and biodiversity restoration programmes	Aquaculturists		Conservation and reproduction of aquatic species under threat from IAS	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS on fish stocks) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on important species) Cultural and natural heritage (as above)
Article 54(1)(c)	Aquaculture providing environmental services: conservation and improvement of the environment and of biodiversity, and management of the landscape and traditional features of aquaculture zones	Aquaculturists		Funding for aquaculture that includes maintenance of native emergent vegetation at fishponds and control of invasive species	Cultural and natural heritage Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 79(1)(b)	Protection of the marine environment, in particular biodiversity and MPAs such as Natura 2000 sites, the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources, and the further definition of boundaries of the sustainability of human activities that have an impact on the marine environment	All	See also Art 80	Investment in measures that aim to prevent the negative impacts of IAS in coastal and marine Natura 2000 sites (e.g. control and eradication of IAS)	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site and/or types of measures adopted

Conservation management measures in relation to invasive alien species (IAS)

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
ERDF (inc. ETC*)					
Article 5.1(a)	Strengthening research, technological development and innovation: research and innovation (R&I) infrastructure	Not specified		As a part of a broader R&I project, exploring active cooperation between research sectors to develop cost-effective prevention / eradication / control of IAS, for example with the purpose of reducing IAS health risks	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control) Research and innovation
Article 5.1(b)	Strengthening research, technological development and innovation: business R&I investment in innovation and research [...]	Not specified		As a part of a broader R&I project, exploring active cooperation between research and business sectors to develop cost-effective methods for prevention / eradication / control of IAS, e.g. possibilities for business innovations and business development related to IAS control. For example, with an overall purpose of reducing IAS health risks	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control) Research and innovation
Article 5.2(c)	Information and communication technologies (ICT): ICT applications for e-government, e-learning, e-inclusion and e-health	Not specified		As a part of a broader ICT project, exploring active cooperation between ICT innovations to improve early warning and information sharing on IAS (including at Natura 2000 sites)	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Research and innovation
Article 5.3(a)(c)	SME competitiveness: entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms	SMEs		Developing new business ideas related to prevention / eradication / control of IAS, e.g. firms specialised at technological solutions supporting IAS monitoring, ballast water control etc.	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control)

Measure 14:**Conservation management measures in relation to invasive alien species (IAS)**

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 5.4(a)	Low-carbon economy: energy derived from renewable sources	Not specified		As a part of a larger initiative, could be used to remove of excess biomass linked to IAS invasion from Natura 2000 site, including further use of biomass as biofuel	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS) Energy security Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control)
Article 5.4(e)	Low-carbon economy: low-carbon strategies for all types of territories, in particular for urban areas	Not specified		As a part of a larger initiative, could be used to remove excess biomass linked to IAS invasion from Natura 2000 site, including further use of biomass as biofuel	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS) Energy security Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control)
Article 5.5(b)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: addressing specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems	Not specified		As a part of wider initiative, could be used to address the risks associated with IAS to biodiversity (including Natura 2000 sites) and human wellbeing (health and socio-economic risks etc.), for example by integrating the monitoring of most notorious IAS into regional environmental risk monitoring systems, or eradicating notorious IAS	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on rural environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control)
Article 5.6(b) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (b) water sector, including (f) promoting innovative technologies	Not specified		As a part of wider initiative, could be used to prevent the spread of / eradicate / control aquatic IAS that both threaten water quality and/or access to water and the integrity of Natura 2000 sites (zebra mussel clogging water pipes, water intensive invasive plants etc.)	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on rural environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control and restoration)

Conservation management measures in relation to invasive alien species (IAS)

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 5.6 (c)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage	Not specified		As a part of wider initiative, could be used to prevent the spread of / eradicate / control aquatic IAS that have negative impacts on culturally important landscapes, habitats and/or species	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on rural environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control and restoration)
Article 5.6(d) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (d) protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure, including (f) innovative technologies	Not specified		Could be used to mitigate impacts of IAS to biodiversity (including Natura 2000 sites) and human wellbeing, for example eradicating notorious IAS and restoring ecosystems' ability to provide ecosystem services	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on rural environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control and restoration)
Article 5.6(e) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (e) improving the urban environment including regeneration of brownfield sites and also (f) including innovative technologies	Not specified		As a part of wider initiative, could be used to remove IAS from brownfields and this way mitigate their further spread (including Natura 2000 sites)	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on rural environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control and restoration)
Article 5.7(c)	Sustainable transport: environment-friendly and low-carbon transport systems to promote sustainable regional and local mobility	Not specified		As a part of larger transport network projects, pay specific attention to preventing the spread of IAS (e.g. spread of IAS to Natura 2000 areas)	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on rural environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control and restoration)

Measure 14:**Conservation management measures in relation to invasive alien species (IAS)**

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 5.8(a)	Employment and labour mobility: business incubators and investment support for self-employment, micro-enterprises and business creation	Not specified		As a part of a broader projects supporting sustainable business initiatives, exploring active cooperation between business sector to develop cost-effective prevention / eradication / control of IAS	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control) Research and innovation
Article 5.8(b)	Employment and labour mobility: employment-friendly growth through [...] enhancement of accessibility to, and development of, specific natural and cultural resources	Not specified		As a part of broader business creation and innovation, developing access to Natura 2000 sites to enhance related business opportunities. For example, creating infrastructure related to ecotourism etc.	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
Article 5.9(a) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: (b) health and social infrastructure [...] also through cultural and recreational services, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		(One-off) investment to prevent the spread of, control or eradicate IAS with negative impacts on human health (e.g. Common ragweed)	Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control)
Article 5.9(b) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: physical, economic and social regeneration of deprived communities in urban and rural areas, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		(One-off) investment to prevent the spread of, control or eradicate IAS with negative impacts in urban areas (e.g. Natura 2000 sites)	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on rural environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control and restoration)
Article 5.9(c) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: social enterprises, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		As with Article 5.9 (b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises, e.g. involving unemployed people, people in rehabilitation etc.	As with Article 5.9 (b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises

Conservation management measures in relation to invasive alien species (IAS)

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 5.11	Enhancing institutional capacity and efficiency of public authorities and stakeholders: efficiency of public administrations and public services related to the implementation of the ERDF and ESF	Public administrations		As a part of broader programmes to improve environmental governance, targeted initiatives to improve cooperation between sectors required to be engaged with IAS prevention, control and monitoring	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on rural environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control and restoration)
Articles 7-9 Articles 10-12	Specific provisions for territorial features: urban areas Areas with special needs: Areas with natural or demographic handicaps	All possible		As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)	As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)
ESF					
Article 3.1(a)	Promoting sustainable and quality employment and supporting labour mobility, e.g. access to employment through local employment initiatives and support for labour mobility; self-employment, entrepreneurship and business creation; adaptation of workers, enterprises and entrepreneurs to change	Not specified		As a part of broader local development strategy, identify employment, skill development and/or entrepreneurship opportunities related to prevention, eradication and control of IAS (including IAS present at / threatening to spread to Natura 2000 sites). For example, support for the development of low-cost and/or cost-effective technologies and mechanisms for IAS prevention (e.g. ballast water cleaning technologies)	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on rural environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control and restoration)
Article 3.1(b)	Promoting social inclusion and combating poverty through, for example active inclusion, integration of marginalised communities, promoting the social economy and social enterprises, and community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Educational organisations		As a part of broader local development strategy, identify employment, skill development and/or entrepreneurship opportunities related to prevention, eradication and control of IAS (including IAS present at / threatening to spread to Natura 2000 sites). For example, support to the broadening of skills within animal and plant disease control	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on rural environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control and restoration)
Article 3.1(c)	Investing in education, training and vocational training for skills and lifelong learning through, for example, enhancing access to lifelong learning, upgrading the knowledge, skills and competences of the workforce and increasing the labour market relevance of education and training systems	Not specified		Developing initiatives for social inclusion with links to Natura 2000 sites, including employing unemployed people to carry out IAS control measures	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on rural environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control and restoration)

Measure 14:**Conservation management measures in relation to invasive alien species (IAS)**

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 3.1(d)	Enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and efficient public administration through i) investment in institutional capacity and in the efficiency of public administrations and public services and ii) capacity building for stakeholders delivering education, lifelong learning, training and employment and social policies	Public administrations	See Art 3.1 (d i)	As a part of broader programmes to improve environmental governance, targeted initiatives to improve cooperation between sectors required to be engaged with IAS prevention, control and monitoring	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on rural environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control and restoration)
Cohesion					
Article 4(b)(i)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches	Not specified	MS with GNI per inhabitant less than 90% of EU27 average	As a part of wider initiative, could be used to address the risks associated with IAS to biodiversity (including Natura 2000 sites) and human wellbeing (health and socio-economic risks etc.), for example by integrating the monitoring of most notorious IAS into regional environmental risk monitoring systems, or eradicating notorious IAS	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on rural environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control)
Article 4(b)(ii)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: addressing specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems	Not specified	As above	As a part of wider initiative, could be used to address the risks associated with IAS to biodiversity (including Natura 2000 sites) and human wellbeing (health and socio-economic risks etc.), for example by integrating the monitoring of most notorious IAS into regional environmental risk monitoring systems, or eradicating notorious IAS.	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on rural environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control)
Article 4(c)(ii)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: investment in water sector	Not specified	As above	As a part of wider initiative, could be used to prevent the spread of / eradicate / control aquatic IAS that both threaten water quality and/or access to water and the integrity of Natura 2000 sites (e.g. zebra mussel)	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on rural environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control and restoration)

Conservation management measures in relation to invasive alien species (IAS)

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 4(c)(iii)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: protecting and restoring biodiversity, soil protection and restoration and promoting ecosystem services including through Natura 2000 and green infrastructures	Not specified	As above	As a part of wider initiative, could be used to mitigate impacts of IAS to biodiversity (including Natura 2000 sites) and human wellbeing, for example eradicating notorious IAS and restoring ecosystems' ability to provide ecosystem services	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on rural environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control and restoration)
Article 4(d)(ii)	Sustainable transport: environment-friendly and low-carbon transport systems to promote sustainable regional and local mobility	Not specified	As above	As a part of larger transport network projects, pay specific attention to preventing the spread of IAS (e.g. spread of IAS to Natura 2000 areas)	Food and water security (preventing negative impacts of IAS) Health benefits (preventing negative impacts of IAS on health) Tourism and recreation (preventing negative impacts of IAS on rural environment) Cultural and natural heritage (as above) Employment (IAS control and restoration)
Horizon 2020					
Article 5.2 / Part III / Themes 5, 2 and 4	Research activities related to climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials; food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research, and the bioeconomy; and smart, green and integrated transport	All possible	Transnational cooperation	Development of new measures for control/management/eradication of IAS, especially in relation to Natura 2000 sites	Research and innovation
LIFE					
Articles 18, 19 and 22	Activities and eligibility criteria	All possible			

Measure 15: Implementation of management schemes and agreements

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions re: land type, applicability etc.	Examples	Examples of socio-economic benefits
EAFRD					
Article 28	<p>Agri-environment-climate: agricultural practices that make a positive contribution to the environment and climate, including in Natura 2000</p> <p>Note: the introduction of 'green payment' under Pillar I influences the baseline for these measures (see Handbook Part I Box 4.1)</p>	Farmers (individuals and groups); land managers	Cannot receive this payment if receiving support for organic farming Relevant only to: agricultural land	Agri-environment schemes can be targeted to specific biodiversity needs and tailored to local conditions. The requirements must go beyond the environmental baseline. They could for example incentivise reduced use of fertilisers and pesticides or incentivise maintaining wildlife friendly vegetation in Natura buffer zone	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including food and water security
Article 29	Organic farming: on a voluntary basis, to convert to or maintain organic farming practices and methods	Farmers	Relevant only to: agricultural land	Compensatory payments to support organic farming can support activities and management measures that have clear synergies with / pro-actively contribute to biodiversity conservation goals, including Natura 2000. Note: organic farming activities need to be permitted by site-specific rules / suit site-specific conservation objectives	Food security (sustainable methods for food production) Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
Article 30	<p>Natura 2000 and Water Framework Directive payments: compensating beneficiaries for additional costs and income foregone resulting from disadvantages in the Natura 2000 areas and in other delimited nature protection areas with environmental restrictions applicable to farming or forests which contribute to Article 10 of the Habitats Directive</p> <p>Note: the introduction of 'green payment' under Pillar I influences the baseline for these measures (see Handbook Part I Box 4.1)</p>	Farmers; foresters (private or associations of foresters); land managers (only if justified)	See Art 30(6) Relevant only to: agricultural land; forests	The payments for restrictions on land use in Natura 2000 sites, as long as they are specified in Natura management plan or equivalent. Such restrictions could potentially include requirements to enhance forest habitats by planting understorey species, or reintroducing forest floor species	Water security Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 31	Payments to areas facing natural or other specific constraints: support granted to farmers in mountain areas and other areas facing natural or other specific constraints in order to compensate farmers for the additional costs and income foregone related to the constraints	Farmers	See Art 31 (2,5) Relevant only to: agricultural land	Payments could be used as a complement to agri-environment climate schemes, or in a larger package of measures to sustain viability of farms. Note that no environmental criteria are attached other than those pertaining to cross compliance, unless additional criteria (e.g. stocking density) are specified in the rural development programme (RDP) by a Member State. These payments could improve viability of farms that maintain traditional farming practices in alpine meadows	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site

Implementation of management schemes and agreements

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 34	Forest-environmental and climate services and forest conservation: on a voluntary basis, to carry out operations consisting of one or more forest-environment and climate commitments	Public and private forest holders; other private law and public bodies (municipalities, SMEs)	Relevant only to: forests	Could support forest-environment schemes with management requirements that go beyond the mandatory habitat management established in the national forest plan or equivalent. The requirements could include for example, enhancing forest habitats by planting understorey species, or reintroducing forest floor species	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including climate change mitigation and/or adaptation
Article 35	Cooperation: for example joint approaches to environmental projects, ongoing environmental practices and preservation of agricultural landscapes and also cooperation in the context of European Innovation Partnership (EIP)	All (must be a collaboration of actors)	See also Art 35(7-8) Relevant only to: agricultural land; forests	Could cover forest habitat management that is required in the forest management plan, as long as the plan has been developed under this measure	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Leader (Articles 42-44)	Support for local action groups and LEADER start-up kits	All (must be Local Action Group)	See Art 44	For example, ongoing management to facilitate objectives of local development plan, e.g. development and sale of wildlife-friendly products.	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
EMFF					
Article 27(1)(b)	Advisory services: Provisioning professional advice on environmental sustainability, with a focus on limiting and, where possible, eliminating the negative impact of fishing activities on marine, terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems	Public authorities; fishermen		Provisioning professional advice on environmental sustainability, including practical requirements related to biodiversity conservation and Natura 2000 area management	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 38.1(a-d)	Limitation of the impact of fishing on the marine environment and adaptation of fishing to the protection of species: (a) equipment improving size selectivity or species selectivity of fishing gear, (b) on board or in equipment that eliminates discards by avoiding and reducing unwanted catches of commercial stocks, (c) equipment that limits and, where possible, eliminates the physical and biological impacts of fishing on ecosystem or sea bed, (d) equipment that protects gear and catches from mammals and birds protected by Habitats and Birds Directives	Fishermen	See Art 38(4-5)	Improving conservation status of habitats via improvements in fishing gear. Reducing bycatch of target and non-target species, in this way reducing negative impacts on habitats. Reducing impact on benthic marine habitats	Food security (sustainable level of fisheries and fish stocks) Cultural and natural heritage (maintaining species with cultural importance) Several direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 39	Innovation linked to the conservation of marine biological resources: developing or introducing new technical or organisational knowledge that reduces the impact of fishing activities on the environment	Scientific or technical body; others	See Art 39(4-5)	Promotion of use of certain biodiversity-friendly fishing gear within Natura 2000 sites, through provision of economic incentives	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including food security via improved stock numbers

Measure 15: Implementation of management schemes and agreements

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 40(1)(e-f)	Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and compensation regimes: management, restoration and monitoring of Natura 2000 sites and other MPAs	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen; NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen / FLAGS	See Art 40.2	Ongoing programme of gear removal within Natura 2000 sites, e.g. removal of lost lobster pots. Ongoing programmes for recovering stocks of threatened species on Natura 2000 sites.	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including food security via improved stock numbers, employment related to restoration, climate change mitigation via maintenance of coastal carbon rich habitats etc.
Article 40(1)(i)	Support to the participation in other actions aimed at maintaining and enhancing biodiversity and ecosystem services, such as the restoration of specific marine and coastal habitats in support of sustainable fish stocks	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen; NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen / FLAGS	See Art 40.2	Restoration or new creation of emergent vegetation (as important for the life cycle / habitat requirement of certain fish species)	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including food security via improved stock numbers, employment related to restoration etc.
Article 44(3)	Inland fishing and inland aquatic fauna and flora: development and facilitation [...] for the advisory services in accordance with Article 27 and for partnerships between scientists and Fishermen in accordance with Article 28	Public authorities; fishermen		Providing professional advice on environmental sustainability, including practical requirements related to biodiversity conservation and Natura 2000 area management	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 44(6)(a)	Inland fishing and inland aquatic fauna and flora: management, restoration and monitoring of Natura 2000 sites which are affected by fishing activities, and the rehabilitation of inland waters in accordance with the Water Framework Directive	Fishermen		Restoration or new creation of emergent vegetation (as important for the life cycle / habitat requirement of certain fish species)	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including food security via improved stock numbers, employment related to restoration etc.
Article 48(1)(e)	Productive investments in aquaculture: reducing the negative impact or enhancing the positive effects on the environment and increasing resource efficiency	Aquaculturists		Investments in biodiversity-friendly aquaculture methods and technologies	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including food security via improved stock numbers
Article 48(1)(i-j)	Productive investments in aquaculture: reduction in the impact of aquaculture enterprises on water usage and quality, including closed aquaculture systems minimising water use	Aquaculturists		Investments in denitrification technologies to improve water quality	Water security (improved water quality) Health benefits (related to improved water quality, e.g. reduced frequency of algal blooms) Recreation and tourism (benefiting from water quality)
Article 49(1)(b)	Management, relief and advisory services for aquaculture farms: purchase of farm advisory services of a technical, scientific, legal, environmental or economic nature	Aquaculturists		Providing professional advice on environmental sustainability, including practical requirements related to biodiversity conservation and Natura 2000 area management	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site

Implementation of management schemes and agreements

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 54(1)(a)	Aquaculture providing environmental services: aquaculture methods compatible with specific environmental needs and subject to specific management requirements resulting from the designation of Natura 2000 areas	Aquaculturists		Investments in biodiversity-friendly aquaculture methods and technologies	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including food security via improved stock numbers
ERDF (inc. ETC*)					
ERDF					
Not applicable					
ESF					
Article 3.1(c)	Investing in education, training and vocational training for skills and lifelong learning through, for example, enhancing access to lifelong learning, upgrading the knowledge, skills and competences of the workforce and increasing the labour market relevance of education and training systems	Educational organisations		Capacity building related to the implementation of schemes (e.g. PES schemes) aimed at maintaining and/or restoring Natura 2000 related green infrastructure (e.g. wetlands for water purification)	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment (acquiring new skills) Education Research and innovation
Cohesion					
Not applicable					
Horizon 2020					
Article 5.2 / Part III / Themes 5, 2 and 4	Research activities related to climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials; food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research, and the bioeconomy; and smart, green and integrated transport	All possible	Transnational cooperation	Support for research on effectiveness of management agreements with land/resource owners, and how these could be improved in future. In addition, support to pilot research on novel management agreements (requirements, effectiveness etc.) such as establishment of PES schemes with private and/or business sector	Research and innovation
LIFE					
Articles 18, 19 and 22	Activities and eligibility criteria	All possible			

Measure 16:**Provision of services; compensation for rights foregone and loss of income; developing acceptability 'liaison' with neighbours**

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions re: land type, applicability etc.	Examples	Examples of socio-economic benefits
EAFRD					
Article 17(1)(d)	Investments in physical assets: non-productive investments linked to the achievement of agri- environment -climate objectives, including biodiversity conservation status of species and habitat as well as enhancing the public amenity value of a Natura 2000 area or other high nature value systems to be defined in the programme	Public administrations; farmers; foresters; NGOs; private landowners; public landowners; land managers; SMEs; educational organisations	See Art 20(2-3)	For example, support for investments in wetland restoration to combat flood risk	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including protection against natural hazards
Article 18(1) (a)	Restoring agricultural production potential damaged by natural disasters and catastrophic events and introduction of appropriate prevention actions: investments in preventive actions aimed at reducing the consequences of probable natural disasters, adverse climatic events and catastrophic events	Farmers; groups of farmers, or public entities where a link between the investment and agricultural production potential can be established.	Support is only offered where damage affects at least 30 % of agricultural potential Relevant only to: agricultural land	Could support projects aimed at restoring agricultural production potential damaged by natural hazards, linking with a risk management strategy and habitat restoration in Natura 2000 sites	Protection against natural hazards Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 28	Agri-environment-climate: agricultural practices that make a positive contribution to the environment and climate, including in Natura 2000 Note: the introduction of 'green payment' under Pillar I influences the baseline for these measures (see Handbook Part I Box 4.1)	Farmers (individuals and groups); land managers	See Art 28(6) Cannot receive this payment if receiving support for organic farming Relevant only to: agricultural land	Agri-environment schemes targeted specifically at addressing threats posed by climate change to Natura 2000 areas including, for example, measures that improve connectivity and movement of species, resilience of habitats and species populations etc. Re: loss of income, in duly justified cases for operations concerning environmental conservation, support may be granted at a flat-rate or as a one-off payment per unit for commitments to renounce commercial use of areas, calculated on the basis of additional costs incurred and income foregone	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including food and water security
Article 30	Natura 2000 and Water Framework Directive payments: compensating beneficiaries for additional costs and income foregone resulting from disadvantages in the Natura 2000 areas and in other delimited nature protection areas with environmental restrictions applicable to farming or forests which contribute to Article 10 of the Habitats Directive Note: the introduction of 'green payment' under Pillar I influences the baseline for these measures (see Handbook Part I Box 4.1)	Farmers; foresters (private or associations of private foresters); land managers (only if justified)	See Art 30(6) Relevant only to: agricultural land; forests	For example, compensation for restrictions on reduced use of fertilisers and pesticides, if required in Natura 2000 management plan	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including food and water security

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 34	Forest-environmental and climate services and forest conservation: on a voluntary basis, to carry out operations consisting of one or more forest-environment and climate commitments	Public and private forest holders; other private law and public bodies (municipalities, SMEs)	Relevant only to: forests	For example, payments to incentivise maintaining open areas in forests, or managing invasive species that would have led to a closed canopy and ecosystem changes, maintaining a certain amount of dead wood in forests, or using horses to transport harvested wood	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 35	Cooperation: for example joint approaches to environmental projects, ongoing environmental practices and preservation of agricultural landscapes and also cooperation in the context of European Innovation Partnership (EIP)	All (must be a collaboration of actors)	See also Art 35(7-8) Relevant only to: agricultural land; forests	Can support implementation of relevant activities, such as maintaining native plant species that are of food value to native wildlife, especially in buffer zone around Natura site, as long as these activities are implemented under a forest management plan, which has been developed under this measure	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Leader (Articles 42-44)	Support for local action groups and LEADER start-up kits	All (must be Local Action Group)	See Art 44	Projects could be developed that include a biodiversity monitoring component alongside the rest of project activity. Development of monitoring systems for biodiversity in order to fulfil objectives of and monitor progress with local development plan	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
EMFF					
Article 40(1)(h)	Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and compensation regimes: schemes for compensation for damage to catches caused by mammals and birds protected by the Habitats and Birds Directives	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen; NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen / FLAGs		Compensation for damage to catches caused by mammals and birds protected by the Habitats and Birds Directives	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 53(1)(a - b)	Eco-management and audit schemes and organic aquaculture: conversion of conventional aquaculture production methods into organic aquaculture and participation in the Union eco-management and audit scheme (EMAS)	Aquaculturists	See Art 53.2	Compensation for loss of income due to organic production (and lower productivity than conventional fish farming). Support to participating in EMAS certification schemes that include the adoption of biodiversity-friendly measures such as reducing inputs to aquaculture farms	Food security Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment Research and innovation
Article 54(1)(a)	Aquaculture providing environmental services: aquaculture methods compatible with specific environmental needs and subject to specific management requirements resulting from the designation of Natura 2000 areas	Aquaculturists		Support for defining optimum measures that support / are compatible with both Natura 2000 management and aquaculture (e.g. organic production, water quality improvements, support to migrating species)	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including increased environmental quality
Article 54(1)(c)	Aquaculture providing environmental services: conservation and improvement of the environment and of biodiversity, and management of the landscape and traditional features of aquaculture zones	Aquaculturists		Limit stocking densities, set a rotation in which a proportion of fish ponds must be used extensively for a given period (e.g. 2 years)	Cultural and natural heritage Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site

Measure 16:

Provision of services; compensation for rights foregone and loss of income;
developing acceptability 'liaison' with neighbours

<i>Article</i>	<i>Short description</i>	<i>Target group</i>	<i>Restrictions</i>	<i>Examples</i>	<i>Benefits</i>
ERDF (inc. ETC*)					
Not applicable					
ESF					
Not applicable					
Cohesion					
Not applicable					
Horizon 2020					
Not applicable					
LIFE					
Articles 18, 19 and 22	Activities and eligibility criteria	All possible			

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions re: land type, applicability etc.	Examples	Examples of socio-economic benefits
EAFRD					
Article 17(1)(d)	Investments in physical assets: Non-productive investments linked to the achievement of agri- environment – climate objectives, including biodiversity conservation status of species and habitat as well as enhancing the public amenity value of a Natura 2000 area or other high nature value systems	All		Investment in biodiversity monitoring systems and facilities, in accordance with Natura 2000 management plan	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 35	Cooperation: for example joint approaches to environmental projects, ongoing environmental practices and preservation of agricultural landscapes and also cooperation in the context of European Innovation Partnership (EIP)	All (must be a collaboration of actors)	See Art 30(6) Relevant only to: agricultural land; forests	Cooperation between different stakeholders to support Natura 2000 monitoring schemes (e.g. facilitating citizen monitoring schemes in rural areas), with special links to the impacts of climate change on Natura 2000 sites	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 51 and Articles 52, 53 and 54	Technical assistance and networking: support to actions relating to the implementation of rural development programmes (RDP)	Organisations and administrations involved in rural development	See Art 55-57 for EIP Note also: max of 0.25% of annual EAFRD allocation may be used for technical assistance and networking including under Art 51	Cooperation between different stakeholders to support Natura 2000 monitoring schemes (e.g. facilitating citizen monitoring schemes in rural areas)	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Leader (Articles 42-44)	Support for local action groups and LEADER start-up kits	All (must be Local Action Group)	See Art 44	Projects could be developed that include a biodiversity monitoring component alongside the rest of project activity. Development of monitoring systems for biodiversity in order to fulfil objectives of and monitor progress with local development plan	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
EMFF					
Article 28(1)(a-b) and (2)	Partnerships between scientists and Fishermen, with a view to transfer knowledge: data collection and management activities, studies, pilot projects, dissemination of knowledge and research results, seminars and best practices	Fishermen; others (scientists; public authorities; NGOs)		Data collection by fishermen, supporting the assessment of conservation status of protected species and habitats	Food security (sustainable use of fish stocks) Cultural and natural heritage (maintaining species with cultural importance)
Article 40(1)(d)	Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and compensation regimes: preparation, including studies, drawing-up, monitoring and updating of protection and management plans for fishery-related activities relating to Natura 2000 sites and spatial protected areas under MSFD and relating to other special habitats	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen; NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen / FLAGS	See Art 40.2	Development of indicators of biodiversity during their fishing operations within an MPA	Food security (sustainable use of fish stocks) Cultural and natural heritage (maintaining species with cultural importance) Employment

Measure 17: Monitoring and surveying

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 40(1)(e-f)	Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and compensation regimes: management, restoration and monitoring of Natura 2000 sites and other MPAs	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen; NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen / FLAGs	See Art 40.2	Monitoring of Natura 2000 sites and other MPAs	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Article 44(3)	Inland fishing and inland aquatic fauna and flora: development and facilitation [...] for the advisory services in accordance with Article 27 and for partnerships between scientists and fishermen in accordance with Article 28.	Public authorities; fishermen		Data collection by fishermen, supporting the assessment of conservation status of protected species and habitats	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Article 44(6)(b)	Inland fishing and inland aquatic fauna and flora: construction, modernisation or installation of static or movable facilities intended to protect and enhance aquatic fauna and flora	Fishermen		Construction, modernisation or installation of static or movable facilities for monitoring of Natura 2000 sites and other MPAs	Food security (sustainable use of fish stocks) Research and innovation
Article 51(1)(a-b)	Increasing the potential of aquaculture sites: identification and mapping of the most suitable areas for developing aquaculture and improvement and development of support facilities and infrastructures required to [...]to reduce the negative environmental impact of aquaculture	Public authorities; aquaculturists; other		Mapping and monitoring aquaculture areas as regards their possible impact on Natura 2000 sites and other MPAs, with a view to prevent negative impacts	Research and innovation
Article 76(2)(d)	CFP control and enforcement: implementation of programs aiming at exchanging and analysing data between Member States	Public authorities		Data collection and exchange to improve the monitoring of marine environment, including Natura 2000 sites	Research and innovation
Article 77(2)(a-d, f)	Data collection	Public authorities; others (scientists)		Measures related to data collection could be used to, for example, to: identify possible sites and assess their condition, sample areas to assess their condition or the presence/ absence of priority species for protection, measure catch compositions and access levels of bycatch, and determine presence/ absence of priority species for protection	Food security (information on sustainable level of fisheries and status of fish stocks) Research and innovation (species inventories)
Article 79(1)(b)	Protection of the marine environment, in particular biodiversity and MPAs such as Natura 2000 sites, the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources, and the further definition of boundaries of the sustainability of human activities that have an impact on the marine environment	All	See also Art 80	Investment in the development of monitoring and surveying systems at coastal and marine Natura 2000 sites, including for example baseline studies, development of data collection methods and facilities etc.	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site and/or types of measures adopted

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 83(1)(a)(b)(f)(g)	Support to Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP): studies, projects, development operation and maintenance of IT systems, and training projects	Public authorities; others (scientists)		Studies on the implementation of IMP could include baseline studies assessing the condition of areas, or modelling the effects of spatial measures	Food security (information on sustainable level of fisheries and status of fish stocks) Research and innovation (species inventories)
86(2)(b)(c)(e)	Scientific advice and knowledge to accompany measures for CFP and IMP: scientific opinions and advice, participation of experts in meetings and cooperation activities between Member States	Others (scientists): public authorities (of a scientific research nature)		Provision of scientific advice for the conservation status of certain species within potential MPA sites. Studies on the implementation of the CFP could include baseline studies assessing the condition of areas, or modelling the effects of spatial measures	Food security (information on sustainable level of fisheries and status of fish stocks) Research and innovation (species inventories) Cultural and natural heritage (maintaining species with cultural importance)
Article 87(2)(a)	Control and enforcement to accompany measures for CFP and IMP: support for purchase and/or chartering of patrol vessels, aircrafts and helicopters, provided they are used for fisheries control for at least 60 % of the total period of use per year	Fishermen; others		Cooperation between MS in data collection of transboundary Natura 2000 sites	Food security (information on sustainable level of fisheries and status of fish stocks) Research and innovation (species inventories)
ERDF (inc. ETC*) ERDF					
Article 5.1(a)	Strengthening research, technological development and innovation: research and innovation (R&I) infrastructure	Not specified		As a part of a broader R&I project, exploring active cooperation with research sectors to develop cost-effective and integrated environmental monitoring systems (e.g. biodiversity monitoring)	Research and innovation
Article 5.1(b)	Strengthening research, technological development and innovation: business R&I investment in innovation and research [...]	Not specified		As a part of a broader R&I project, develop integrated environmental monitoring systems (e.g. biodiversity monitoring) that benefit both the business sector (e.g. improved cost-effectiveness, compliance with environmental standards, new business ideas) and conservation	Research and innovation
Article 5.2(c)	Information and communication technologies (ICT): ICT applications for e-government, e-learning, e-inclusion and e-health	Not specified		As a part of a broader ICT project, exploring active cooperation between ICT innovations to improve technological solutions for environmental governance (including Natura 2000)	Research and innovation
Article 5.4(e)	Low-carbon economy: low-carbon strategies for all types of territories, in particular for urban areas	Not specified	Urban areas	Integrating the status and functioning of Natura 2000 sites (e.g. nature-based low-carbon solutions provided by Natura 2000 sites) into urban low-carbon strategies.	Energy security Climate change mitigation
Article 5.5(a)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches	Not specified		Integrating the status and functioning of Natura 2000 sites (e.g. ecosystem services provided by Natura 2000 sites) into climate adaptation related monitoring schemes and investment and infrastructure	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards

Measure 17: Monitoring and surveying

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 5.5(b)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: addressing specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems	Not specified		Integrating the status and functioning of Natura 2000 sites (e.g. ecosystem services provided by Natura 2000 sites) into environmental risk monitoring and related investment and infrastructure	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Article 5.6(b) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (b) water sector, including (f) promoting innovative technologies	Not specified		As a part of a larger initiative, could be used to establish surveillance system to monitor and manage water resources, control water availability, surveillance of water related risks etc. with links to Natura 2000 management and conservation goals (e.g. maintaining natural flooding regimes etc.)	Water security Research and innovation
Article 5.6(d) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (d) protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure, including (f) innovative technologies	Not specified		Developing a regional environmental monitoring/surveying, including monitoring of Natura 2000 sites	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.6(e) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (e) improving the urban environment including regeneration of brownfield sites and also (f) including innovative technologies	Not specified		As with Article 5.6 (d) but in the urban context.	As with Article 5.6 (d) but in the urban context.
Article 5.9(a) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: (b) health and social infrastructure [...] also through cultural and recreational services, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		Developing a regional monitoring/surveying of health risks, including monitoring of relevant aspects of Natura 2000 sites (e.g. possible spread of IAS with negative impacts on health), as a part of broader regional sustainability plans	Health benefits (physical and mental) Support of sustainable rural livelihoods
Article 5.11	Enhancing institutional capacity and efficiency of public authorities and stakeholders: efficiency of public administrations and public services related to the implementation of the ERDF and ESF	Public administrations		As a part of broader programmes to improve environmental governance, targeted initiatives to improve cooperation between sectors required to be engaged with environmental monitoring (e.g. monitoring biodiversity and Natura 2000 sites)	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Articles 7-9 Articles 10-12	Specific provisions for territorial features: urban areas Areas with special needs: Areas with natural or demographic handicaps	All possible		As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)	As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)
ESF					
Article 3.1(b)	Promoting social inclusion and combating poverty through, for example active inclusion, integration of marginalised communities, promoting the social economy and social enterprises, and community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Educational organisations		As a part of broader initiative, developing new skills and monitoring techniques, using Natura 2000 as a testing ground. For example, aiming to create new areas for SMEs in the context of environmental monitoring	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment (acquiring new skills) Education Research and innovation

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 3.1(c)	Investing in education, training and vocational training for skills and lifelong learning through, for example, enhancing access to lifelong learning, upgrading the knowledge, skills and competences of the workforce and increasing the labour market relevance of education and training systems	Not specified		Developing initiatives for social inclusion with links to the monitoring of Natura 2000 sites, including employing unemployed people to carry out monitoring, developing citizen-based monitoring systems with the involvement of local communities	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods) Health benefits (mental health via social inclusion)
Article 3.1(d)	Enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and efficient public administration through i) investment in institutional capacity and in the efficiency of public administrations and public services and ii) capacity building for stakeholders delivering education, lifelong learning, training and employment and social policies	Public administrations	See Art 3.1 (d i)	Developing new skills, methods, information sharing platforms and monitoring techniques, using Natura 2000 as a testing ground, with a view to improving environmental governance	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Education Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Cohesion					
Article 4(b)(i)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches	Not specified	MS with GNI per inhabitant less than 90% of EU27 average	Integrating the status and functioning of Natura 2000 sites (e.g. ecosystem services provided by Natura 2000 sites) into climate adaptation related monitoring schemes and investment and infrastructure	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Article 4(b)(ii)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: addressing specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems	Not specified	As above	Integrating the status and functioning of Natura 2000 sites (e.g. ecosystem services provided by Natura 2000 sites) into environmental risk monitoring and related investment and infrastructure	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Article 4(c)(iii)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: protecting and restoring biodiversity, soil protection and restoration and promoting ecosystem services including through Natura 2000 and green infrastructures	Not specified	As above	Developing a regional environmental monitoring/surveying plan, including monitoring of Natura 2000 sites as part of broader regional sustainability plans	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site Employment (restoration)
Horizon 2020					
Article 5.2 / Part III / Themes 5, 2 and 4	Research activities related to climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials; food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research, and the bioeconomy; and smart, green and integrated transport	All possible	Transnational cooperation	Research into developing new monitoring and surveying methods	Research and innovation
LIFE					
Articles 18, 19 and 22	Activities and eligibility criteria	All possible			

Measure 18: Risk management

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions re: land type, applicability etc.	Examples	Examples of socio-economic benefits
EAFRD					
Article 18	Restoring agricultural production potential damaged by natural disasters and catastrophic events: preventive actions aimed at reducing the consequences of probable natural disasters	Farmers; groups of farmers; or public entities where a link between the investment and agricultural production potential can be established	Support is only offered where damage affects at least 30 % of agricultural potential Relevant only to: agricultural land	Could support projects aimed at restoring agricultural production potential damaged by natural hazards, linking with a risk management strategy in Natura 2000 sites	Protection against natural hazards Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 21(1)(c) and Article 24	Forest area development and improvement of the viability of forests: prevention and restoration of damage to forests from forest fires and natural disasters and catastrophic events	Private and public forest holders; other private law and public bodies	Damage must affect at least 30% of relevant forest potential Relevant only to: forests	Could support projects aimed at restoring forest potential damaged from fires, natural disasters, pest and disease, including for example planting of native trees with higher fire resistance, e.g. evergreen oaks, as a part of risk management strategy in Natura 2000 sites	Protection against natural hazards Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 28	Agri-environment-climate: agricultural practices that make a positive contribution to the environment and climate, including in Natura 2000 Note: the introduction of 'green payment' under Pillar I influences the baseline for these measures (see Handbook Part I Box 4.1)	Farmers (individuals and groups); land managers	Cannot receive this payment if receiving support for organic farming Relevant only to: agricultural land	Agri-environment schemes can be targeted to specific biodiversity needs and tailored to local conditions. The requirements must go beyond the environmental baseline. For example, payments could incentivise transhumance or grazing under forest, which reduces fire risk by reducing build-up of dried understorey vegetation. Alternatively, they could incentivise prevention actions for floods through wetland restoration and management	Protection against natural hazards Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 30	Natura 2000 and Water Framework Directive payments: compensating beneficiaries for additional costs and income foregone resulting from disadvantages in the Natura 2000 areas and in other delimited nature protection areas with environmental restrictions applicable to farming or forests which contribute to Article 10 of the Habitats Directive Note: the introduction of 'green payment' under Pillar I influences the baseline for these measures (see Handbook Part I Box 4.1)	Farmers; foresters (private or associations of foresters); land managers (only if justified)	See Art 30(6) Relevant only to: agricultural land; forests	For example, payments to compensate for a requirement to use a water management regime that reduces flood risk at Natura sites, if required by Natura 2000 management plan.	Protection against natural hazards Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 35	Cooperation: for example joint approaches to environmental projects, ongoing environmental practices and preservation of agricultural landscapes and also cooperation in the context of European Innovation Partnership (EIP)	All (must be a collaboration of actors)	See also Art 35(7-8) Relevant only to: agricultural land; forests	Development of biodiversity-friendly risk management systems in order to fulfil objectives of and monitor progress with local development plan	Protection against natural hazards Climate change adaptation Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 36 and Article 37	Risk management: Premiums for crop, animal and plant insurance against economic losses to farmers caused by adverse climatic events, animal or plant diseases, pest infestation, or an environmental incident	Farmers	See Art 37 Relevant only to: agricultural land	Compensation of restoring a Natura 2000 site after adverse climatic event or the outbreak of an animal or plant disease or pest infestation	Protection against natural hazards Food security Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Leader (Articles 42-44)	Support for local action groups and LEADER start-up kits	All (must be Local Action Group)	See Art 44	Development of biodiversity-friendly risk management systems in order to fulfil objectives of and monitor progress with local development plan	Protection against natural hazards Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
EMFF					
Article 40(1)(c)	Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and compensation regimes: better management or conservation of marine biological resources	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen; NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen / FLAGS	See Art 40.2	Development of risk management systems supporting better management and/or conservation activities	Protection against natural hazards Food security
Article 40(1)(e-f)	Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and compensation regimes: management, restoration and monitoring of Natura 2000 sites and other MPAs	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen; NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen / FLAGS	See Art 40.2	Monitoring of Natura 2000 sites and other MPAs	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Article 40(1)(i)	Support to the participation in other actions aimed at maintaining and enhancing biodiversity and ecosystem services, such as the restoration of specific marine and coastal habitats in support of sustainable fish stocks	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen; NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen / FLAGS	See Art 40.2	Support to participating in monitoring of Natura 2000 sites and other MPAs	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Article 44(6)(b)	Inland fishing and inland aquatic fauna and flora: construction, modernisation or installation of static or movable facilities intended to protect and enhance aquatic fauna and flora	Fishermen		Support for installation etc. of facilities aimed at monitoring of Natura 2000 sites and other MPAs	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site

Measure 18: Risk management

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 79(1)(b)	Protection of the marine environment, in particular biodiversity and MPAs such as Natura 2000 sites, the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources, and the further definition of boundaries of the sustainability of human activities that have an impact on the marine environment	All	See also Art 80	Investment in measures aimed at mitigating risks to coastal and marine Natura 2000 sites, for example risk monitoring, prevention and mitigation systems for oil spills etc.	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site and/or types of measures adopted
Article 83(2)(b)	Coordination and cooperation among Member States to develop maritime spatial planning and integrated coastal zone management	Public authorities	Spatial planning between two or more MS	Development of biodiversity-friendly risk management systems supporting sustainable maritime spatial planning	Protection against natural hazards Food security
ERDF (inc. ETC*)					
Article 5.1(b)	Strengthening research, technological development and innovation: business R&I investment in innovation and research [...]	Not specified		As a part of a broader R&I project, exploring active cooperation with research and business sectors to develop cost-effective methods and approaches for risk monitoring and management. In addition to reducing overall environmental risks to Natura 2000 sites, could also be used to develop and apply ecosystem-based solutions to risk management	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards Research and innovation
Article 5.2(c)	Information and communication technologies (ICT): ICT applications for e-government, e-learning, e-inclusion and e-health	Not specified		As a part of a broader ICT project, exploring active cooperation between ICT innovations to improve technological solutions for risk monitoring, early warning and management (including Natura 2000)	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards Research and innovation
Article 5.4(a)	Low-carbon economy: energy derived from renewable sources	Not specified		As a part of broader sustainable development strategy, development of risk prevention measures for renewable energy production in order to minimise risks to / find synergies with Natura 2000	Energy security Climate change mitigation
Article 5.4(e)	Low-carbon economy: low-carbon strategies for all types of territories, in particular for urban areas	Not specified	Urban areas	Development of nature-based, low-carbon risk management strategies for urban areas, such as using restoration of Natura 2000 wetlands to manage urban run-off water	Energy security Climate change mitigation
Article 5.5(a)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches	Not specified		Natura 2000 sites can help the adaptation to climate change, for example, by providing natural protection against climate induced natural hazards (flooding, wild fires etc.), droughts and soil erosion etc. ERDF can provide (one-off) support to improve these ecosystem services	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 5.5(b)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: addressing specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems	Not specified		Restoration and/or management of Natura 2000 sites can provide natural protection against natural hazards (flooding, wild fires etc.), droughts and soil erosion etc. ERDF can provide (one-off) support to improve these ecosystem services. Furthermore, funding can be provided for the development of overall regional capacity for rapid response to environmental hazards, including those affecting Natura 2000 sites e.g. chemical spills, floods, forest fires, avalanches etc.	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Article 5.6(a) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (a) waste sector, including (f) promoting innovative technologies	Not specified		Investment in waste sector to prevent waste related environmental risks (spills etc.) , including risks to Natura 2000 areas	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.6(b) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (b) water sector, including (f) promoting innovative technologies	Not specified		Support for (one-off) investment aimed at enhancing / restoring habitats with a view to both improving conservation status of habitats and securing water provisioning and quality (e.g. restoration of wetlands, removal of IAS that threaten water quality)	Water security Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.6(c)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage	Not specified		Support for (one-off) investment aimed at preventing negative impacts of environmental risks to culturally valuable Natura 2000 sites (e.g. prevention from wild fires)	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Article 5.6(d) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (d) protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure, including (f) innovative technologies	Not specified		Restoration and/or management of Natura 2000 sites can provide natural protection against natural hazards (flooding, wild fires etc.), droughts and soil erosion etc. Funding for the development of overall regional capacity for rapid response to environmental hazards, including those affecting Natura 2000 sites and their ecosystem services (e.g. chemical spills, floods, forest fires, avalanches etc.)	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site Employment (restoration)
Article 5.6(e) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (e) improving the urban environment including regeneration of brownfield sites and also (f) including innovative technologies	Not specified		As with Article 5.6 (d) but in the urban context.	As with Article 5.6 (d) but in the urban context
Article 5.8(b)	Employment and labour mobility: employment-friendly growth through [...] enhancement of accessibility to, and development of, specific natural and cultural resources	Not specified		As a part of broader business creation and innovation, developing access to Natura 2000 sites to enhance related business opportunities. For example, creating infrastructure related to ecotourism etc.	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
Article 5.9(a) and (d)	Employment and labour mobility: local initiatives and aid for structures providing neighbourhood services to create new jobs, where such actions are outside the scope of ESF	Not specified		Investment in management of environmental risks with health impacts, including integration of Natura 2000 sites into regional risk management plans	Health benefits (physical and mental) Support of sustainable rural livelihoods

Measure 18:
Risk management

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 5.9(b) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: (b) health and social infrastructure [...] also through cultural and recreational services, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		As a part of broader programmes to improve urban and rural environmental risk management, targeted initiatives to improve protection of Natura 2000 sites from environmental risks and/or active integration of sites into risk plans	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.9(c) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: physical, economic and social regeneration of deprived communities in urban and rural areas, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		As with Article 5.9 (b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises, e.g. involving unemployed people, people in rehabilitation etc.	As with Article 5.9 (b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises
Article 5.11	Enhancing institutional capacity and efficiency of public authorities and stakeholders: efficiency of public administrations and public services related to the implementation of the ERDF and ESF	Public administrations		As a part of broader programmes to improve environmental risk management, targeted initiatives to improve protection of Natura 2000 sites from environmental risks and/or active integration of sites into risk plans	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Articles 7-9 Articles 10-12	Specific provisions for territorial features: urban areas Areas with special needs: areas with natural or demographic handicaps	All possible		As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)	As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)
ESF					
Article 3.1(b)	Promoting social inclusion and combating poverty through, for example active inclusion, integration of marginalised communities, promoting the social economy and social enterprises, and community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Educational organisations		As a part of broader risk management initiative, enhancing information on environmental risks, developing related skills and techniques, with links to Natura 2000 management. For example, developing skills on how to proactively benefit from / enhance the potential of Natura 2000 sites in mitigating environmental risks.	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods) Employment (new skills) Health benefits related to mitigation of risks
Article 3.1(c)	Investing in education, training and vocational training for skills and lifelong learning through, for example, enhancing access to lifelong learning, upgrading the knowledge, skills and competences of the workforce and increasing the labour market relevance of education and training systems	Not specified		As a part of broader risk management initiative, building on the role of Natura 2000 sites in mitigating environmental risks that threaten equitable and sustainable local development and social inclusion (e.g. droughts, floods)	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods) Health benefits related to mitigation of risks (physical) and social inclusion (mental)
Article 3.1(d)	Enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and efficient public administration through i) investment in institutional capacity and in the efficiency of public administrations and public services and ii) capacity building for stakeholders delivering education, lifelong learning, training and employment and social policies	Public administrations	See Art 3.1 (d i)	As a part of broader risk management initiative, enhancing administrative capacity (e.g. cooperation between different sectors and stakeholders) to a) mitigate environmental risks (including negative impacts on Natura 2000 and b) proactively build on the role of Natura 2000 sites in mitigating environmental risks (e.g. droughts, floods).	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods) Employment (new skills) Health benefits related to mitigation of risks

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Cohesion					
Article 4(b)(i)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches	Not specified	MS with GNI per inhabitant less than 90% of EU27 average	Natura 2000 sites can help the adaptation to climate change, for example, by providing natural protection against climate induced natural hazards (flooding, wild fires etc.), droughts and soil erosion etc. CF can provide (one-off) support to improve these ecosystem services	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Article 4(b)(ii)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: addressing specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems	Not specified	As above	Restoration and/or management of Natura 2000 sites can provide natural protection against natural hazards (flooding, wild fires etc.), droughts and soil erosion etc. CF can provide (one-off) support to improve these ecosystem services. Furthermore, funding can be provided for the development of overall regional capacity for rapid response to environmental hazards, including those affecting Natura 2000 sites e.g. chemical spills, floods, forest fires, avalanches etc.	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Article 4(c)(iii)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: protecting and restoring biodiversity, soil protection and restoration and promoting ecosystem services including through Natura 2000 and green infrastructures	Not specified	As above	Restoration and/or management of Natura 2000 sites can provide natural protection against natural hazards (flooding, wild fires etc.), droughts and soil erosion etc. CF can provide (one-off) funding to the development of overall regional capacity for rapid response to environmental hazards, including those affecting Natura 2000 sites and their ecosystem services (e.g. chemical spills, floods, forest fires, avalanches etc.)	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site Employment (restoration)
Horizon 2020					
Article 5.2 / Part III / Themes 5, 2 and 4	Research activities related to climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials; food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research, and the bioeconomy; and smart, green and integrated transport	All possible	Transnational cooperation	Supporting research on novel and improved risk management plans, methods and measures, especially in relation to the requirements of Natura 2000 areas. Supporting research exploring the possible role of Natura 2000 sites in risk management at local / regional level, i.e. using nature-based solutions for risk management (wetland and floodplain restoration etc.). Supporting research into methods to reduce the risks of transport to the environment, especially to Natura 2000 sites (e.g. reducing risk of spreading IAS)	Research and innovation
LIFE					
Articles 18, 19 and 22	Activities and eligibility criteria	All possible			

Measure 19:
Surveillance of the sites (ongoing)

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions re: land type, applicability etc.	Examples	Examples of socio-economic benefits
EAFRD					
Article 14	Knowledge transfer and information actions: vocational training and skills acquisition actions, demonstration activities and information actions	Farmers; foresters; SMEs; private landowners; public landowners; Others	This does not include education programmes or systems at secondary or higher levels	Support to initiatives that aims to facilitate surveillance of sites, e.g. adopt citizen monitoring schemes in rural areas	Education Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
EMFF					
Article 40(1)(e-f)	Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and compensation regimes: management, restoration and monitoring of Natura 2000 sites and other MPAs	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen; NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen / FLAGS	See Art 40.2	Monitoring of Natura 2000 sites and other MPAs	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including food security via improved stock numbers, employment related to restoration, climate change mitigation via maintenance of coastal carbon rich habitats etc.
Article 76(2)(a)	CFP control and enforcement: purchase, installation and development of technology enabling the gathering, administration, validation, analysis, risk management, presentation and exchange of, and the development of sampling methods for, data related to fisheries [...]	Fishermen; public authorities		IT systems to support the analysis of data from vessel monitoring, including data on MPAs	Food security (ensuring sustainable level of fisheries and status of fish stocks) Research and innovation
Article 76(2)(b)	CFP control and enforcement: development, purchase and installation components ensure data transmission, including components used for control purposes	Fishermen; public authorities		Vessel monitoring systems monitoring of fishing activity in MPAs	Research and innovation
Article 76(2)(e)	CFP control and enforcement: modernisation and purchase of patrol vessels, aircrafts and helicopters, provided they are used for fisheries control for at least 60% of the time for fisheries control of use per year	Public authorities		Patrol vessels for patrolling MPAs	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including food security via improved stock numbers
Article 79(1)(b)	Protection of the marine environment, in particular biodiversity and MPAs such as Natura 2000 sites, the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources, and the further definition of boundaries of the sustainability of human activities that have an impact on the marine environment	All	See also Art 80	Investment in the development of monitoring and surveying systems at coastal and marine Natura 2000 sites, including for example baseline studies, development of data collection methods and facilities etc.	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site and/or types of measures adopted

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 87(2)(a)	Control and enforcement to accompany measures for CFP and IMP: studies and pilot projects needed for the implementation and development of the CFP, including on alternative types of sustainable fishing management techniques			Studies and pilot projects related to the monitoring of marine areas, including MPAs	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including food security via improved stock numbers
ERDF (inc. ETC*)					
Not applicable					
ESF					
Not applicable					
Cohesion					
Not applicable					
Horizon 2020					
Article 5.2 / Part III / Themes 5, 2 and 4	Research activities related to climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials; food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research, and the bioeconomy; and smart, green and integrated transport	All possible	Transnational cooperation	Support for research projects could include ongoing surveillance at sites over a set period, for example in the context of developing and testing new monitoring methods	Research and innovation
LIFE					
Articles 18, 19 and 22	Activities and eligibility criteria	All possible			

Measure 20:
Provision of information and publicity material

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions re: land type, applicability etc.	Examples	Examples of socio-economic benefits
EAFRD					
Article 20(1)(d)(e)	Basic services and village renewal in rural areas: investments in basic rural services and infrastructure and recreational infrastructure, tourist information and small scale tourism infrastructure	Public administrations; farmers; foresters; NGOs; private landowners; public landowners; land managers; SMEs; educational organisations	See Art 20(2-3)	For example, support to studies on development of an ecotourism industry; studies on maintenance and conservation of heritage of villages and landscapes – e.g. through Natura management associated with ecotourism industry	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods (e.g. tourism) Cultural and natural heritage Education
Article 35	Cooperation: for example joint approaches to environmental projects, ongoing environmental practices and preservation of agricultural landscapes and also cooperation in the context of European Innovation Partnership (EIP)	All (must be a collaboration of actors)	See also Art 35(7-8) Relevant only to: agricultural land; forests	Promotion activities and feasibility studies on management actions that are required by Natura 2000 management plan and contribute to a local development strategy	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods (e.g. tourism) Cultural and natural heritage Education Research and innovation
Leader (Articles 42-44)	Support for local action groups and LEADER start-up kits	All (must be Local Action Group)	See Art 44	Any training necessary for realisation of the local development strategy (e.g. regional promotion in relation to Natura 2000)	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including education, recreation and tourism, cultural and natural heritage etc.
Article 51 and Articles 52, 53 and 54	Technical assistance and networking: actions relating to the implementation of rural development programmes (RDP)	Networks, operational groups; advisory bodies and researchers	See Art 55-57 for EIP Note also: max of 0.25% of annual EAFRD allocation may be used for technical assistance and networking including under Art 51	Could support a group of Natura 2000 farms participating in an EIP network, together with researchers and advisory bodies, e.g. aiming to examine agro-ecological innovation. An example might be a project examining the ways to define characteristics of added value products on the basis of Natura 2000 management practices and to use these characteristics for local branding schemes. The project may also examine the local market potential for the remuneration of such added value products. May support activities to improve the quality of RDPs such as collection of examples of RDP measures in Natura 2000 areas that address the biodiversity priority; ongoing studies and analysis relating to the implementation of RDP measures in Natura 2000 areas or the implementation of biodiversity priorities through RDPs; or a communication plan including publicity and information on Natura 2000-related measures within RDPs	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Cultural and natural heritage Education Research and innovation

Provision of information and publicity material

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
EMFF					
Article 40(1)(g)	Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and compensation regimes: increasing environmental awareness, involving fishermen, with regard to the protection and restoration of marine biodiversity	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen; NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen / FLAGS		Material related to increasing environmental awareness, involving fishermen, with regard to the protection and restoration of marine biodiversity	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including possible direct benefits to education
Article 79(1)(b)	Protection of the marine environment, in particular biodiversity and MPAs such as Natura 2000 sites, the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources, and the further definition of boundaries of the sustainability of human activities that have an impact on the marine environment	All	See also Art 80	Preparation of information and publicity material supporting the establishment and future management of marine Natura 2000 sites, e.g. a local newsletter, publicising Natura 2000 site and its benefits	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site and/or types of measures adopted
Article 83(1)(c)	Support to Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP): public information, publicity campaigns, stakeholder platforms, communications, to promote protection of the marine environment	Public authorities		Public information, e.g. a local newsletter, publicising Natura 2000 site and its benefits	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including possible direct benefits to education
ERDF (inc. ETC*)					
Article 5.1(b)	Strengthening research, technological development and innovation: business R&I investment in innovation and research [...]	Not specified		As a part of a broader initiative, explore possibilities for product and service development related to information and publicity material related to Natura 2000 sites	Research and innovation
Article 5.2(c)	Information and communication technologies (ICT): ICT applications for e-government, e-learning, e-inclusion and e-health	Not specified		As a part of broader initiative on ICT systems for environmental information, develop e-learning systems to provide information on Natura 2000 areas	Research and innovation Education
Article 5.3(a)(c)	SME competitiveness: entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms	SMEs		As a part of a broader initiative promoting entrepreneurship, explore possibilities for developing information and publicity material related to Natura 2000 sites (e.g. ecotourism)	Employment Education (skill development)
Article 5.4(e)	Low-carbon economy: low-carbon strategies for all types of territories, in particular for urban areas	Not specified		As a part of a broader initiative on environmental sustainability, explore possibilities for developing information and publicity material related to the role of Natura 2000 sites in providing ecosystem services and supporting socio-economic wellbeing (e.g. mitigating climate change, buffering against environmental risks, promoting health etc.)	Climate change mitigation Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards

Measure 20:
Provision of information and publicity material

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 5.5(a)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches	Not specified		As a part of a broader initiative on environmental sustainability, explore possibilities for developing information and publicity material related to the role of Natura 2000 sites in providing ecosystem services and supporting socio-economic wellbeing (e.g. mitigating climate change, buffering against environmental risks, promoting health etc.)	Climate change mitigation Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Article 5.5(b)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: addressing specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems	Not specified		As a part of a broader initiative on environmental sustainability, explore possibilities for developing information and publicity material related to the role of Natura 2000 sites in providing ecosystem services and supporting socio-economic wellbeing (e.g. mitigating climate change, buffering against environmental risks, promoting health etc.)	Climate change mitigation Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Article 5.6(b) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (b) water sector, including (f) promoting innovative technologies	Not specified		As a part of a broader initiative on environmental sustainability, explore possibilities for developing information and publicity material related to the role of Natura 2000 sites in providing ecosystem services and supporting socio-economic wellbeing (e.g. securing water provisioning and quality)	Water security Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.6(c)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage	Not specified		As a part of a broader initiative on cultural heritage, explore possibilities for developing information and publicity material on culturally significant Natura 2000 sites	Cultural and natural heritage Recreation and tourism
Article 5.6(d) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (d) protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure, including (f) innovative technologies	Not specified		Explore possibilities for developing information and publicity material related to the role of Natura 2000 sites in providing ecosystem services and supporting socio-economic wellbeing (e.g. mitigating climate change, buffering against environmental risks, promoting health etc.)	Climate change mitigation Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Article 5.6(e) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (e) improving the urban environment including regeneration of brownfield sites and also (f) including innovative technologies	Not specified		As with Article 5.6 (d) but in the urban context.	As with Article 5.6 (d) but in the urban context.
Article 5.8(a)	Employment and labour mobility: business incubators and investment support for self-employment, micro-enterprises and business creation	Not specified		As a part of a broader initiative promoting entrepreneurship and business creation, explore possibilities for developing information and publicity material related to Natura 2000 sites (e.g. ecotourism)	Employment Education (skill development)
Article 5.8(b)	Employment and labour mobility: employment-friendly growth through [...] enhancement of accessibility to, and development of, specific natural and cultural resources	Not specified		As a part of broader business creation and innovation, developing access to Natura 2000 sites to enhance related business opportunities. For example, creating infrastructure related to ecotourism etc.	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment

Provision of information and publicity material

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 5.8(c)	Employment and labour mobility: local initiatives and aid for structures providing neighbourhood services to create new jobs, where such actions are outside the scope of ESF	Not specified		As with Article 5.8(a) but at regional level (cross-border sites, multiple sites within a region)	As with Article 5.8(a) but at regional level (cross-border sites, multiple sites within a region)
Article 5.9(a) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: (b) health and social infrastructure [...] also through cultural and recreational services, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		As a part of a broader initiative promoting local and regional health, explore possibilities for developing information and publicity material related to Natura 2000 sites and their role in providing health benefits	Health benefits (physical and mental) Support of sustainable rural livelihoods
Article 5.9(b) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: physical, economic and social regeneration of deprived communities in urban and rural areas, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		As a part of a broader initiative on environmental sustainability, explore possibilities for developing information and publicity material related to the role of Natura 2000 sites in providing ecosystem services and supporting socio-economic wellbeing (e.g. mitigating climate change, buffering against environmental risks, promoting health etc.)	Support and diversification of sustainable livelihoods Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.9(c) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: social enterprises, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		As with Article 5.9 (b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises, e.g. involving unemployed people, people in rehabilitation etc.	As with Article 5.9 (b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises
Article 5.11	Enhancing institutional capacity and efficiency of public authorities and stakeholders: efficiency of public administrations and public services related to the implementation of the ERDF and ESF	Public administrations		Training programmes for regional and local authorities, focused on capacity building of administration to improve public participation processes and public engagement	Education (skill development)
Articles 7-9 Articles 10-12	Specific provisions for territorial features: urban areas Areas with special needs: Areas with natural or demographic handicaps	All possible		As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)	As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)
ESF					
Article 3.1(a)	Promoting sustainable and quality employment and supporting labour mobility, e.g. access to employment through local employment initiatives and support for labour mobility; self-employment, entrepreneurship and business creation; adaptation of workers, enterprises and entrepreneurs to change	Not specified		As a part of broader initiative, promoting Natura 2000 in the context of related employment opportunities (e.g. opportunities / benefits related to tourism, recreation etc.)	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment (e.g. SMEs) Education
Article 3.1(b)	Promoting social inclusion and combating poverty through, for example active inclusion, integration of marginalised communities, promoting the social economy and social enterprises, and community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Educational organisations		As a part of broader initiative, promoting Natura 2000 in the context of education and acquiring new skills (e.g. opportunities for environmental education, possibilities for local stakeholders to develop skills in the context of management, monitoring etc. initiatives)	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment (acquiring new skills) Education

Measure 20:
Provision of information and publicity material

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 3.1(c)	Investing in education, training and vocational training for skills and lifelong learning through, for example, enhancing access to lifelong learning, upgrading the knowledge, skills and competences of the workforce and increasing the labour market relevance of education and training systems	Not specified		Promoting Natura 2000 as a part of broader initiative addressing social inclusion, including using Natura 2000 sites as a means for inclusion (e.g. creating management related job opportunities for unemployed) people	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods) Education Health benefits (mental health via social inclusion)
Article 3.1(d)	Enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and efficient public administration through i) investment in institutional capacity and in the efficiency of public administrations and public services and ii) capacity building for stakeholders delivering education, lifelong learning, training and employment and social policies	Public administrations	See Art 3.1 (d i)	As a part of broader initiative, producing information to public administrators on Natura 2000 and its socio-economic benefits	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment (acquiring new skills) Education
Cohesion					
Article 4(b)(i)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches	Not specified	MS with GNI per inhabitant less than 90% of EU27 average	As a part of a broader initiative on environmental sustainability, explore possibilities for developing information and publicity material related to the role of Natura 2000 sites in providing ecosystem services and supporting socio-economic wellbeing (e.g. mitigating climate change, buffering against environmental risks, promoting health etc.)	Climate change mitigation Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Article 4(c)(iii)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: protecting and restoring biodiversity, soil protection and restoration and promoting ecosystem services including through Natura 2000 and green infrastructures	Not specified	As above	As a part of a broader initiative on environmental sustainability, explore possibilities for developing information and publicity material related to the role of Natura 2000 sites in providing ecosystem services and supporting socio-economic wellbeing (e.g. mitigating climate change, buffering against environmental risks, promoting health etc.)	Climate change mitigation Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Horizon 2020					
Article 5.2 / Part III / Themes 5, 2 and 4	Research activities related to climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials; food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research, and the bioeconomy; and smart, green and integrated transport	All possible	Transnational cooperation	Depending on the context, research projects could result in development of information materials (e.g. related to the socio-economic benefits of sites) and/or design of new and more effective communication methods (e.g. interactive fora for education). Research project could result in development of information on greener transport networks, including links to the Natura 2000 network	Research and innovation
LIFE					
Articles 18, 19 and 22	Activities and eligibility criteria	All possible			

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions re: land type, applicability etc.	Examples	Examples of socio-economic benefits
EAFRD					
Article 14	Knowledge transfer and information actions:	Farmers; foresters; SMEs; private landowners; public landowners; others	This does not include education programmes or systems at secondary or higher levels	Could support training, workshops, seminars, coaching	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Education Employment
Article 15	Advisory services, farm management and farm relief services	Farmers, foresters, SMEs, other land managers		Could support training of advisors	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Education Employment
Article 17(1)(d)	Investments in physical assets: non-productive investments linked to the achievement of agri-environment – climate objectives, including biodiversity conservation status of species and habitat as well as enhancing the public amenity value of a Natura 2000 area or other high nature value systems to be defined in the programme	All	Investments into enhancing the public amenity value of a Natura 2000 area	Could support investments in small infrastructure, e.g. information sites for tourist which facilitate Natura 2000 objectives	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Education Employment (e.g. tourism related)
Article 20(1)(e)	Basic services and village renewal in rural areas: investments in recreational infrastructure, tourist information and small scale tourism infrastructure	Public administrations; public landowners	See Art 20(2-3)	Could support small investments by public bodies in recreational infrastructure, tourist information and sign-posting of touristic sites in Natura 2000 sites	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Education Employment (e.g. tourism related)
Article 20(1)(f)	Basic services and village renewal in rural areas: investments associated with the maintenance, restoration and upgrading of the cultural and natural heritage of villages, rural landscapes and high nature value sites, including related socio-economic aspects, as well as environmental awareness actions	All		Investments in enhancing the public amenity value of a Natura 2000 area. Could support investments in small infrastructure, e.g. information sites for tourists which facilitate Natura 2000 objectives	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Education Employment (e.g. tourism related)
Article 35	Cooperation: for example joint approaches to environmental projects, ongoing environmental practices and preservation of agricultural landscapes and also cooperation in the context of European Innovation Partnership (EIP)	All (must be a collaboration of actors)	See also Art 35(7-8) Relevant only to: agricultural land; forests	Could support training for the cooperation groups and new members	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Education Employment

Measure 21: Training and education

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 51 and Articles 52, 53 and 54	Technical assistance and networking: actions relating to the implementation of rural development programmes (RDP)	Networks, operational groups; advisory bodies and researchers	See Art 55-57 for EIP Note also: max of 0.25% of annual EAFRD allocation may be used for technical assistance and networking including under Art 51	<p>Could support a group of Natura 2000 farms participating in an EIP network, together with researchers and advisory bodies, e.g. aiming to examine agro-ecological innovation. An example might be a project examining the ways to define characteristics of added value products on the basis of Natura 2000 management practices and to use these characteristics for a local branding scheme.</p> <p>The project may also examine the local market potential for the remuneration of such added value products. May support activities to improve the quality of RDPs such as collection of examples of RDP measures in Natura 2000 areas that address the biodiversity priority; studies and analysis relating to the implementation of RDP measures in Natura 2000 areas or the implementation of biodiversity priorities through RDPs; or a communication plan including publicity and information on Natura 2000-related measures within RDPs</p>	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Cultural and natural heritage Education Research and innovation
Leader (Articles 42-44)	Support for local action groups and LEADER start-up kits	All (must be Local Action Group)	See Art 44	Could support training for the co-operation groups	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Education Employment
EMFF					
Article 29(1)(a)	Promotion of human capital, job creation and social dialogue: professional training, lifelong learning, joint projects, the dissemination of knowledge of an economic, technical, regulatory or scientific nature and of innovative practices, and the acquisition of new professional skills, in particular linked to the sustainable management of marine ecosystems [...]	Fishermen		Training to enable Fishermen to move into ecotourism at Natura 2000 sites	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment Education
Article 40(1)(g)	Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and compensation regimes: increasing environmental awareness, involving Fishermen, with regard to the protection and restoration of marine biodiversity	Scientific or technical public law bodies; advisory councils; fishermen or organisations of fishermen; NGOs in partnership with organisations of fishermen / FLAGs		Increasing environmental awareness to enable Fishermen to move into ecotourism at Natura 2000 sites	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment Education

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 47(1)(a)	Innovation: technical, scientific or organisational knowledge in aquaculture farms which reduces the impact on the environment [...] fosters a sustainable use of resources in aquaculture, improves animal welfare or facilitates new sustainable production methods	Public or private scientific or technical bodies; others		Increasing information base and understanding of current innovations among aquaculturists to enable activities that are compatible with Natura 2000 sites	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment Education
Article 48.1(h)	Productive investments in aquaculture: diversification of the income of aquaculture enterprises through the development of complementary activities outside aquaculture (i.e. aquaculture environmental services)	Aquaculturists	See Art 48.2	Training in order to facilitate diversification of activities – e.g. training in small business management to facilitate eco-tourism, or site management skills	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment Education
Article 50(1)(a)	Promotion of human capital and networking: professional training, lifelong learning, the dissemination of scientific and technical knowledge and innovative practices, the acquisition of new professional skills in aquaculture and with regard to the reduction of the environmental impact of aquaculture operations	Aquaculturists	See Art 50(2-4)	Training to improve monitoring, control and surveillance of fishing activities in Natura 2000 sites	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment Education
Article 76(2)(h)	CFP control and enforcement: training and exchange programmes, including between Member States, of personnel responsible for monitoring, control and surveillance of fisheries activities	Public authorities		Training to enhance awareness about the benefits of MPAs with the intention of reducing IUU fishing	Food security (ensuring sustainable level of fisheries and status of fish stocks) Education
Article 79(1)(b)	Protection of the marine environment, in particular biodiversity and MPAs such as Natura 2000 sites, the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources, and the further definition of boundaries of the sustainability of human activities that have an impact on the marine environment	All	See also Art 80	Training related to management of coastal and marine Natura 2000 sites, for example related to Natura 2000 management measures, diversification of local activities to reduce fishing pressures on sites, uptake of new monitoring methods etc.	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site and/or types of measures adopted
ERDF (inc. ETC*)					
Article 5.1(b)	Strengthening research, technological development and innovation: business R&I investment in innovation and research [...]	Not specified		Supporting training to stimulate sustainable, nature-based business ideas and research innovations (bioeconomy) with possible concrete links to Natura 2000 areas	Education (skill development) Employment
Article 5.2(c)	Information and communication technologies (ICT): ICT applications for e-government, e-learning, e-inclusion and e-health	Not specified		In the context of providing ICT solutions to local / regional governance and/or education systems, supporting training that facilitates the use of electronic systems for environmental governance and education (including sharing information on Natura 2000 areas)	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site

Measure 21: Training and education

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 5.3(a)(c)	SME competitiveness: entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms	SMEs		Training programmes to support establishment of nature-based business initiatives (ecotourism, bioinnovations etc.) linked with Natura 2000, targeted to areas where such businesses are a rarity	Education (skill development) Employment
Article 5.4(a)	Low-carbon economy: energy derived from renewable sources	Not specified		In the context of broader local / regional sustainable development, providing training that supports the uptake of sustainable renewable energy sources, e.g. using removed excess biomass from Natura 2000 sites – such as vegetation from overgrown aquatic areas – as bio-fuel	Education (skill development) Energy security
Article 5.4(e)	Low-carbon economy: low-carbon strategies for all types of territories, in particular for urban areas	Not specified		In the context of broader local / regional sustainable development, providing training that supports the uptake of different ecosystem-based solutions for climate change mitigation, adaptation and/or prevention of environmental risks (e.g. restoration of green infrastructure for water management)	Education (skill development) Climate change mitigation
Article 5.5(a)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches	Not specified		In the context of broader local / regional sustainable development, providing training that supports the uptake of different ecosystem-based solutions for climate change mitigation, adaptation and/or prevention of environmental risks (e.g. restoration of green infrastructure for water management)	Education (skill development) Climate change mitigation Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Article 5.5(b)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: addressing specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems	Not specified		In the context of broader local / regional sustainable development, providing training that supports the uptake of different ecosystem-based solutions for climate change mitigation, adaptation and/or prevention of environmental risks (e.g. restoration of green infrastructure for water management)	Education (skill development) Climate change mitigation Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Article 5.6(a) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (a) waste sector, including (f) promoting innovative technologies	Not specified		In the context of broader local / regional sustainable development, providing training that supports the uptake of biodiversity-friendly infrastructure for waste management	Education Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.6(b) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (b) water sector, including (f) promoting innovative technologies	Not specified		In the context of broader local / regional sustainable development, providing training that supports the uptake of different ecosystem-based solutions for water management (e.g. wetland restoration). Alternatively, training that supports the uptake of biodiversity-friendly infrastructure for water management	Water security Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.6(c)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage	Not specified		Training programmes to support establishment/enhancement of Natura 2000 related tourism in areas with high natural/cultural heritage value	Cultural and natural heritage Recreation and tourism

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 5.6(d) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (d) protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure, including (f) innovative technologies	Not specified		Providing training that supports the uptake of different ecosystem-based solutions for water management (e.g. wetland restoration). Alternatively, training that supports the uptake of biodiversity-friendly infrastructure for water management	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site Also education (skill development)
Article 5.6(e) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (e) improving the urban environment including regeneration of brownfield sites and also (f) including innovative technologies	Not specified		In the context of broader local / regional sustainable development, providing training that supports the uptake of biodiversity-friendly infrastructure for waste management	Education Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.8(a)	Employment and labour mobility: business incubators and investment support for self-employment, micro- enterprises and business creation	Not specified		Training programmes to support establishment of nature-based business initiatives (ecotourism, bioinnovations etc.) linked with Natura 2000, targeted to areas where such businesses are a rarity	Employment Education (skill development)
Article 5.8(b)	Employment and labour mobility: employment-friendly growth through [...] enhancement of accessibility to, and development of, specific natural and cultural resources	Not specified		As a part of a broader business creation and innovation, developing access to Natura 2000 sites to enhance related business opportunities. For example, creating infrastructure related to ecotourism etc.	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
Article 5.9(a) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: (b) health and social infrastructure [...] also through cultural and recreational services, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		In the context of broader local / regional sustainable development, providing training that highlights the health benefits related to the recreational use of Natura 2000 areas and encourages the integration of these opportunities into the local / regional health programmes	Health benefits (physical and mental) Support of sustainable rural livelihoods
Article 5.9(b) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: physical, economic and social regeneration of deprived communities in urban and rural areas, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		In the context of broader sustainable development, providing training that supports the uptake of different ecosystem-based solutions for climate change mitigation, adaptation and/or prevention of environmental risks (e.g. restoration of green infrastructure for water management)	Support and diversification of sustainable livelihoods Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.9(c) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: social enterprises, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		As with Article 5.9 (b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises, e.g. involving unemployed people, people in rehabilitation etc.	As with Article 5.9 (b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises
Article 5.10	Education, training and lifelong learning: education, skills and lifelong learning by developing education and training infrastructure	Not specified but in practice primarily educational organisations		In the context of broader local / regional sustainable development, providing training that highlights the educational „potential“ of Natura 2000 areas and encourages the integration of these opportunities into the local / regional education programmes	Education

Measure 21: Training and education

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 5.11	Enhancing institutional capacity and efficiency of public authorities and stakeholders: efficiency of public administrations and public services related to the implementation of the ERDF and ESF	Public administrations		Training programmes for regional and local authorities, focused on risk prevention, sharing best practice, conducting studies, data collection and trends development etc. in relation to biodiversity and Natura 2000	Education (skill development)
Articles 7-9 Articles 10-12	Specific provisions for territorial features: urban areas Areas with special needs: Areas with natural or demographic handicaps	All possible		As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)	As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)
ESF					
Article 3.1(b)	Promoting social inclusion and combating poverty through, for example active inclusion, integration of marginalised communities, promoting the social economy and social enterprises, and community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Educational organisations		Promoting training and education related to opportunities associated with Natura 2000 sites and/or their management. For example, development of PES schemes with stakeholders on Natura 2000 areas	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment (acquiring new skills) Education
Article 3.1(c)	Investing in education, training and vocational training for skills and lifelong learning through, for example, enhancing access to lifelong learning, upgrading the knowledge, skills and competences of the workforce and increasing the labour market relevance of education and training systems	Not specified		Promoting pilot projects on social inclusion with opportunities associated with Natura 2000 sites and/or their management. For example, using Natura 2000 public outreach and information system as a test platform to develop new e-learning systems	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods) Education Health benefits (mental health via social inclusion)
Article 3.1(d)	Enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and efficient public administration through i) investment in institutional capacity and in the efficiency of public administrations and public services and ii) capacity building for stakeholders delivering education, lifelong learning, training and employment and social policies	Public administrations	See Art 3.1(d i)	Developing pilot projects aimed at improving public administration, including cooperation between relevant authorities on Natura 2000 management (access to / co-analysis of sectoral information etc.). For example, pilot projects exploring the most cost-effective and successful administrative framework for establishing PES schemes	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment (acquiring new skills) Education
Cohesion					
Article 4(a)(v)	Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy: low-carbon strategies for all types of territories, in particular for urban areas	Not specified	MS with GNI per inhabitant less than 90% of EU27 average	Training as a small component of infrastructure investment related to urban low-carbon projects, e.g. training local people and/or sector stakeholders on how nature-based solutions (such as restoration of wetland) can provide cost-effective and low-carbon solutions to urban areas.	Energy security Climate change mitigation Education
Article 4(b)(i)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches	Not specified	As above	Training as a small component of infrastructure projects related to climate adaptation, e.g. training local people and/or sector stakeholders on how nature-based solutions (including those linked with the management of Natura 2000) can help to adopt to climate change	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards Education

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 4(b)(ii)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: addressing specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems	Not specified	As above	Training as a small component of infrastructure projects related to risk mitigation, e.g. training local people and/or sector stakeholders on how nature-based solutions (including those linked with the management of Natura 2000) can help to mitigate environmental risks (flooding, droughts, wild fires etc.)	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards Education
Article 4(c)(i)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: investment in waste sector	Not specified	As above	Training as a small component of infrastructure investment related to waste projects, e.g. training local people and/or stakeholders of waste sector on how nature-based solutions (such as restoration of landfills) can provide cost-effective solutions for waste management (quality and quantity)	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site Education
Article 4(c)(ii)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: investment in water sector	Not specified	As above	Training as a small component of infrastructure investment water projects, e.g. training local people and/or stakeholders of water sector on how nature-based solutions (such as restoration of wetland) can provide cost-effective solutions for water management (e.g. quality of urban runoff water)	Water security Education Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 4(c)(iii)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: protecting and restoring biodiversity, soil protection and restoration and promoting ecosystem services including through Natura 2000 and green infrastructures	Not specified	As above	Training as a small component of green infrastructure projects, e.g. training local people and/or sector stakeholders on nature-based solutions (including those linked with the management of Natura 2000)	Education Employment (restoration) Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Article 4(c)(iv)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: urban environment, including regeneration of brownfield sites, reduction of air pollution and promoting noise-reduction measures	Not specified	As above	Training as a small component of urban regeneration projects , e.g. training local people and/or sector stakeholders how urban green areas can be designed and managed for multiple benefits to both people and biodiversity	Health benefits (due to improved air quality) Urban recreation and tourism Education
Article 4(e)	Institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders: institutional capacity and the efficiency of public administrations and public services related to the implementation of the Cohesion Fund	Public administrations	As above	As a part of a larger initiative, could integrate the management of Natura 2000 into approaches and methods aimed at improving public administration, e.g. new methods for sharing sectoral information	Education Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Horizon 2020					
Article 5.2 / Part III / Themes 5, 2 and 4	Research activities related to climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials; food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research, and the bioeconomy; and smart, green and integrated transport	All possible	Transnational cooperation	Depending on the context, research projects could result in training, e.g. development of new training methods and materials supporting the uptake of socio-economic benefits of sites among different stakeholders	Research and innovation
LIFE					
Articles 18, 19 and 22	Activities and eligibility criteria	All possible			

Measure 22:**Facilities to encourage visitor use and appreciation of Natura 2000 sites**

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions re: land type, applicability etc.	Examples	Examples of socio-economic benefits
EAFRD					
Article 17(1)(d)	Investments in physical assets: Non-productive investments linked to the achievement of agri- environment – climate objectives, including biodiversity conservation status of species and habitat as well as enhancing the public amenity value of a Natura 2000 area or other high nature value systems	All		Development of facilities to support recreation and tourism (information boards, sign-posted paths, camp site facilities etc.)	Recreation and tourism, including related employment
Article 20(1)(e)	Basic services and village renewal in rural areas: investments in recreational infrastructure, tourist information and small scale tourism infrastructure	Public administrations; public landowners	See Art 20(2-3)	Development of facilities to support recreation and tourism (information boards, sign-posted paths, camp site facilities etc.)	Recreation and tourism, including related employment
EMFF					
Article 30(1)	Diversification and new forms of income: diversification of the income of Fishermen through the development of complementary activities, including investments on board, angling tourism, restaurants, environmental services related to fishing and educational activities concerning fishing	Fishermen	See Art 30(2-4)	Investment in facilities that improve sustainable access to and use of Natura 2000 sites and other MPAs, with a view to increase nature-based tourism and related services in the area.	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
Article 44(4)	Inland fishing and inland aquatic fauna and flora: diversification of inland fishing activities to complementary activities under the conditions laid down in Article 30.	Fishermen		Investment in facilities that improve sustainable access to and use of Natura 2000 sites and other MPAs, with a view to increase nature-based tourism and related services in the area.	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
Article 48.1(h)	Productive investments in aquaculture: diversification of the income of aquaculture enterprises through the development of complementary activities outside aquaculture (i.e. aquaculture environmental services)	Aquaculturists	See Art 48.2	Investment in facilities that improve sustainable access to and use of Natura 2000 sites and other MPAs, with a view to increase nature-based tourism and related services in the area.	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
Article 76(2)(j)	CFP control and enforcement: enhancing awareness among fishermen and other players of the need to fight illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and on the implementation of the CFP rules	Public authorities		Promotion of diversification and job creation in eco-tourism through provision of visitor facilities at Natura 2000 sites	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
Article 79(1)(b)	Protection of the marine environment, in particular biodiversity and MPAs such as Natura 2000 sites, the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources, and the further definition of boundaries of the sustainability of human activities that have an impact on the marine environment	All	See also Art 80	Investments in public access to coastal and marine Natura 2000 sites, with possible links to recreation and related business opportunities	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site and/or types of measures adopted

Facilities to encourage visitor use and appreciation of Natura 2000 sites

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
ERDF (inc. ETC*)					
Article 5.2(c)	Information and communication technologies (ICT): ICT applications for e-government, e-learning, e-inclusion and e-health	Not specified		Investment in novel and innovative mechanisms for public access (e.g. access to information on using Natura 2000 sites), likely as a part of broader ICT initiative	Recreation and tourism Research and innovation
Article 5.3(a)(c)	SME competitiveness: entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms	SMEs		Investment in infrastructure that facilitates public access and in this way also business opportunities related to Natura 2000 sites, such as footpaths and camping facilities	Employment Education (skill development) Recreation and tourism
Article 5.5(b)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: addressing specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems	Not specified		Investment in infrastructure that reduces the risk of environmental hazards in Natura 2000 sites and prevents negative impacts on both biodiversity and people (increasing visitor safety). Such infrastructure includes, for example, camping facilities that minimise the risk of initiating wild fires etc.	Recreation and tourism Protection against natural hazards
Article 5.6(c)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage	Not specified		Development of visitor facilities/ complexes in relation to Natura 2000, e.g. regional environment centre with education materials relating to the Natura 2000 network	Cultural and natural heritage Recreation and tourism
Article 5.6(d) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (d) protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure, including (f) innovative technologies	Not specified		Investment in infrastructure that supports public access to Natura 2000 sites and in this way supports conservation efforts. Investment in infrastructure that prevents the over-use and degradation (e.g. soil erosion) of sensitive areas within Natura 2000 sites	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.6(e) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (e) improving the urban environment including regeneration of brownfield sites and also (f) including innovative technologies	Not specified		Investment in urban regeneration that provides benefits to biodiversity (e.g. improves ecological connectivity in the vicinity of Natura 2000 sites) and also facilitates public access to green urban environment	Several direct / concrete benefits, depending on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.7(c)	Sustainable transport: environment-friendly and low-carbon transport systems to promote sustainable regional and local mobility	Not specified		As a part of larger transport network projects, develop nature-friendly/low-risk transport corridors that facilitate public access to Natura 2000 sites, increasing visitor flows	Recreation and tourism
Article 5.8(a)	Employment and labour mobility: business incubators and investment support for self-employment, micro-enterprises and business creation	Not specified		Investment in infrastructure that facilitates public access and in this way also business opportunities related to Natura 2000 sites, such as footpaths and camping facilities	Employment Education (skill development) Recreation and tourism
Article 5.8(b)	Employment and labour mobility: employment-friendly growth through [...] enhancement of accessibility to, and development of, specific natural and cultural resources	Not specified		As a part of a broader business creation and innovation, developing access to Natura 2000 sites to enhance related business opportunities. For example, creating infrastructure related to ecotourism etc.	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment

Measure 22:**Facilities to encourage visitor use and appreciation of Natura 2000 sites**

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 5.8(c)	Employment and labour mobility: local initiatives and aid for structures providing neighbourhood services to create new jobs, where such actions are outside the scope of ESF	Not specified		As with Article 5.8(a) but at regional level (cross-border sites, multiple sites within a region)	As with Article 5.8(a) but at regional level (cross-border sites, multiple sites within a region)
Article 5.9(a) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: (b) health and social infrastructure [...] also through cultural and recreational services, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		Investment in infrastructure that supports public access to and use of Natura 2000 areas for recreation, bringing health benefits	Health benefits (physical and mental) Support of sustainable rural livelihoods
Article 5.9(b) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: physical, economic and social regeneration of deprived communities in urban and rural areas, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		Investment in infrastructure that supports integration of Natura 2000 sites into broader urban and rural regeneration, such infrastructure for public access (public, wellbeing benefits) and business development (private, economic benefits)	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.9(c) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: social enterprises, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		As with Article 5.9 (b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises, e.g. involving unemployed people, people in rehabilitation etc.	As with Article 5.9 (b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises
Article 5.10	Education, training and lifelong learning: education, skills and lifelong learning by developing education and training infrastructure	Not specified but in practice primarily educational organisations		Investment in infrastructure that supports the use of Natura 2000 sites in broader environmental education (e.g. visitor centres with research / training facilities)	Education Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Articles 7-9 Articles 10-12	Specific provisions for territorial features: urban areas Areas with special needs: Areas with natural or demographic handicaps	All possible		As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)	As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)
ESF					
Not applicable					
Cohesion					
Article 4(b)(i)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches	Not specified	MS with GNI per inhabitant less than 90% of EU27 average	Investment in infrastructure that reduces the risk of environmental hazards in Natura 2000 sites and prevents negative impacts on both biodiversity and people (increasing visitor safety). Such infrastructure includes, for example, camping facilities that minimise the risk of initiating wild fires etc.	Recreation and tourism Protection against natural hazards
Article 4(c)(iii)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: protecting and restoring biodiversity, soil protection and restoration and promoting ecosystem services including through Natura 2000 and green infrastructures	Not specified	As above	Development of visitor facilities/ complexes in relation to Natura 2000, e.g. regional environment centre with education materials relating to the Natura 2000 network	Tourism and recreation Education
Horizon 2020					
Not applicable					
LIFE					
Articles 18, 19 and 22	Activities and eligibility criteria	All possible			

Land purchase, including compensation for development rights

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions re: land type, applicability etc.	Examples	Examples of socio-economic benefits
EAFRD					
Article 20(1)(f)	Basic services and village renewal in rural areas: studies and investments associated with maintenance, restoration and upgrading of the cultural and natural heritage, rural landscapes and high nature value sites	Public administrations; farmers; foresters; NGOs; private landowners; public landowners; land managers; SMEs; educational organisations	See Art 20(2-3)	Land purchase for the purposes of improving the management of Natura 2000 site and/or network (establishing buffer zones, increasing ecological connectivity etc.)	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
EMFF					
Not applicable					
ERDF (inc. ETC*)					
Article 5.4(e)	Low-carbon economy: low-carbon strategies for all types of territories, in particular for urban areas	Not specified	Urban areas	Land purchase required to establish / sustain sustainable use of Natura 2000 in the context of urban development, e.g. maintaining or restoring urban areas for nature-based, low-carbon risk mitigation, water management etc.	Energy security Climate change mitigation
Article 5.6(d) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (d) protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure, including (f) innovative technologies	Not specified		Land purchase required to establish / sustain sustainable use of Natura 2000 in the context of regional development, e.g. maintaining parts of exceptional landscape as dedicated areas for natural heritage, recreation and tourism	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.6(e) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (e) improving the urban environment including regeneration of brownfield sites and also (f) including innovative technologies	Not specified		Land purchase required to regenerate brownfield sites, with links to urban Natura 2000 management	Health benefits (due to improved air quality) Research and innovation
ESF					
Not applicable					
Cohesion					
Article 4(c)(iii)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: protecting and restoring biodiversity, soil protection and restoration and promoting ecosystem services including through Natura 2000 and green infrastructures	Not specified	MS with GNI per inhabitant less than 90% of EU27 average	Land purchase required to establish / sustain sustainable use of Natura 2000 in the context of regional development, e.g. maintaining parts of exceptional landscape as dedicated areas for natural heritage, recreation and tourism	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Horizon 2020					
Not applicable					
LIFE					
Articles 18, 19 and 22	Activities and eligibility criteria	All possible			

Measure 24:**Infrastructure needed for the restoration of habitat or species**

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions re: land type, applicability etc.	Examples	Examples of socio-economic benefits
EAFRD					
Article 17(1)(d)	Investments in physical assets: Non-productive investments linked to the achievement of agri- environment – climate objectives, including biodiversity conservation status of species and habitat as well as enhancing the public amenity value of a Natura 2000 area or other high nature value systems	All		Support for installation of infrastructure for restoration of habitats and species in order to achieve aims of Natura 2000, e.g. to encourage recolonisation by rare species (nesting boxes), bat roosts; or construction of nursery to grow native plants for restoration project; if required for Natura 2000 objectives	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 35	Cooperation: for example joint approaches to environmental projects, ongoing environmental practices and preservation of agricultural landscapes and also cooperation in the context of European Innovation Partnership (EIP)	All (must be a collaboration of actors)	See also Art 35(7-8) Relevant only to: agricultural land; forests	Support for establishing infrastructure related to the cooperative restoration of Natura 2000 sites or species, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchasing of beehives for native bees to secure appropriate functioning of rural ecosystems and the maintenance of pollination-dependent species • Encouraging recolonisation by rare species (nesting boxes, bat roosts) • Construction of nursery to grow native plants for restoration project 	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site (e.g. pollination)
Leader (Articles 42-44)	Support for local action groups and LEADER start-up kits	All (must be Local Action Group)	See Art 44	Support for installation of infrastructure for restoration of habitats and species in order to achieve aims of Natura 2000, e.g. to restore transboundary water ways and species relevant to local development	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
EMFF					
Article 44(6)(a)	Inland fishing and inland aquatic fauna and flora: management, restoration and monitoring of Natura 2000 sites which are affected by fishing activities, and the rehabilitation of inland waters in accordance with the Water Framework Directive	Fishermen		Modification of waterway, by installation of infrastructure, to alter water flows or to enable fish movements for the benefit of aquatic ecosystems.	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including improved food security via stock recovery, employment related to restoration etc.
Article 44(6)(b)	Inland fishing and inland aquatic fauna and flora: construction, modernisation or installation of static or movable facilities intended to protect and enhance aquatic fauna and flora	Fishermen		Installation of 'cages' in order to protect fragile species and habitats	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, including improved food security via stock recovery, employment related to restoration etc.
Article 44(6)(a)	Inland fishing and inland aquatic fauna and flora: management, restoration and monitoring of Natura 2000 sites which are affected by fishing activities, and the rehabilitation of inland waters in accordance with the Water Framework Directive	Fishermen		Management of water quality could enable restoration/return of freshwater invertebrates. Replanting of riverside vegetation could increase spawning success	

Infrastructure needed for the restoration of habitat or species

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 48(1)(d)	Productive investments in aquaculture: improvements and modernisation related to animal health and welfare, including the purchase of equipment aiming at protecting the farms from wild predators	Aquaculturists		Infrastructure to prevent predation of farmed fish by wild predators could lead the predators to be considered more favourably by aquaculturists (and less like pests)	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 48(1)(e)	Productive investments in aquaculture: reducing the negative impact or enhancing the positive effects on the environment and increasing resource efficiency	Aquaculturists		Introduction of infrastructures to reduce disturbance to native species associated with aquaculture sites (e.g. reduce disturbance to birds)	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 48(1)(g)	Productive investments in aquaculture: restoration of existing aquaculture ponds or lagoons through the removal of silt, or investments aimed at the prevention of silt deposits	Aquaculturists		Removal of silt (including related infrastructure) can restore habitats for molluscs such as oysters	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site, for example recreation opportunities (via improved habitat and water quality) and food security (recovery of species such as oysters)
Article 48(1)(i-j)	Productive investments in aquaculture: reduction in the impact of aquaculture enterprises on water usage and quality, including closed aquaculture systems minimising water use	Aquaculturists		Improvement of water management infrastructure to increase water quality and thereby improve conditions for certain species	Food security (improving status of fish stocks) Health benefits (related to water quality) Recreation and tourism (benefiting from water quality) Cultural and natural heritage (maintaining species with cultural importance)
Article 51(1)(a-b)	Increasing the potential of aquaculture sites: identification and mapping of the most suitable areas for developing aquaculture and improvement and development of support facilities and infrastructures required to [...] to reduce the negative environmental impact of aquaculture	Aquaculturists		Introduction of infrastructures to reduce disturbance to native species associated with aquaculture sites (e.g. reduce disturbance to birds)	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 79(1)(b)	Protection of the marine environment, in particular biodiversity and MPAs such as Natura 2000 sites, the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources, and the further definition of boundaries of the sustainability of human activities that have an impact on the marine environment	All	See also Art 80	Introduction of infrastructures to restore and/or reduce disturbance to habitats and species on Natura 2000 sites	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site and/or types of measures adopted

Measure 24:**Infrastructure needed for the restoration of habitat or species**

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
ERDF (inc. ETC*)					
Article 5.1(a)	Strengthening research, technological development and innovation: research and innovation (R&I) infrastructure	Not specified		Restoration of Natura 2000 sites – with benefits to biodiversity and socio-economic wellbeing – in the context of broader R&I initiative that explores ecosystem-based solutions for sustainable development	Employment (restoration) Research and innovation
Article 5.5(a)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches	Not specified		Restoration of Natura 2000 sites and their ecosystem services when they are linked to the adaptation to climate change (e.g. increasing ecosystem resilience to prevent climate induced risks)	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards Employment (restoration)
Article 5.5(b)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: addressing specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems	Not specified		Restoration of Natura 2000 sites and their ecosystem services when they are linked to risk prevention (e.g. increasing ecosystem resilience to prevent climate induced risks)	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards Employment (restoration)
Article 5.6(a) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (a) waste sector, including (f) promoting innovative technologies	Not specified		Support for the construction of waste treatment plant with result of improved water quality at Natura site	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.6(b) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (b) water sector, including (f) promoting innovative technologies	Not specified		Investment in habitat restoration when nature-based solutions (such as restoration of wetland) provide both benefits to biodiversity and cost-effective solution for water management. Alternatively, construction of infrastructure for water treatment in order to improve water quality (and therefore habitat quality) at Natura 2000 sites	Water security Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.6(c)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage	Not specified		Infrastructure needed to restore Natura 2000 sites and their cultural heritage values	Cultural and natural heritage Recreation and tourism
Article 5.6(d) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (d) protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure, including (f) innovative technologies	Not specified		Investment in habitat restoration when nature-based solutions (such as restoration of wetland) provide benefits to biodiversity and cost-effective solution for natural resource management	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site Employment (restoration)
Article 5.6(e) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (e) improving the urban environment including regeneration of brownfield sites and also (f) including innovative technologies	Not specified		Investment in urban regeneration and related infrastructure with dedicated consideration of links with Natura 2000 (e.g. support broader environmental quality, ecological connection etc.)	Health benefits (due to improved air quality) Urban recreation and tourism
Article 5.11	Enhancing institutional capacity and efficiency of public authorities and stakeholders: efficiency of public administrations and public services related to the implementation of the ERDF and ESF	Public administrations		Equipment needs related to upgrading the skills / capacity of regional and local authorities with the aim to improve Natura 2000 management	Education (skill development)

Infrastructure needed for the restoration of habitat or species

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Articles 7-9 Articles 10-12	Specific provisions for territorial features: urban areas Areas with special needs: Areas with natural or demographic handicaps	All possible	See relevant Articles	As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)	As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)
ESF					
Not applicable					
Cohesion					
Article 4(a)(v)	Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy: low-carbon strategies for all types of territories, in particular for urban areas	Not specified	MS with GNI per inhabitant less than 90% of EU27 average	Restoration of Natura 2000 sites and its ecosystem services when they are part of the broader urban low-carbon strategy	Energy security Climate change mitigation
Article 4(b)(i)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: adaptation to climate change, including ecosystem-based approaches	Not specified	As above	Restoration of Natura 2000 sites and their ecosystem services when they are linked to the adaptation to climate change (e.g. increasing ecosystem resilience to prevent climate induced risks)	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Article 4(b)(ii)	Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management: addressing specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems	Not specified	As above	Restoration of Natura 2000 sites and their ecosystem services when they are linked to risk prevention (e.g. increasing ecosystem resilience to prevent climate induced risks)	Climate change adaptation Protection against natural hazards
Article 4(c)(i)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: investment in waste sector	Not specified	As above	Support for the construction of waste treatment plant with result of improved water quality at Natura site	Direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 4(c)(ii)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: investment in water sector	Not specified	As above	Investment in habitat restoration when nature-based solutions (such as restoration of wetland) provide a cost-effective solution for water management. Alternatively, construction of infrastructure for water treatment in order to improve water quality (and therefore habitat quality) at Natura 2000 sites	Water security Other direct / concrete benefits depend on the characteristics of a site
Article 4(c)(iii)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: protecting and restoring biodiversity, soil protection and restoration and promoting ecosystem services including through Natura 2000 and green infrastructures	Not specified	As above	Investment in habitat restoration when nature-based solutions (such as restoration of wetland) provide a cost-effective solution for management	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site Employment (restoration)
Article 4(c)(iv)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: urban environment, including regeneration of brownfield sites, reduction of air pollution and promoting noise-reduction measures	Not specified	MS with GNI per inhabitant less than 90% of EU27 average	Investment in urban regeneration with dedicated consideration of links with Natura 2000 (e.g. support broader environmental quality, ecological connection etc.)	Health benefits (due to improved air quality) Urban recreation and tourism

Measure 24:**Infrastructure needed for the restoration of habitat or species**

<i>Article</i>	<i>Short description</i>	<i>Target group</i>	<i>Restrictions</i>	<i>Examples</i>	<i>Benefits</i>
Horizon 2020					
Article 5.2 / Part III / Themes 5, 2 and 4	Research activities related to climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials; food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research, and the bioeconomy; and smart, green and integrated transport	All possible	Transnational cooperation	Support to infrastructure investment as a part of research setup/facilities.	Research and innovation
LIFE					
Articles 18, 19 and 22	Activities and eligibility criteria	All possible			

Infrastructure for public access, interpretation works, observatories and kiosks, etc.

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions re: land type, applicability etc.	Examples	Examples of socio-economic benefits
EAFRD					
Article 19(1)(a-c)	Farm and business development: business start-up aid, investments in creation and development of non-agricultural activities, and small farm amalgamation	Farmers; other (Micro and small enterprises)	Relevant only to: agricultural land	Development of facilities to support recreation and tourism (information boards, signposted paths, camp site facilities etc.)	Recreation and tourism, including related employment
Article 20(1)(e)	Basic services and village renewal in rural areas: investments in recreational infrastructure, tourist information and small scale tourism infrastructure	Public administrations; public landowners	See Art 20(2-3)	Development of facilities to support recreation and tourism (information boards, sign posted paths, camp site facilities etc.)	Recreation and tourism, including related employment
Article 20(1)(g)	Basic services and village renewal in rural areas: relocation of activities and conversion of buildings or other facilities located within or close to rural settlements, with a view to improving the quality of life or increasing the environmental performance of the settlement	Public administrations; farmers; foresters; NGOs; private landowners; public landowners; land managers; SMEs; educational organisations	See Art 20(2-3)	Development of facilities to support recreation and tourism (information boards, sign posted paths, camp site facilities etc.)	Recreation and tourism, including related employment
Leader (Articles 42-44)	Support for local action groups and LEADER start-up kits	All (must be Local Action Group)	See Art 44	Development of facilities to support recreation and tourism (information boards, sign posted paths, camp site facilities etc.)	Recreation and tourism, including related employment
EMFF					
Not applicable					
ERDF (inc. ETC*)					
Article 5.3(a)(c)	SME competitiveness: entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms	SMEs		Investment in infrastructure that facilitates public access and in this way also business opportunities related to Natura 2000 sites, such as footpaths and camping facilities	Employment Education (skill development) Recreation and tourism
Article 5.4(c)	Low-carbon economy: energy efficiency, smart energy management and renewable energy use in public infrastructures and in the housing sector	Not specified		As a part of a larger initiative, could be used to pilot the use of energy efficient and/or renewable energy using techniques in Natura 2000 related infrastructure, such as visitor centres	Energy security Climate change mitigation Research and innovation
Article 5.6(c)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage	Not specified		Development of visitor facilities/ complexes in relation to Natura 2000, e.g. regional environment centre with education materials relating to the Natura 2000 network	Cultural and natural heritage Recreation and tourism
Article 5.6(d) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (d) protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure, including (f) innovative technologies	Not specified		Investment in infrastructure that supports public access to Natura 2000 sites and in this way supports conservation efforts. Investment in infrastructure that prevents the over-use and degradation (e.g. soil erosion) of sensitive areas within Natura 2000 sites	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site

Measure 25:**Infrastructure for public access, interpretation works, observatories and kiosks, etc.**

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 5.6(e) and (f)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: (e) improving the urban environment including regeneration of brownfield sites and also (f) including innovative technologies	Not specified		As with Article 5.6 (d) but in the urban context	As with Article 5.6 (d) but in the urban context
Article 5.7(c)	Sustainable transport: environment-friendly and low-carbon transport systems to promote sustainable regional and local mobility	Not specified		As a part of larger transport network projects, develop nature-friendly/low-risk transport corridors that facilitate public access to Natura 2000 sites, increasing visitor flows	Recreation and tourism
Article 5.8(b)	Employment and labour mobility: employment-friendly growth through [...] enhancement of accessibility to, and development of, specific natural and cultural resources	Not specified		As a part of a broader business creation and innovation, developing access to Natura 2000 sites to enhance related business opportunities. For example, creating infrastructure related to ecotourism etc.	Support and diversification of sustainable rural livelihoods Employment
Article 5.9(a) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: (b) health and social infrastructure [...] also through cultural and recreational services, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		Investment in infrastructure that supports public access to and use of Natura 2000 areas for recreation, bringing health benefits	Health benefits (physical and mental) Support of sustainable rural livelihoods
Article 5.9(b) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: physical, economic and social regeneration of deprived communities in urban and rural areas, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		Investment in infrastructure that supports integration of Natura 2000 sites into broader urban and rural regeneration, such as infrastructure for public access (public, wellbeing benefits) and business development (private, economic benefits)	Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Article 5.9(c) and (d)	Social inclusion, combating poverty and discrimination: social enterprises, including (d) Community-led local development (CLLD) strategies	Not specified		As with Article 5.9 (b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises, e.g. involving unemployed people, people in rehabilitation etc.	As with Article 5.9 (b) but in relation to activities undertaken by / together with social enterprises
Article 5.10	Education, training and lifelong learning: education, skills and lifelong learning by developing education and training infrastructure	Not specified but in practice primarily educational organisations		Investment in infrastructure that supports the use of Natura 2000 sites in broader environmental education (e.g. visitor centres with research / training facilities)	Education Several direct / concrete benefits related to green infrastructure, depending on the characteristics of a site
Articles 7-9 Articles 10-12	Specific provisions for territorial features: urban areas Areas with special needs: Areas with natural or demographic handicaps	All possible		As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)	As with Article 5.6(d) but in the context of urban development (Art 7-9) and areas with natural or demographic handicaps (Art 10-12)
ESF					
Not applicable					
Cohesion					
Article 4(a)(iii)	Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy: energy efficiency, smart energy management and renewable energy use in public infrastructure, including in public buildings, and in the housing sector	Not specified	MS with GNI per inhabitant less than 90% of EU27 average	Development of energy efficient public infrastructure for Natura 2000 sites, with use of renewable energy (e.g. visitor centres)	Energy security Climate change mitigation

Infrastructure for public access, interpretation works, observatories and kiosks, etc.

Article	Short description	Target group	Restrictions	Examples	Benefits
Article 4(c)(iii)	Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency: protecting and restoring biodiversity, soil protection and restoration and promoting ecosystem services including through Natura 2000 and green infrastructures	Not specified	As above	Development of public access infrastructure such as car parks, pathways	Recreation and tourism
Horizon 2020					
Not applicable					
LIFE					
Articles 18, 19 and 22	Activities and eligibility criteria	All possible			



© Roggenthin

The German Landcare Organisations ensure that Natura 2000 and farming works together, active land management is often required and depends on reliable funding sources.

chapter **2** Using EU funds for Natura 2000
in Member States in 2007-2013
– case studies



© WWF / Torkler



Table of contents

The Burren Farming for Conservation Programme. Funding biodiversity measures in priority grassland habitats.....	124
Management of traditional rural landscapes in Finland. Cooperation between multiple stakeholders in the Rekijokilaakso River Valley	126
Sustainable Catchment Management Programme (SCaMP). A water company led project in Northern England	128
Planning and implementing green infrastructure on a regional level in Romania. Ecological restoration of Comana wetlands in Giurgiu County	130
A unique partnership to preserve a threatened ecosystem in Hungary. Conservation of alluvial habitats of Community interest on Szabadság Island	133
Mapping and planning for sustainable fisheries in a Marine Protected Area. FishMap Môn in North Wales	136
ECO-LAGUNES: Environmental management of lagoon areas with aquaculture uses	139
Future of the Atlantic Marine Environment: Seabird tracking project	141
Accessing funds for Natura 2000 farming. German Land Care Associations	143
The Lower Saxony and Bremen joint integrated management plan for the Tideweser: Stakeholder involved management of the Weser Estuary	146

The Burren Farming for Conservation Programme

Funding biodiversity measures in priority grassland habitats

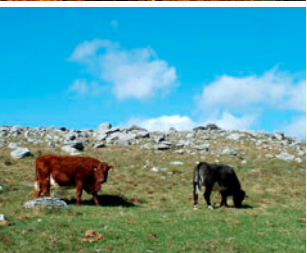


Fund used: LIFE+ – €2,230,487 over five years between 2004 and 2009; and pillar 1 of the CAP through Article 68(1)(a)(i) of EU Regulation 73/2009 – €4 million over four years between 2010 and 2013.

Member State: Ireland



Ecosystem/habitat/species supported by the scheme: Priority grasslands dependent on grazing, including priority habitats under the Habitats Directive: Turloughs (3180), Semi-natural dry grassland and scrubland on calcareous substrates (*Festuco-Brometalia*) (6210), Calcareous fens with *Cladium mariscus* and species of the *Caricion davallianae* (7210), Petrifying springs with tufa formation (*Cratoneurion*) (7220) and Limestone pavements (8240). The Burren hosts three SACs with a combined area of 30,462 ha.



Introduction to the project and management needs: The Burren, an area of limestone karst located on the Atlantic coast, is one of Ireland's most important regions for its flora, fauna and habitats thanks to its distinct geology as well as thousands of years of agriculture practiced in the region. Grazing on these areas during winter, made possible by the region's resistance to waterlogging, removes plant material that builds up over the summer months, preventing scrub encroachment and producing ideal conditions for annual crops of flowers, including rare species of gentians and orchids.



In recent years, the need for farmers to take on additional work to supplement farm incomes has meant less time to access remote areas resulting in reduced grazing of these patches. A change from foraging on winter-grazed grasslands (so-called 'winterages') to silage feeding or indoor housing has contributed to the abandonment of important grassland areas and, in some cases, to point source pollution of water



resources. The agri-environment scheme applied to the area failed to maintain conservation status, due to inflexible requirements such as the prohibition of any summer grazing on winterages, which limited farmers' ability to respond to exceptional circumstances such as disease or extreme weather conditions.

Description of how the funds were used to finance the work: A scheme was initiated with €2.2 million of funding under LIFE+ (BurrenLIFE Project or BLP) to trial innovative approaches to dealing with biodiversity conservation issues in the area, running from 2004 to 2009. A key aspect of the scheme was the opportunity for farmers to opt in to the measures at their own discretion. After the successful implementation of the project, the national government was sufficiently encouraged so as to announce a new scheme in 2009, the Burren Farming for Conservation Programme (BFCP), authorised by the Department of Agriculture, using unspent funds from Pillar 1 of the CAP with a budget of €1 million per year over four years (2010-2013). The scheme was permitted by a mechanism in Article 68 of EU Regulation 73/2009, which allows Member States to use Pillar 1 of the CAP to pay for specific types of farming that are important for the environment.

The payment is based on field-level assessments of habitat condition and environmental services delivered, including the production of species-rich grasslands, protection of designated land and the condition of water sources. Despite lower maximum payments per hectare than those offered under the Irish agri-environment scheme (i.e. a top rate of €120/ha, with average payments circa €75/ha with farmers themselves co-financing projects at €24/ha on average; compared to €242/ha provided under the agri-environment schemes), this arrangement appears to be viewed more favourably by farmers.

Activities financed: Under LIFE+, from 2004 to 2009, the activities funded included: installation of water pumps and tanks, restoration of internal stone walls to facilitate animal husbandry, scrub clearance and development of a concentrate feed system to ensure the nutritional requirements of cows are met over the winter periods. The new BFCP scheme, from 2010 to 2013, is structured around three measures: (1) the production of species-rich limestone grasslands, (2) capital enhancement works (including scrub removal) on Annex I habitats and (3) protection of designated land and other areas of Annex I habitats. While participants are provided with advice on how to maximise the environmental benefit from their land, farmers are expected to use their own initiative to create the optimal crop of species-rich grasslands.

Beneficiaries and ecosystem services expected: The targeted grazing and feeding system has greatly enhanced the sustainability of the farm operations, benefitting farmers. Targeted conservation work (scrub clearance etc.) has had the added positive social impact of creating much needed employment in the area and increased knowledge transfer and skills retention. In terms of ecosystem services, it can be expected to improve local water quality and increase cultural and tourism values through improved landscape quality.

Primary beneficiaries:

- Farmers within the Burren area – through access to new funding streams and the development of skills, leading to new local businesses initiated by farmers (such as the design and manufacture of gates and solar panel pumps).

Secondary beneficiaries:

- Local residents in the area – through improved landscape and biodiversity amenities, development of tourism industry and improved local water quality (including drinking water).

Key benefits:

- Support of rural livelihoods, increased employment opportunities, improved cultural and natural heritage and landscape values, water security, recreation and tourism, and ecosystem resilience.

Key outcomes and results: The measures funded under the BLP were found to have a positive impact on priority habitats, water quality, animal health and farm income. The new BFCP incentive scheme (initiated in 2010) appears to already have resulted in a greater proportion of high 'habitat condition scores' by the end of its second year. By March 2013, 160 farmers were included under the programme, impacting an area of 14,500 ha including approximately 13,000 ha under SAC designation.

Factors of success: The scheme used two funding streams: LIFE+ to innovate and trial a scheme that was appropriate to the local circumstances, followed by annual funding under Article 68, which expanded the scheme to large proportion of the farmers in the target area. This model proved successful as the initial LIFE+ project was able to demonstrate that it both boosted farm incomes and created environmental benefits, therefore convincing the Department of Agriculture to fund the scheme.

The way that the funds were used within the project is also a vital factor of success: in particular, the decision to make all the actions farmer-led meant that farmers felt comfortable about participating as they could opt in to the measures appropriate to them. Finding ways to make the system enhance the financial sustainability of the farm operations was a key element in achieving conservation benefits and efficient agricultural production.

References and further information:

- BFCP (2012) Burren Farming for Conservation Programme year 2 summary.
- BurrenLIFE (2010) Sustainable grazing of Burren winterages. <http://www.burrenlife.com/best-practice-guides.php>
- Burrenbeo Trust Monthly e-Newsletter April 2013 (No.76).

Contact:

*Brendan Dunford; Programme Manager,
Burren Farming for Conservation
Programme
+353 (0)65-7089000
brendan@burrenlife.com*

Management of traditional rural landscapes in Finland

Cooperation between multiple stakeholders in the Rekijokilaakso River Valley

Fund used: EAFRD, LIFE, ERDF Interreg IIA, National funds and Private funds (NGOs, local associations, environmental labelling, tourism revenues).

Member State: Finland

Ecosystem/habitat/species supported by the scheme: Rivers, grasslands and forests, including habitat types such as 6270 Fennoscandian lowland species-rich dry to mesic grasslands, 6510 Lowland hay meadows (*Alopecurus pratensis* and *Sanguisorba officinalis*), 6520 Mountain hay meadows and 9070 Fennoscandian wooded pastures and species of grasslands and forests such as Flying squirrel *Pteromys volans* (1910), Clouded apollo *Parnassius mnemosyne*, Pygmy owl *Glaucidium passerinum* (A217), Grey-headed woodpecker *Picus canus* (A234), and Red-backed shrike *Lanius collurio* (A338).

Introduction to the project and management needs: The Rekijokilaakso river valley is a 1,209 hectare complex of grasslands and wooded pastures situated in the south of Finland. Located on steep hillsides, the river valley has remained under traditional agricultural management as it is not suitable for intensive agriculture. The traditional agricultural management consisted of extensive mowing and grazing, mainly with cattle. As a consequence of this management several habitat types and species of Community interest are present on the site.

The traditional agricultural management has almost entirely disappeared from the area, as it was no longer profitable, and many of the grasslands have been abandoned. The lack of appropriate management is now threatening the species and habitats that are dependent on the extensive mowing and grazing regime. The current project therefore aimed at reintroducing a traditional agricultural management regime to the area.

Description of activities financed and funds used:

The project is funded by a variety of sources. The reintroduced management in the grasslands was funded by agri-environmental schemes financed by the EAFRD, the Finnish authorities, and by NGO's and local associations. The activities mainly consist of reintroducing seasonal mowing and rotational grazing of cattle. The reintroduced management in the woodlands was funded by the Finnish authorities. The reintroduction of the Clouded apollo is funded by LIFE. The capacity building in the area was funded by Interreg IIA, NGO's and local associations. NGO's and local associations also financed the construction of nature paths, and the development of management guidance. Private funds were accessed to increase the income of farmers through labelling of regional products.

Beneficiaries and socio-economic benefits expected:

Primary beneficiaries:

- Farmers, foresters, NGOs and local associations.

Secondary beneficiaries:

- Tourism enterprises.

Key benefits:

- Landscape quality; support to rural livelihoods; recreation and tourism; cultural and heritage.

Key outcomes and results:

- The area under extensive mowing and grazing has increased.
- A population of the Clouded apollo has successfully established in the area following its reintroduction.
- 48 hectare of forest is now covered by management agreements.

Factors of success: The key factor of success in reintroducing the traditional agricultural management in the Rekijokilaakso river valley was close cooperation between the different stakeholders, which resulted in access to a variety of public and private funds, thereby maximizing the conservation benefits. The active participation of the farmers in the area was essential, as this resulted in well-designed successful conservation measures and innovative use of private funds through the labelling of regional products.

The cooperation also successfully resolved the conflicts that existed between the different stakeholders in the area and has fostered a positive attitude of land-owners, farmers and foresters towards Natura 2000 and created the basis for the successful long-term management of the site.

References and further information:

- Ikonen, I (2002) *An assessment of the favourable conservation status of the Rekijoki river valley habitats*. Southwest Finland regional environment centre, Finnish Environment 594, Helsinki, FI.
- Ikonen, I (2011) Rekijokilaakso River Valley http://www.natura.org/natura2000management/fi_rekijokilaakso_river_valley.html
- Metsähallitus (2012) Species-rich LIFE. Ecological management of Natura 2000 areas in Finland. <http://www.metsa.fi/sivustot/metsa/en/Projects/LifeNatureProjects/SpeciesRichLIFE/Sivut/default.aspx>

Contact:

Iiro Ikonen, Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment in Southwest Finland
iiro.ikonen@ely-keskus.fi

Sustainable Catchment Management Programme (SCaMP)

A water company led project in Northern England

* £10.6 million spent between 2005 and 2010; £11.6 expected to required between 2010 and 2015. Exchange rate of 1 EUR = 0.842617 GBP on 5 September 2013.

Fund used: Private funds of €12.6 (provided by United Utilities) between 2010 and 2015 and a further €13.8 million between 2010 and 2015*, coupled with ongoing national government funds and EAFRD.

Member State: United Kingdom

Ecosystem/habitat/species supported by the scheme: Grasslands, heathlands, bogs and forests. Specifically, under the Habitats Directive, the habitat types found in the project area are: Northern Atlantic wet heaths with *Erica tetralix* (4010), European dry heaths (4030), Blanket bogs (7130), Transition mires and quaking bogs (7140) and Old sessile oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum* in the British Isles (91A0). The project area supports several upland heathland species protected under the Birds Directive, including: Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus* (A082), Merlin *Falco columbarius* (A098), Golden plover *Pluvialis apricaria* (A142) and Short-eared owl *Asio flammeus* (A222).

Introduction to the project and management needs: The water company United Utilities Group PLC owns 20,000 hectare of upland grasslands and heathlands in Lancashire and Derbyshire in the United Kingdom, of which 13,500 hectare falls within the Bowlands Fells (SPA) and the South Pennine Moors (SAC/SPA). Within these areas, several habitat types and species of Community interest are present. The grasslands and heathlands are leased to tenant farmers who use the land mainly for sheep grazing.

Between 1950 and 1970 the upland bogs were extensively drained for agricultural purposes, resulting in a rapid deterioration of the habitats. In addition, the southern part of the area has been affected by historical air pollution, high grazing pressure and wildfires. The resulting poor vegetation quality and associated soil and peat erosion have led to a low quality of the

water provided by the uplands, in particular in terms of colour. In addition, the soil erosion has resulted in increased sedimentation of streams and the high stocking rate can cause microbial contamination of the water. These developments have led to high treatment costs to United Utilities and to a low quality of the habitat types present in the uplands.

Description of how the funds were used to finance the work: The project was funded by United Utilities, who invested €12.6 million in the project between 2005 and 2010, and the Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) – an agri-environmental scheme which is co-financed by EAFRD and Natural England. Through the HLS, farmers in specified areas can receive payments for environmental management of their land for a period of 10 years or more. As the HLS scheme only covers half the costs of the capital investments, United Utilities offered to provide part or all of the upfront costs (e.g. building, fencing, gripping) to facilitate farmer's entry. For those farmers who did not qualify for HLS, United Utilities offered various concessions (e.g. construction of overwintering building or increasing the length of the tenancy agreement) to make their business more viable in return for more biodiversity-friendly farming practices.

Activities financed: United Utilities and the HLS financed re-wetting of blanket bog through grip and gully blocking, re-vegetation of eroded bare peat to restore blanket bog vegetation, woodland creation and enhancement, reduction of grazing pressure and investments in new farm infrastructure.

Beneficiaries and socio-economic benefits expected:

Primary beneficiaries:

- Tenant farmers – through access to new funding opportunities and investments in farm infrastructure;



© SCaMP Project

- United Utilities water company – through reduced water treatment costs and postponement of large investments in water treatment capacity.

Secondary beneficiaries:

- Local residents – through improved landscape and biodiversity amenities and (expected) reductions in water bills compared to a business-as-usual scenario;
- Wider public goods – through the sequestration of carbon and the prevention of further carbon emissions through degradation of blanket bog in a business-as-usual scenario.

Key benefits:

- Improved water quality, support to rural livelihoods, and carbon sequestration.

Key outcomes and results:

- The water quality has improved in terms of colour and sediment load.
- The vegetation cover in the degraded blanket bogs has increased, resulting in a decrease in erosion and an increase in carbon sequestration.
- The dry heaths show the first signs of recovery following a reduction in stocking rates.
- The structure of the woodlands has improved and the cover of non-native species in the woodlands has decreased.
- 38 tenant farmers have entered the HLS and have increased their annual income as a consequence.

Factors of success: The key factor of success of the SCaMP programme is the successful engagement by United Utilities with the tenant farmers, which greatly facilitated the development and implementation of the programme. The SCaMP programme benefited considerably from the joint use of private funds and the EAR-FD, in which the private funds were used to facilitate the entry of farmers into an agri-envi-

ronmental scheme and the public funds provide a long-term stable funding source. The cooperation between United Utilities and Natural England was also highly beneficial in this respect, linking a local stakeholder network and expertise on local biodiversity to a sustainable funding source.

References and further information:

- Anderson, P and Ross, S (2011) United Utilities Sustainable Catchment Management Programme. Volume 1. Executive Report. http://corporate.unitedutilities.com/documents/Vol_1_Executive_Report.pdf
- McGrath, M and Smith, M (2006) Sustainable Catchment Management Programme (SCaMP): Managing Farmland in Natura 2000 – Case studies 116 from hilltop to tap, in BHS 9th National Hydrology Symposium, Durham.

Contact:

Philip Austin, SCaMP Programme Manager
 (0)1925 678199 (Lingley Mere office)
 +44 (0)1772 782626 (Whitebull office)
philip.austin@uuplc.co.uk



© SCaMP Project

Planning and implementing green infrastructure on a regional level in Romania

Ecological restoration of Comana wetlands in Giurgiu County

Funds used: ERDF SOP ENV €0.86 million (3.8 million lei) (November 2009 – April 2011)
National government funds €0.47 million (2 million lei) (including VAT €0.25 million)
Local government funds €27,579 from Giurgiu County Council

Member State: Romania

Ecosystem/habitat/species supported by the scheme: Natura 2000 SCI Comana on 26,481 ha, RAMSAR site on 24,963 ha. Rivers, wetlands and forests, including wetland habitat types of Community interest 3130 Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the *Littorelletea uniflorae* and/or *Isoeto-Nanojuncetea*, 3160 Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds, 3260 Water courses of plain to montane levels with the *Ranunculion fluitantis* and *Callitriche-Batrachion* vegetation, 91E0 Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (*Alno-Padion*, *Alnion incanae*, *Salicion albae*) and 92A0 *Salix alba* and *Populus alba* galleries. Species of Community interest include European Pond Terrapin *Emys orbicularis* (1120), Kessler's Gudgeon *Gobio kessleri* (2511), White Pelican *Pelecanus onocrotalus* (A019), Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides* (A024) and Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida* (A196).

Introduction to the project and management needs: The Comana wetland Natural Park, established in 2004, is a 25,000 hectare wetland complex located in the south of Romania. The landscape in Comana is highly diverse, consisting of wetlands, lakes, oak forests, agricultural land and rural villages. The wetlands are an important staging site for migratory birds. A large number of habitat types and species of Community interest are present on the site. Past drainage projects to reclaim land for agriculture lowered the groundwater level and surface water level in the area. The low water levels have led to disastrous results, as farming

has become less productive due to the low water levels, and around 75% of the wetlands in Comana have been lost. The project aimed to restore the wetland by restoring the initial high water levels in the Comana area, to implement monitoring and management systems, and to promote awareness among visitors/tourists and local communities about the environmental protection and promoting of good practices on biodiversity conservation.

Description of how the funds were used to finance the work: The project was funded by two sources: the ERDF Sectoral Operational Programme for the Environment (SOP ENV) in Romania (65%), and match funding from the state budget (35%). The County Council of Giurgiu has contributed separately. The SOP ENV funding comes under Priority Axis 4: "Implementation of Adequate Management Systems for Nature Protection", under the measures for "Ecological restoration of habitats and the reinforcement of species populations"; and "Setting up monitoring systems for Natura 2000 sites and protected areas". The project was planned since 2000, but local funds were not sufficient to implement it. It was included as a priority when the County Strategy for 2007 – 2012 was elaborated. The EU Cohesion Policy therefore provided a very good opportunity for the implementation of the project. A key factor was the availability of pre-financing of 30% for the total project budget that provided the necessary funds to start the project. Keen support from the specialists from the Managing Authority and the Intermediate Body was beneficial to access funds and to implement the project successfully. The problems encountered were related to the process of public procurement for contracts regarding the supply/works/services, which led to appeals and, as a consequence, to delays in the project implementation. Addendums were necessary in order to extend the implementa-



© Comana Natural Park Administration

tion period and some works required the use of beneficiaries' own funds.

Activities financed: The project financed the construction of a dam with a sluice on the Neajlov River, downstream of Comana Lake, to increase and maintain the water level, allowing large parts of the floodplain area to be reflooded, with a fish scale next to the dam to enable fish to pass. It also financed a visitor centre, visitor management infrastructure, and an awareness raising campaign with dedicated information caravans, a round table and thematic seminars. A long-term monitoring programme has been set up, including the installation of monitoring equipment and infrastructure.

Beneficiaries and socio-economic benefits expected:

Primary beneficiaries:

- Comana National Park.

Secondary beneficiaries:

- Giurgiu County Council, municipality, fishermen, farmers, tourists and ecological researchers.

Key benefits:

- Sustainable tourism; nature experience (information and guidance); water retention and quality; education and awareness raising; employment; establishment of research centre with local scientific institutions.

Key outcomes and results: The project has raised the water level in the wetland, increasing the area covered by water and creating better conditions for the maintenance and development of flora and fauna. It is estimated that at least 30% of the original wetland now provides improved habitat for bird species and the number of birds has increased by at least 5%. The project is an important model for the region as it is implementing the first monitoring system

of environmental parameters and bird species in the region. The promotion of the concepts of protection and conservation of natural heritage will generate long-term favourable effects for biodiversity conservation in the area. It is recognised that raising the interest and awareness of visitors and the local community on issues of nature protection needs to continue to be a high priority.

Factors of success in relation to funding:

The funding was sufficient for project implementation and the financial framework conditions support the financing of the nature conservation activities. Without the EU funding, the project would not have been possible. Comana Wetland restoration was initially funded through a LIFE Nature project (2002-2004). While the LIFE project did not yet achieve the planned restoration, it was key to the successful planning of the restoration work (including identification of measures in view of increasing the wetland area, drafting a series of management recommendations and proposal to declare the site as a natural park) and laid the ground for the declaration of the area as a National Park in 2004.

The Comana wetlands project also benefited from the strong awareness raising campaigns taking place since 2000, which have created the necessary local support for restoration (regional and local authorities, business and the local population). The Giurgiu County Council has a good collaboration with the Local Environmental Protection Agency and land users on the Comana wetland restoration area, and they are supported by the Administration of the Comana Natural Park. Business investment is coming to the area and economic benefits are expected from establishing the area as an outstanding territory for ecological research in cooperation with scientific institutions in nearby Bucharest and other cities.

References and further information:

- Dan, R (undated) Case study – Project example from Romania – Planning and Implementing Green infrastructure on a regional level. http://www.surf-nature.eu/uploads/media/SURF_Romania_example_28032011_01.pdf
- SURF Nature (2011) Ecological restoration of Comana wetland. Good practice example of ERDF funding. http://surfnature.ctfc.cat/det_project.php?id=36
- EUNIS database of Natura 2000 sites <http://natura2000.eea.europa.eu/Natura2000/SDFPublic.aspx?site=ROSCI0043>
- Ramsar sites <http://www.ramsar.ro/index.php?act=page&idMain=2&idPag=4>
- LIFE02 NAT/RO/008571 http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=search.dspPage&n_proj_id=1980

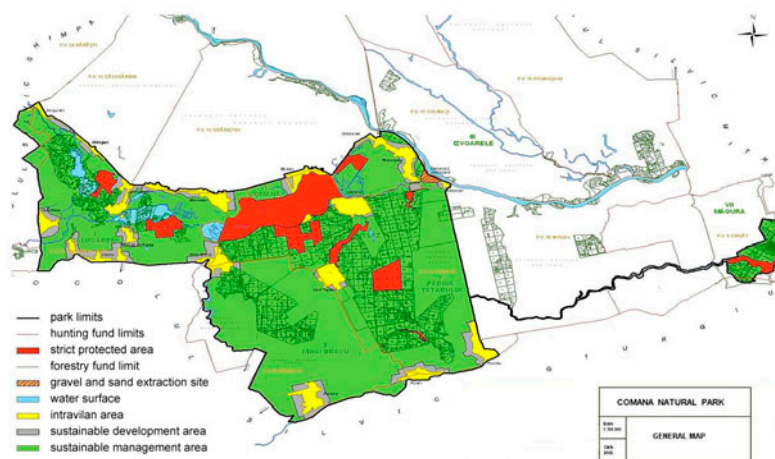
Contact:

Raluca Dan, Policy Coordinator, Policy and Green Economy Programme, WWF Romania
rdan@wwfdcp.ro

Daniela Peicea, Project Manager, Giurgiu County Council, Giurgiu County, Romania
daniela_peicea@yahoo.com



© Comana Natural Park Administration



© Romanian Forest Research and Management Institute (ICAS)

A unique partnership to preserve a threatened ecosystem in Hungary

Conservation of alluvial habitats of Community interest on Szabadság Island

Fund used: (January 2009 – December 2013)

Total budget: €1,795,529; Eligible budget: €1,434,529. LIFE – 75% of eligible budget

Out of total budget:

- National government funds; Local government funds 14%
- State owned company 4.5%
- NGO (private people) 7.5%
- Corporate companies 15%
- LIFE 59%

Member State: Hungary

Ecosystem/habitat/species supported by the scheme:

Natura 2000 Béda-Karapanca SPA (8,722 ha) and SCI (10,798 ha), Béda-Karapanca RAMSAR site (1,149 ha) (part of the 49,479 ha Duna-Drava National Park). Rivers and forests, including habitat types of Community interest 91E0 Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (*Alno-Padion*, *Alnion incanae*, *Salicion albae*) and 91F0 Riparian mixed forests of *Quercus robur*, *Ulmus laevis* and *Ulmus minor*, *Fraxinus excelsior* or *Fraxinus angustifolia*, along the great rivers (*Ulmion minoris*). Species of Community interest include Beaver *Castor fiber* (1337), Danube crested newt *Triturus dobrogicus* (1993), Ziege *Pelecus cultratus* (2522), Sterlet *Acipenser ruthenus*, Little bittern *Ixobrychus minutus* A022, Black stork *Ciconia nigra* (A030), Little crane *Porzana parva* (A120) and Moustached warbler *Acrocephalus melanopogon* (A293).

Introduction to the project and management needs:

Szabadság Island is a 47 hectare island in the Danube in the south of Hungary, part of the Danube-Drava National Park and Béda-Karapanca SPA. The island hosts some prime examples of alluvial forest habitat in Hungary. It is an important staging site for migratory birds and hosts a large number of habitat types and species of Community interest, including many fish species endemic to the Danube.

The construction in 1982 of a rock-fill dam in the sidearm flowing next to the island has converted the free flowing sidearm to a stagnant water body, which has since then gradually become shallower. If no action were taken the sidearm would eventually disappear. In addition, a considerable area of alluvial forest in the area has been replaced by plantations of non-native and invasive tree species. The project therefore aims at increasing the area of alluvial forest by restoring the free flowing sidearm and removing non-native tree plantations.

Description of how the funds were used to finance the work:

The project was funded by a combination of sources. Initial funding came from the Hungarian national government and LIFE, with 15% of funds being provided by private companies and a small proportion through NGO activities, including fundraising. Co-financing was provided by the Municipality of Mohács, Coca-Cola Hungary and Cargill. Own source funding was provided by some partners: Danube-Drava National Park Directorate, Lower Danube Valley Environmental and Water Affairs Directorate and Transdanubian Regional Waterworks Public Company (DRV Zrt.). The coordinating beneficiary was WWF Hungary, and associated beneficiaries were the Danube-Drava National Park Directorate, and Lower Danube Valley Environmental and Water Affairs Directorate (ADUKÖVIZIG).

Of the overall budget 50% funded the field activities, including the dredging and the relocation of the water pipe, 15% financed the forestry and conservation management; 10% financed communication activities, and the remainder financed staffing, travel, expertise and other associated project costs.

Activities financed: Eligible activities were financed 75% by LIFE and 25% from own source funding from state organisations and WWF,

as the NGO are responsible for the activities, and included the coordination of the project, all communication activities, and the dredging of the river sidearm.

The LIFE programme and Danube-Drava National Park Directorate financed the purchase of the island, and financed the conservation management including forestry activities, clearance of non-native tree species, and the monitoring programme. LIFE and the Lower Danube Valley Environmental and Water Affairs Directorate (ADUKÖVIZIG) financed the technical design of the dredging and opening the rock-fill dam, along with its implementation, and supervised the field activities affecting the river sidearm as water manager of the relevant section of the Danube. WWF Hungary, from corporate co-financing, and the Transdanubian Regional Waterworks Public Company (DRV Zrt.) financed the non-eligible relocation of drinking water infrastructure, with LIFE and DRV Zrt. financing the costs of the planning of the waterpipe relocation, as this was eligible for LIFE funding. WWF Hungary and DRV financed the non-eligible part, the implementation of the waterpipe relocation, which was 20% covered by DRV and 80% by WWF from corporate funding.

Beneficiaries and socio-economic benefits expected:

Coordinating beneficiary:

- WWF Hungary.

Associated beneficiaries:

- Duna-Drava National Park Directorate, Lower Danube Valley Environmental and Water Affairs Directorate (ADUKÖVIZIG), Transdanubian Regional Waterworks Public Company.

Cofinanciers:

- Coca-Cola Hungary, Municipality of Mohács, private Hungarian citizens donating to WWF.

Key benefits:

- Ecological restoration; river sidearm longitudinal permeability (WFD); water quality; recreation and tourism; wildlife; heritage and landscape; protected species.

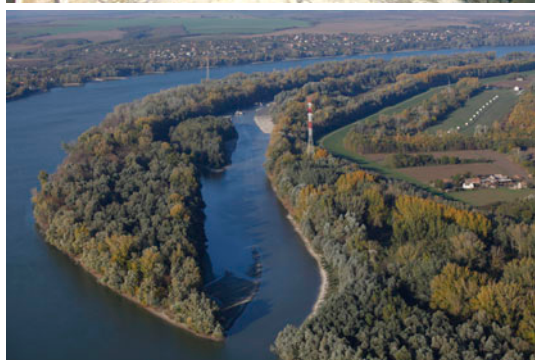
Key outcomes and results:

- Preparatory actions (technical design and permissions) were completed in April 2011.
- 160,000 m³ of sediment has been dredged from the river sidearm and the waterpipes have been relocated by March 2013.
- The dam in the river sidearm has been opened in 2013 providing water flow in the sidearm.
- All non-native tree plantations have been removed from the island and the plantations were replanted with a mixture of native species of alluvial forests in February 2010 and 2011.

Factors of success in relation to funding:

LIFE funded the majority of this project, which may have struggled to find funding through other Natura 2000 funding mechanisms. A positive attribute of LIFE is its flexibility to alter plans which are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances, including legal and administrative.

The project experienced some initial difficulties in acquiring match funding, confirming that co-funding can be a bottle neck for accessing EU funds for smaller projects or for those without a strong national priority. A possible increase in the LIFE funding proportion would have been beneficial to the Szabadság Island project, through allowing an increase of time focused on project work, rather than fundraising and mustering private co-financing. Additionally, the high costs of the waterpipe relocation, considered non-eligible by LIFE, also increased the need for matching funds.



© WWF Hungary

The key factor of success for conserving alluvial forests on the Szabadság Island was the synergy between LIFE and governmental and private funds related to water. The project created a win-win situation by efficiently linking nature conservation with improving water quality in the Danube river and was thus able to access funds from regional and local governments and from the private sector, as well as expertise from these bodies.

References and further information:

- WWF Hungary (2012) Szabadsagsziget / Liberty Island. http://szabadsagsziget.hu/index.php?m=projektek/1/mit_teszunk_a_szigetert
- European Commission (2007) DANUBEISLANDFOREST – Conservation of alluvial habitats of community interest on the Szabadság Island and side channel in Béda-Karapanca pSCI (HUDD10004 and HUDD20045). http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=search.dspPage&n_proj_id=3359

Contact:

*Viktoria Siposs, Liberty Island project manager, WWF Hungary, 1141 Budapest
Álmos vezér útja 69/a, Hungary*

+36 1 2145554

+36 1 2129353 (Fax)

+36 30 6784169 (Mob)

viktoria.siposs@wwf.hu

Mapping and planning for sustainable fisheries in a Marine Protected Area

FishMap Môn in North Wales

Fund used: European Fisheries Fund (75% funding) – £187,500 (around €232,000) (September 2011 – September 2013)
Welsh Government (25% funding) – £62,500 (around €77,000)

If the application for an extension of funds submitted to the Welsh Government in June 2013 is successful the foreseen Project budget will be £395,455 (around €488,000).

Member State: United Kingdom

Ecosystem/habitat/species supported by the scheme: The marine area encompasses approximately 265 km² around the Isle of Anglesey (out to 12 nautical miles), of which approximately 3% is in Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and 3% is in Special Protection Areas (SPAs). The SAC areas are mainly composed of the Menai Strait and Conwy Bay SAC (2.8% of the project area) with a small part of the Lleyn Peninsula and the Sarnau SAC (0.2%); the majority of the SPA area is within Liverpool Bay SPA (2.9%). Habitats of Community interest include mud flats & sand flats (1110 & 1140), rocky reefs (e.g. horse mussel reefs) (1170), sea inlets (1160) tidal rivers & estuaries (1130). Species of Community interest include Bottlenose dolphin *Tursiops truncatus* (1349), Otter *Lutra lutra* (1355), Grey seal *Halichoerus grypus* (1364), and winter populations of Red-throated Diver *Gavia stellata* (A001) and Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra* (A065).

Introduction to the project and management needs: FishMap Môn is a collaborative pilot project between Natural Resources Wales (NRW), recreational fishers and commercial fishers in North Wales, and aims to develop a fisheries management guidance tool for the Anglesey marine area, which will contribute to delivering an ecosystem based approach to realising the Welsh Sustainable Fisheries Strategy.

The FishMap Môn project focuses mainly on the waters around the Isle of Anglesey (out to 12 nautical miles). The main commercial fisheries in the project area are for shellfish including lobster, crab, prawns, whelks, periwinkles and mussels. Recreational fishing is also important with a variety of species caught such as mackerel, sea bass, pollock and dogfish. The project is trialling ways to collect fishing activity data from local fishers and combine it with information on seabed habitat type and sensitivity using GIS tools, in order to improve and inform the sustainability of fishing and marine nature conservation.

Description of how the funds were used to finance the work: Both European Fisheries Fund (EFF) and government funds were used, with no specific actions being attributed to individual funding sources. Funds were spent on: staffing costs, including salaries and costs of project board/steering group – £273,500; office and field equipment – £14,000; publicity and training – £2,326; stakeholder engagement, including translation and presentations – £5,730; recruitment and management interface – £34,800; attendance at conferences – £5,888; GIS licensing and analysis costs – £46,794.

Activities financed: The FishMap Môn Guidance Tool is one of the key outputs of the project. The project is engaging with fishermen's groups and other relevant organisations through meetings and workshops to involve stakeholders in developing guidance on environmentally sustainable fisheries management in the test area. It has carried out a series of interviews in order to collect information about fishing activity and intensity, and has mapped individual fishing grounds together with fishing gear used. This data has been matched with existing habitat and sensitivity data to develop options to inform sustainable fisheries management – showing which areas are vulnerable to

fishing activities and others which are more robust.

As part of the engagement with fisheries stakeholders, a web based mapping application with an easy to use interface has been developed to enable access to people with little or no background in digital mapping. Stakeholders will start with a map of the benthic habitats in an area of interest and will be able to digitise locations of fishing activities and define the intensity of their activity. This will then bring up the sensitivity of each habitat to that particular type of fishing. It is currently being tested by stakeholders from NRW, Welsh Government and the fishing industry.

European Fisheries Fund funding aims to support the growth of sustainable fishing industries. One of the early challenges of the Project was to bring on board partners from local fishing organisations. Countryside Council for Wales (CCW, which later became NRW) achieved the support of the fishing industry through ensuring that the project would deliver cross-cutting benefits to all involved, for example nature conservation and sustainable fisheries in Wales. The project board has identified a need to better communicate the benefits of the project to the local fishing industry, and noted that without developing a healthy partnership environment, it will not be successful moving forward.

Beneficiaries and ecosystem services expected:

Primary beneficiaries:

- Natural resource management in Wales (Welsh Government and NRW), North Wales Fishermen's Cooperative Ltd, Bangor Mussel Producers Ltd, Welsh Federation of Sea Anglers, and Welsh Fishermen's Association. The project is engaging with commercial fishermen, charter boat operators and non-commercial fishermen

(anglers, bait collectors, mussel gatherers etc.).

Secondary beneficiaries:

- Welsh marine tourism operators, Welsh seafood market value chain (shops, restaurants, etc.).

Key benefits:

- Sustainable management of natural resources in the marine environment (e.g. healthy benthic habitats supporting healthy fish stocks), recreational fishing and marine tourism (recreation value and economic value). A sustainable marine fisheries sector that strikes a balance between preventing damaging activities while maximising the economic value of those activities that can be undertaken sustainably.

Key outcomes and results: Specific outcomes of the project so far include mapping a range of commercial and recreational fishing activity in the project area, through a series of one to one interviews with commercial fishermen, charter boat operators and recreational sea anglers – maps illustrating habitat sensitivity with fishing activity and intensity data have been created following surveys of approximately 50 commercial fishers and 600 recreational fishers. The FishMap Môn Guidance Tool, an easy to use web based mapping application allowing stakeholders to view fishing activity data or hypothetical fishing scenarios in combination with seabed habitats and their sensitivity, has been developed. Furthermore, outcomes include an evaluation of how learning from FishMap Môn could be applied to managing the marine environment in Wales and a literature review to explore global case studies where an ecosystem approach has been applied to managing the marine environment. The review will identify lessons learnt and how they relate to Wales. Another key outcome is the lessons learnt in stakeholder engagement and collaborative working with the fishing industry in Wales.

It is anticipated that all the project aims will be achieved, despite the project being delayed as a result of several factors, including challenges in collaborative working and staff changes. The Welsh Government is currently carrying out a consultation on the designation of Marine Conservation Zones around the coasts of Wales, which also contributed to the project delay. Although this pilot project was not designed to contribute directly to the consultation, the methods and approaches piloted by the project may, if supported by the industry and Welsh Government, inform future Marine Protected Area designation/site selection.

Factors of success in relation to funding:

Applications for EFF funding needed to demonstrate how the project will contribute towards a sustainable fishing industry, as well as demonstrating benefits to the fishing industry itself. The FishMap Môn beneficiaries had no problem with the 'fitting' and financing the project within the EFF context. The EFF fund is flexible allowing projects to apply for further financing, or an extension, with manageable administrative requirements. In June 2012, the project successfully applied for additional funding and time extensions, through a Project Variation Form, and submitted an application to extend the project until December 2013. In addition, the EFF funding source is administered by the Welsh Government's Scheme Management Unit, which provides the FishMap Môn project with a dedicated Project Manager for support, building good relationships between the Project and the Welsh Government Scheme Management Unit Staff.

References and further information:

- CCW (2012) FishMap Môn webpage. Countryside Council for Wales. <http://www.ccg.gov.uk/landscape--wildlife/managing-land-and-sea/fishmap-mon.aspx>
- Draft minutes of the FishMap Môn project board meeting 10 October 2012. <http://www.ccg.gov.uk/landscape--wildlife/managing-land-and-sea/fishmap-mon/structure-of-project.aspx>
- Natura 2000 Standard Data Form for Liverpool Bay SPA UK9020294 <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/pdf/SPA/UK9020294.pdf>
- Further information on the success of this project and the lessons learnt will be available in the FishMap Mon Guidance Tool: <http://naturalresourceswales.gov.uk/our-work/about-us/nrw-funded-projects/fishmap-mon/fishmap-mon-guidance-tool/?lang=en#.U61gAE1ZrmR>.

Contact:

Henry Aron – FishMap Môn, Project Officer
 +44 (0)845 1306229
 Henry.Aron@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk

ECO-LAGUNES: Environmental management of lagoon areas with aquaculture uses

Fund used: Total cost: €1,083,717; €812,788 from the SUDOE component of the Interreg IVB. The remainder came from co-financing provided from the partners of the study.

Member State: France, Spain and Portugal

Ecosystem/habitat/species supported by the scheme: Lagoon areas including Coastal lagoons (1150) (which are priority habitats). Specifically, the project focusses on seagrass meadows within coastal lagoons formed of *Zostera marina* and *Z. noltii* (the eelgrasses).

Introduction to the project and management needs: Coastal lagoons are rich in biodiversity and are important areas for the aquaculture industry. Key components of these ecosystems are seagrass meadows, which are widely acknowledged to be important for biodiversity, water quality, coastal protection and their essential role in habitat engineering and nutrient cycling (Hemminga and Duarte, 2001). They constitute important nurseries for fish and provide shelter and food for a large number of animal species (Pergent-Martini and Le Ravallec, 2007).

Coastal lagoons and seagrass meadows are sensitive to environmental pressures, in particular eutrophication and the proliferation of invasive alien species, which can result in a loss of native species, a reduction in fish available for wild capture and a lowering of productive capacity in aquacultural systems (Pergent-Martini and Le Ravallec, 2007). Since the 1970s, harmful algal blooms (HABs) have been recognised as one of the main ecological problems in coastal regions worldwide. Among HAB species, some Dinophyceae are toxic and cause neurological and human gastric disorders after consumption of contaminated filter-feeding shellfish.

The presence of *Alexandrium catenella*, a micro-algae that causes paralytic shellfish poisoning and is a cause of red tide, is a significant local economic issue. It had been observed that in the areas where seagrass meadows were well developed, *A. catenella* is often not present. However, methods to assess the quality of seagrass communities were under-developed and understanding of their benefits was lacking.

A consortium secured funding under the SUDOE component of the Interreg IVB fund to further investigate whether the protection of biodiversity can contribute to the development of sustainable economic activity in coastal lagoons and to develop tools to facilitate the environmental management of lagoon aquatic environments. The consortium consisted of seven partners across France, Spain and Portugal including a local authority, three universities, two research centres and a federation of fishermen and aquaculture producers.

Activities financed: There were four main activities financed by the project:

1. Development of a methodology for monitoring the development and state of health of meadows.
2. Creation of a methodology for the removal of invasive algae, the clearing of designated lagoons by fishermen and an evaluation of the environmental and socio-economic impact of the activity.
3. Research into whether the development of seagrass meadows supports the restoration of the wider lagoon ecosystem.
4. Study of the interactions within lagoons to determine whether substances produced by seagrass and algae species inhibit the growth of toxic phytoplankton that contaminate seafood products produced in the area.

Beneficiaries and ecosystem services expected:

Primary beneficiaries:

- Shellfish producers – through access to a means of reducing the contamination risk of their produce (i.e restoration of seagrass meadows), thereby increasing their productivity.
- Fishermen – through employment in clearing invasive algae and likely increased long term benefits to stocks as a consequence of new techniques to protect essential nurseries for fish.

Secondary beneficiaries:

- Local authorities/managers of coastal lagoons – through access to new methods to monitor and restore coastal lagoons.
- Local public/tourism industry – through improved water quality as a consequence of removal of invasive algae species.

Key benefits:

- Improved productivity of shellfish aquaculture industry; improvements to fish stocks.

Key outcomes and results: An ecological quality index based on the seagrass *Z. noltii* was developed using multivariate analysis of plant variables from physiological to population level in seagrass meadows. The research centres and local authorities continue to use the procedures for the management of various ecosystem types without requiring further funding. The French partner (Conseil Général de l'Hérault – a local authority) is responsible for numerous lagoons and has disseminated the methodology to its ecology teams. The Portuguese partner (Centro de Ciências do Mar do Algarve) has disseminated the procedure amongst an international network for the monitoring of seagrass meadows and it is now being used at the global level.

The study made an important contribution to knowledge about the role of seagrass beds in the maintenance of biodiversity. It was demonstrated that *Zostera* meadows increase the abundance and species richness when compared to unvegetated areas independently of

hydrodynamic conditions or sediment type. It proved to be difficult to demonstrate the socio-economic benefits of clearing invasive algae within the time period of the project. However, an inference was made from the positive biodiversity impact that economic benefits are likely to follow.

The results obtained in the Eco-lagunes project show that *Z. noltii* and *Z. marina* contain polyphenolic compounds able to significantly inhibit the development of the toxic micro-algae, *A. catenella*. The study is the first to highlight this little-known role of seagrass, opening up new perspectives for understanding coastal ecosystems and environmental management.

Factors of success: The successful outcome of the study was attributed in part to a very effective collaboration between the partners. Every 6 months, all partners would come together for meetings over two to three days. This close collaboration was born, in part, from the nature of the funding process which required an exceptionally high level of detail and specificity. The application for funding took nine months and very careful planning by all partners. While this increases the barriers for smaller organisations, it meant in this case that the partners had a very clear picture of the methodologies to undertake before the project began. The partners in the project all brought complementary skills and knowledge.

References and further information:

- Hemminga, M A and Duarte, C M (2001) Seagrass Ecology. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
- Pergent-Martini, C and Le Ravallec, C (2007) Guidelines for impact assessment on seagrass meadows. United Nations Environment Programme, Tunis.

Contact:

Gisèle Soteras, Conseil Général de l'Hérault,
+ 33 (0)4 67 67 72 91
gsoteras@cg34.fr

Future of the Atlantic Marine Environment: Seabird tracking project

Fund used: ERDF (territorial cooperation) and Interreg IVB Atlantic Area Transnational Programme – €2.2 million (64.7%)

NGO funding from project partners – €1.2 million (35.3%)

Total: €3.4 million

Project period: 4 January 2010 to 8 April 2013 – with 8 month extension from September 2013 of €231,500.

Member State: United Kingdom, Ireland, France, Spain and Portugal

Ecosystem/habitat/species supported by the scheme: Proposed Marine Protected Areas (proposed Special Protected Areas or Special Areas of Conservation) in the Northeast Atlantic (North Sea, Celtic Seas, Bay of Biscay).

Seabirds: Fulmar, Shag*, Kittiwake, Guillemot*, Razorbill, Gannet, European storm-petrel*, Madeiran storm-petrel*, Balearic shearwater*, Cory's shearwater*, Sooty shearwater and Great shearwater. * Listed in Birds Directive Annex I.

Introduction to the project and management needs: The Future of the Atlantic Marine Environment (FAME) is a strategic transnational co-operation project with the purpose to advise on the designation of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) as well as develop best practice management recommendations of these areas.

The project is led by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) (UK) with four wildlife charity project partners, all national representatives of the global partnership BirdLife International – BirdWatch Ireland (Ireland), Ligue pour la Protection des Oiseaux (France), Sociedad Española de Ornitología (Spain) and Sociedade Portuguesa para o Estudo das Aves (Portugal). In addition, there are two other partner organisations based in Portugal: the WaveEnergy Centre, a non-profit organisation dedicated to the development and promotion of Ocean

Wave Energy, and the University of Minho, one of Portugal's largest universities, studying and developing methods to reduce by-catch in Atlantic fisheries.

FAME is a large single seabird tracking and monitoring study. The partners are monitoring and tracking seabird movement throughout the north-east Atlantic and, by combining this data with oceanographic information, are able to produce comprehensive maps to inform the designation of MPAs. GPS data also provides information on the distribution of key food species, and how diving seabirds might interact with new marine renewable energy devices and marine industries, vital in shaping marine management decisions. The partners communicate with a range of marine environment stakeholders, including fishermen and wind farm developers, through an interactive GIS website, conferences, workshops and publications, to minimise the impact of human activity on important areas for marine biodiversity.

Description of how the funds were used to finance the work: Of the project budget €425,956.60 has been used on project management, €438,626.52 on communications, and €546,177.89 on managing the marine environment, while €2,007,316.64 has been used to finance data gathering through the monitoring and tracking of seabirds. The co-financing from BirdLife project partners was specifically important to provide matched funding for human resources, due to the limitation of Interreg funding capping the human resources allocation to 50% of the project costs.

Activities financed: Key project actions include the tracking and monitoring of seabirds, aerial, coastal and sea surveys, monitoring of seabird colonies, and collation of oceanographic data, as well as beach surveys, including examination of seabird regurgitation and necrop-

sies, in order to identify marine foraging areas of focus seabird species. By mapping marine sites that are important to marine seabird species, and through using the data to predict foraging areas of seabirds in other colonies, the FAME project can provide recommendations of sites for MPA designation and management options.

The project is also assessing the impact of fisheries and the offshore renewable energy industry on important seabird sites, and providing information on how to manage these activities to benefit threatened/important seabird species to current or future stakeholders involved in marine site management. For example, the project is setting up a database of transnational fisheries by-catch, in order to develop advice on by-catch mitigation measures.

To date the project has achieved its aims, with the results being used to help guide policy discussions on MPA designation and in the production of recommendations for managing those important sites for the benefit of threatened/important marine seabird species. The project has engaged with the general public through the media and held workshops for specialist groups. Project partners have developed a much needed baseline for seabird tracking and monitoring data, filling a large and obstructive data gap and developing an extremely data-rich body of work with which to inform the management of the seas. The process of selecting and proposing MPAs in Member States is currently underway.

Beneficiaries and socio-economic benefits expected:

Primary beneficiaries:

- Local communities, fishermen.

Secondary beneficiaries:

- Renewable energy businesses.

Key benefits:

- Sustainable use of coastal/marine renewables, development of sustainable low biodiversity impact fishery, conservation of marine environments and seabirds, development of a trans-national evidence base for policy decision-making, tourism.

Factors of success: FAME owes the majority of its success to the large quantity of funding which was able to provide the financial support for a large-scale project extending through a European network of project partners. The strong trans-national partnerships and wide-scale of this project has been a key success factor, and may not have been possible through funding sources other than ERDF Interreg. Through the inclusion of other project partners from Member States who had progressed further in the MPA designation process (such as Spain and Portugal), the project was able to share expertise and valuable experience in both data analysis and engagement with statutory agencies. The large budget and wide scope of Interreg funding further allowed the project to be structured in four parts, with a strong focus from the beginning, on partnering project management and scientific research with strong advocacy, and good communication and outreach. Furthermore, communication was one of the four pillars of project funding. The project received a significant amount of public interest, being the first large-scale, tangible scientific project led by the RSPB which could be followed by the public, through media including a televised BBC feature and popular online blog. Despite the project success factors, extra time and staff were needed to manage the cumbersome ERDF auditing and reporting requirements necessary for a project of this size.

References and further information:

- <http://www.rspb.org.uk/ourwork/projects/details/255106-future-of-the-atlantic-marine-environment-fame->
- <http://atlanticprojects.ccdr-n.pt/project-area/fame>
- <http://www.fameproject.eu/en/>

Contact:

Helen Barnard, Future of the Atlantic Marine Environment, RSPB, The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire, UK, SG19 2DL
+44 (0) 1767 693 534
helen.barnard@rspb.org.uk

Accessing funds for Natura 2000 farming

German Land Care Associations

Funds used: CAP pillar 1 direct payments
EAFRD funding – various including agri-environment, and funding under Article 57 measure 323 “Conservation and upgrading of the rural heritage”

Structural funds

LIFE+

German Federal States

German national government (Ministry of Food, Agriculture & Consumer Protection)

Local authority funding

Foundations

Member State: Germany

Ecosystem/habitat/species supported by the scheme: The German Natura 2000 network hosts 18 Habitats Directive Annex I habitat types that are dependent on agricultural practices for their management and restoration, including 3,960 ha of xeric sand calcareous grasslands (6120), 45,700 ha of semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (*Festuco-Brometalia*) (6210), 11,267 ha of *Molinia* meadows (6410), 153,300 ha of lowland hay meadows (6510), and 20,850 ha of mountain hay meadows (6520). Plant species of Community interest dependent on extensive agriculture include Whiskered Brome (*Bromus grossus*) and Hornwort (*Notothylas orbicularis*) dependent on extensive arable cropping, Marsh Angelica (*Angelica palustris*) and Marsh Gladiolus (*Gladiolus palustris*) in wet meadows, Bohemian Gentian (*Gentianella bohemica*) in dry and alpine meadows, Bavarian Feathergrass (*Stipa bavarica*) in grazed rocky habitats. Butterfly species of Community interest include Marsh Fritillary (*Euphydryas aurinia*), Scarce Large Blue (*Phengaris teleius*), Dusky Large Blue (*Phengaris nausithous*), Violet Copper (*Lycaena helle*) and Large Copper (*Lycaena dispar*) in wet meadows and fens. Bird species in the Birds Directive such as the Lesser Spotted Eagle (*Aquila pomarina*) and Eurasian Crane (*Grus grus*) on grass-

land and fallow fields, Little Owl (*Athene noctua*) in traditionally managed orchards, and Black Grouse (*Tetrao tetrix*) on alpine heath, are dependent on farming activities.

Introduction to the project and management needs: Many of the German Natura 2000 habitats and species that are dependent on agricultural practices for their management and restoration are in unfavourable status because of lack of management. Most of these habitat areas are dependent on mowing and/or extensive grazing, sometimes with a shepherd.

The 155 Landcare Associations (LCA) in Germany work at district level to link nature conservation groups with farmers, local authorities and communities to promote conservation management and farming, including on Natura 2000 habitats.

Description of how the funds were used to finance the work: All LCAs access and spend around €44 million per year of funding for practical projects on the ground. LCAs ensure that farmers can access a combination of three funding streams for the Common Agricultural Policy: direct payments funded under pillar 1, agri-environment schemes funded under Pillar 2 (EAFRD), and land management programmes to preserve natural heritage funded under Article 57 (measure 323) also under pillar 2. They also facilitate access to funding from the Structural Funds and LIFE.

The local Landcare coordinators offer a service to local communities, landowners, farmers, shepherds, and nature conservation organisations. They develop projects for specific landscape types including scientific measures, financial calculations, and implementation of suitable agri-environment schemes. They apply for available funds at the state level and supervise the implementation of activities, as well as

monitor the project outcome and longer-term ecological success. To fulfil these tasks it is very important that management costs for LCAs are also eligible.

Activities financed: LCAs are working together with 10,000 farmers, half of Germany's local authorities, and over 1,000 of NGOs and community groups. Practical conservation activities are mainly carried out by farmers, including hedge management, mowing, grazing, and fencing. Larger natural habitats are often managed by private contractors. The LCA acts as a kind of broker, finding farmers who can manage sites as additional pastures or by setting up farmers with animals to graze the site. For example, in the German Federal State of Bavaria, the 55 LCAs are cooperating with 3,500 farmers in 75% of all Natura 2000 areas.

Beneficiaries and socio-economic benefits expected:

Primary beneficiaries:

- Farmers, shepherds, contractors.

Secondary beneficiaries:

- Local communities, tourists, consumers of high quality agricultural products.

Key benefits:

- Habitat conservation, landscape value, nature tourism, quality food production (and pollination services), water quality.

Key outcomes and results: Examples of successfully funded programmes include:

- Black Forest, Baden-Württemberg – The local LCA organises pasture management to keep the grasslands open in the four Natura 2000 sites and surrounding landscape, supports regional marketing through a local marketing organisation (e.g. locally certified apple juice), and offers training and educational activities to raise awareness for the specific values of

the Black Forest landscape. The LCA works together with municipal authorities, conservation groups, farmers, tourism stakeholders, schools, and other stakeholders to find cooperative solutions for nature conservation and regional development.

- Altmühltal, South German Jura (Bavaria) – the valley and its side valleys, one of the most significant corridors of semi-natural grassland in the area, are farmed by more than 50 sheep farmers with around 25,000 sheep. The LCAs coordinate the co-funding from four district authorities and 20 municipalities, and the involvement of many interest groups (including hunters, foresters, nature conservation groups, cultural heritage groups, and social organisations) in various projects for land management, education and public events, tourism and regional promotion, and regional marketing of the labelled sheep and lamb products. The LCA's consulting service for agri-environment payments and land management payments through EAFRD Article 57 is particularly important for the sheep farmers, landowners and municipalities.
- Galgenberge, Central Brandenburg – a 21 ha site of sandy xeric grassland has been restored through clearance of 90% of the scrub area, and is managed using miniature zebu cattle to provide all-year grazing. The site management is financed through a 20-year agreement with the municipal authority (Stadtgüter Zossen) in compensation for the erection of four wind turbines in the Natura 2000 area. The local LCA has deposited the funding with a foundation and withdraws annual amounts to fund the management.

Factors of success in relation to funding:

The basis for successful projects is the close co-

operation with farmers, local communities, conservation groups and government authorities. The LCAs are grouped in the umbrella organisation German Association for Landcare, which puts forward the positions of their members and partners into national and European agricultural policy, calling for reforms and contributing to policy development that provides better support for farming and conservation of semi-natural habitats. The German nature conservation law and national biodiversity strategy now recognise the LCAs as implementing partners for cooperative nature conservation, and the LCAs are developing national quality criteria for this work.

A high priority for the LCAs is to integrate more Natura 2000 farmland areas into the Pillar 1 payment system, as well as making Pillar 1 and Pillar 2 requirements more compatible, by modifying the rules determining eligibility for direct payments (DVL, 2012; DVL & NABU, 2009). Currently, many high nature value areas of grassland and heath are excluded from direct payments because of the presence of scrub or trees and the difficulties associated with mapping these elements. Areas under nature conservation management have been ineligible for Pillar 1 payments because they are not considered to be under (productive) agricultural management (although this may change as a result of a ruling by the European Court of Justice – see Case C-61/09).

Another priority is to obtain more dedicated funding from the Structural Funds, which currently spend very little on Natura 2000 in Germany (WWF Deutschland, 2007).

References and further information:

- German Association for Landcare (DVL) <http://www.lpv.de/> and <http://www.lpv.de/themen/landcare-english-page.html>

- DVL information website on EU funding <http://www.eu-natur.de/>
- Case study Landscape conservation in the Black Forest http://satoyama-initiative.org/en/case_studies-2/area_europe-2/landscape-conservation-in-the-black-forest-germany/
- DVL (2012) Policy Papier Extensiv beweiden – Zukunftsfähiger Naturschutz auf Weide-Grünland in der EU, Bund und Ländern. Deutscher Verband fuer Landschaftspflege DVL.
- DVL & NABU (2009) Integration natur-schutzfachlich wertvoller Flächen in die Agrarförderung. Fallstudien zu den Auswirkungen der Agrarreform. DVL-Schriftenreihe Heft 16. Deutscher Verband für Landschaftspflege (DVL) e.V. & Naturschutzverbund Deutschland (NABU-Bundesverband).
- DVL (2008) Wege zur Finanzierung von Natura 2000. Gute Beispiele, wie Europa die biologische Vielfalt voranbringt. DVL-Schriftenreihe "Landschaft als Lebensraum". Heft 15. Deutscher Verband fuer Landschaftspflege DVL.
- WWF Deutschland (2007) Umweltmaßnahmen in EU Förderprogrammen ausgewählter Bundesländer. WWF Deutschland. http://www.eu-natur.de/attach/301/WWF_Analyse_EFRE_Programme.pdf

Contact:

*Dr. Jürgen Metzner, Deutscher Verband für Landschaftspflege DVL, Feuchtwanger Str. 38, 91522 Ansbach
+49 (0)981 4653-3541
metzner@lpv.de*

The Lower Saxony and Bremen joint integrated management plan for the Tideweser:

Stakeholder involved management of the Weser Estuary

Fund used: Total: €5.374 million

Planning: €356,000

25%: ERDF Operational – Programme Bremen, (50% of contribution for Bremen)

75%: National sources, including offsetting funds from nature conservation agencies; water license fees from water resources management agency (50% of contribution for Bremen; 100% for Lower Saxony); April 2008 to December 2014, with a 15 year time frame for implementation of management plan

Implementation: €5 million

50%: ERDF Operational – Programme Bremen, 50%: National sources, including offsetting funds from nature conservation agencies; water license fees administered through SUBV (see below)

Within ERDF – Programme duration including n+2 rule: 2008–2015

Pilot study of implementation measure “dike foreland restoration Werderland”: €18,000

50%: Interreg IVB North Sea Region Program's TIDE project (Tidal River Development), co-financed by the ERDF. May 2011 – January 2012

50%: The Free Hanseatic City of Bremen

Implementation of full measure (estimated costs about €1.5 million) 100% financed by national impact regulation approval procedures from the public dike association, Deichverband rechts der Weser, responsible for the maintenance of the dikes. In this case funding is from federal coastal defence funds, as the source of funds depends on the impact (costs-by-cause principle). Approval procedure ongoing, realisation in 2014/15.

Member State: Germany

Ecosystem/habitat/species supported by the scheme: The Weser estuary and lower Weser are highly complex natural areas with large parts designated as Special Protection Areas or Special Areas of Conservation under the Birds

and Habitats Directives. In total more than 90% of the Weser tidal surface area and floodplains are part of the Natura 2000 network. The habitat types found in and around the Weser estuary include sandbars, tidal inlets, mud flats, reed beds, salt marshes, wet grassland and tidal flood plain forests. Some areas are under farmland and urban – residential and industrial – use. Notable species include the Bulbous Fox-tail grass (*Alopecurus bulbosus*), threatened Snake's Head Fritillary (*Fritillaria meleagris*), Harbour Seal (*Phoca vitulina*), Harbour Porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*), Pond Bat (*Myotis dasycneme*), Bittern (*Botaurus stellaris*), Pied Avocet (*Recurvirostra avosetta*), Barnacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*), Blue Throat (*Luscinia svecica*), with the waters between the Weser and the Ochtummündung Rekum providing habitats for Grayling (*Thymallus thymallus*) key spawning areas for the Weser population of the critically endangered Twaite Shad (*Alosa fallax*) and migrating routes for Sea Lamprey (*Petromyzon marinus*) and River Lamprey (*Lampetra fluviatilis*).

Introduction to the project and management needs:

The Weser estuary is of regional economic importance for Northern Germany, largely due to the ports and industrial areas, as well as providing important services for agriculture, fisheries, transport, tourism, energy, recreation and flood and coastal protection. Water management and coastal protection are thus of high importance. The preservation of this valuable natural area, while maintaining the economic interests of the region, is a common concern. It has led the states of Bremen and Lower Saxony, and the Federal Waterways and Shipping Administration, to develop a joint management plan for the Natura 2000 sites of the estuary, the lower Weser and its tributaries Lesum and Hunte, the first common Natura 2000 management plan. Based on the requirements of the EU directives, the Integrated Management Plan will be used as a tool to harmonize the dif-

ferent uses and economic activities of the estuary, recommending how the requirements of nature and water protection can be met in accordance with the requirements of society and the economy, integrating regional economic, societal and infrastructural development, while achieving a favourable state of conservation for habitats and species. The management plan, which contains an action program of consensual measures for the next 15 years, has thus been developed in close collaboration with all stakeholder groups, through an interdisciplinary planning group established by the Lower Saxony Water Management, Coastal Defense and Nature Conservation Agency (NLWKN) and the Senator for Environment, Construction and Transport Bremen (SUBV). The implementation will continue with technical support and coordination by the conservation authority, in consultation with the Federal State of Lower Saxony, Bremen and the Federal Waterways and Shipping Administration.

Description of how the funds were used to finance the work: Between 2008 and 2014, the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen has provided €356,000 for the development of the Integrated Management Plan (IMP), allocated as follows: staff (project coordination, management of stakeholder involvement, technical work etc.) €180,000; external consultants and studies €110,000; stakeholder meetings €5,000; and publication of the IMP for end users (stakeholders, authorities etc.) €60,000.

The planning process was successfully finished in 2012, with the plan being accepted by stakeholder representatives. The integrated management plan, which aims at better estuary management, has benefited from the experience of the Interreg IVB Project TIDE as an interdisciplinary multi-user estuary plan, and is now a guideline for state action for the state governments of both Bremen and Lower Saxony. Vari-

ous authorities (including the Federal Waterway Administration, environmental agencies of the states of Bremen and Lower Saxony, and regional and local agencies) already use the plan, with organisation plans and strategies regarding the estuary and the marine environment referring to the IMP. The plan has been published, and the development of brochures and a website is in underway.

Activities financed: The implementation of the IMP's measures has been started, with the aim of being completed within 10 to 15 years. To date the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen has undertaken work including the specification of the management sites along the river Lesum by the new Landscape Development Plan, adopting a compensatory measure for an adjacent dike reinforcement, and launching a pilot study "restoration of a dike foreland in the Werderland". Another three pilot studies have been financed by TIDE concerning the restoration of a sidearm of the Weser, regeneration of hard substrate habitats in the outer estuary and re-establishment of estuarine reef communities of fish and invertebrates, including sea anemones (*Metridium senile*), blue mussels (*Mytilus edulis*) and hydrozoans. The National Waterways Administration is now implementing the management guidelines laid down in the IMP, an example being having fewer bank revetments for the maintenance of the banks of the river Lesum. In Lower Saxony implementation of the IMP is underway for some measures, funded from the national impact regulation approval procedures, for example those paid by offshore wind farms. However, the creation of an implementation programme and funding for many of the concrete measures is currently in progress.

For the area of the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen, €5 million has been granted for the implementation of the management plan to include activities such as: the re-naturalising of disturbed river banks, creating beaches and viewpoints

for people; revitalisation of shallow water habitats; and partial deconstruction of flood dams, for the development of tidal floodplain habitats such as forests, reed beds and freshwater mudflats. Sediment monitoring and management and impact assessments along with the deepening of the Weser and maintenance dredging of the shipping lane are financed by public funds according to the costs-by-cause-principle.

Beneficiaries and socio-economic benefits expected:

Primary beneficiaries:

- Local residents.

Secondary beneficiaries:

- Federal states of Bremen and Lower Saxony, federal waterways and shipping administration, businesses.

Key benefits:

- Improved management of the estuary Natura 2000 sites; economic/transport; flood prevention; recreation; water retention and water quality; nature experience for city residents; landscape; infrastructure for sustainable tourism; working toward Natura 2000 nature goals; ecological improvement; improved public understanding of the environment.

Success factors and lessons learned: The IMP for the Weser estuary has been a success so far. The main success factor has been broad stakeholder involvement within a structured process for developing the IMP. Through stakeholder contributions in an interdisciplinary planning process the project has received wide acceptance and political support of the IMP. In addition, good cooperation, expertise and knowledge sharing between the Bremen and Lower Saxony authorities has been a key in developing the IMP.

During the 2007-2013 funding period, it was initially unclear if a political agreement would be reached to integrate Natura 2000 into the ERDF operational programme. However, when this plan materialised the ERDF – Programme Bremen provided a suitable financing source for the Weser estuary project, including flexibility between budget lines and good support by the ERDF administration in Bremen. The project succeeded in securing funding by matching the aims of the project with the socio-economic

benefits of nature, focusing on water management and recreational use. Moreover, the river Weser links the two cities of Bremen and Bremerhaven, which are otherwise separated by Lower Saxony, creating a cultural dimension for the project to maintain the local identity and community of the State of Bremen.

National funding gained through offsetting regulations, which could not be accessed during the planning phase due to restrictions for practical measures only, may be accessed in the future for practical implementation. In Germany, there is a requirement for environmental impacts of development activities undertaken by firms or the federal government to be offset by financing comparable conservation measures elsewhere. Therefore, public funds gained from offsetting river and estuary development impacts (administered by NLWKN and SUBV) could continue to provide a source of funding for the project.

References and further information:

- <http://www.umwelt.bremen.de/de/detail.php?gsid=bremen179.c.8044.de>
- www.nlwkn.niedersachsen.de/download/52859/Steckbrief.pdf
- http://tide-project.eu/downloads/Weser_IBP_Flyer.pdf
- http://www.tide-project.eu/downloads/TIDE_Estuaries-Weser.pdf
- http://www.northsearegion.eu/files/repository/20111201155613_TIDE_Facts-Weser_Estuary.pdf
- http://www.tide-project.eu/index.php5?node_id=Weser;68&lang_id=1

Contact:

*Jens Marotz, IBP Weser management at Lower Saxon State Office for Water Management, Coastal Protection and Conservation (NLWKN) Ratsherr Schulze Straße 1026122 Oldenburg
+49 (0)441 799 2152*

+49 (0)441 799 2655 (Fax)

Jens.Marotz@nlwkn-ol.niedersachsen.de

Dirk Hürter, City of Bremen, Senator for the Environment, City Development and Europe (SUBVE)

Dirk.Huerter@Umwelt.Bremen.de

HOW TO OBTAIN EU PUBLICATIONS

Free publications:

one copy:

via EU Bookshop (<http://bookshop.europa.eu>);

- more than one copy or posters/maps:

from the European Union's representations (http://ec.europa.eu/represent_en.htm);

from the delegations in non-EU countries (http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/index_en.htm);

by contacting the Europe Direct service (http://europa.eu/europedirect/index_en.htm) or

calling 00 800 6 7 8 9 10 11 (freephone number from anywhere in the EU) (*).

(*). The information given is free, as are most calls (though some operators, phone boxes or hotels may charge you).

Priced publications:

- via EU Bookshop (<http://bookshop.europa.eu>).

Priced subscriptions:

- via one of the sales agents of the Publications Office of the European Union (http://publications.europa.eu/others/agents/index_en.htm).

