

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2022

The Territorial Dimension of the Protection of Biodiversity and of Nature



8 November 2022

Ministry of Energy and Spatial Planning

4, place de l'Europe L-1499 Luxembourg

DE-FR-EN translation

The Territorial Dimension of the Protection of Biodiversity and of Nature

Green infrastructure is a strategically planned network of natural and semi-natural areas with other environmental features designed and managed to deliver numerous ecosystem services, such as promoting climate change adaptation through reducing heat stress and supporting stormwater management, improving air and water quality, and protecting biodiversity. In addition, it provides society with a wide range of social, economic and health benefits. All of this contributes to strengthening the resilience of our cities and regions by connecting landscapes and promoting urban-rural linkages.

Luxembourg in turn is the most fragmented country in Europe. This fragmentation not only affects its biodiversity, but also damages the many services that healthy ecosystems can provide to society. Therefore, at this conference, we would like to address the following questions:

- How can green infrastructure be better integrated in spatial planning in order to protect biodiversity and nature in Luxembourg?
- What is the strategy at the local, national and European level to further develop green infrastructure for the protection of biodiversity and nature?
- Which tools and projects currently exist in Luxembourg, the Greater Region and beyond to protect biodiversity and nature?

At our conference, we will discuss the ESPON GRETA project ([Green infrastructure: Enhancing biodiversity and ecosystem services for territorial development](#)), LUGA ([Luxembourg Urban Garden](#)) 2025 horticultural exhibition and the Interreg project [NOE-NOAH](#) as well as the [EU's biodiversity strategy for 2030](#).

Within the framework of the activities of the ESPON Contact Point in Luxembourg, the Ministry of Energy and Spatial Planning of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg invites you to attend our annual conference on **8 November 2022 from 9:30 to 13:15**. The conference will take place at the Ministry of Energy and Spatial Planning, located at 4 place de l'Europe L-1499 Luxembourg. You can register [here](#).

Target group: The conference is specifically aimed at political representatives and policymakers at the local, regional and national level, stakeholder organisations and associations, as well as scientists and everyone who is interested in the subject of biodiversity and nature protection.

Conference languages: German, French and English (simultaneous translation)

Programme

8 November 2022

9:00 – 9:30	Registration and Welcome
9:30 – 9:45	Opening speech Claude Turmes, Minister for Spatial Planning, LU
9:45 – 10:45	The territorial dimension of the protection of nature
9:45 – 10:00	Gaëlle Tavernier, PRO-SUD, Minett UNESCO Biosphere, MiNELL project
10:00 – 10:15	Ann Muller, LUGA (Luxembourg Urban Garden) 2025 Horticultural Exhibition
10:15 – 10:30	Anne-Bénédicte Culot, Interreg Greater Region Project NOE-NOAH (tbc)
10:30 – 10:45	Q & A
10:45 – 11:45	The territorial dimension of biodiversity
10:45 – 11:00	Rayka Hauser, European Commission, EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030
11:00 – 11:15	Michaela Gensheimer, ESPON EGTC, ESPON GRETA Project
11:15 – 11:30	Nora Elvinger, LIFE Programme Contact Point, Ministry of Environment, LU
11:30 – 11:45	Q & A
11:45 – 12:00	Coffee Break
12:00 – 13:00	How can spatial planning contribute to nature protection and biodiversity? Roundtable discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Claude Turmes, Minister for Spatial Planning, LU• Minister for Environment, LU (tbc)• Susanne Heinen, SPW Territory, Housing, Heritage & Energy , BE• Ministry of Ecological Transition, FR• Helga May-Didion, Ministry of Environment, Saarland
13:00 – 13:15	Closing words & outlook Claude Turmes, Minister for Spatial Planning, LU Wiktor Szydarowski, Director of the ESPON EGTC Remziye Yilmaz-Bozkus, ESPON Contact Point for Luxembourg