



Analysis and measures for delivering CBD commitments in agriculture

**Work package 5
of MEACAP project
(Impact of Environmental Agreements on
the Common Agricultural Policy)**



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Agricultural Biodiversity in Europe

Habitat diversity

- **Generally looking to**

Maintain or Increase
the diversity of farmed and non-farmed habitats in
the agricultural landscape

- **Type, spatial/temporal location, structure and condition of habitats is all important;**
- **BUT importance and scale also depends on target under consideration (e.g. plants, insects, birds, mammals)**



Agricultural Biodiversity in Europe

Habitat diversity

Arable systems	Horticulture and permanent crop systems	Grazing livestock and mixed systems	Pigs and poultry systems	Small-scale farming systems
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BUT different biodiversity issues are associated with the different farm types;

AND different issues within a farm type depending on where in Europe the farms are;

NEED more specific focus to identify and consider a manageable sub-set of measures within MEACAP

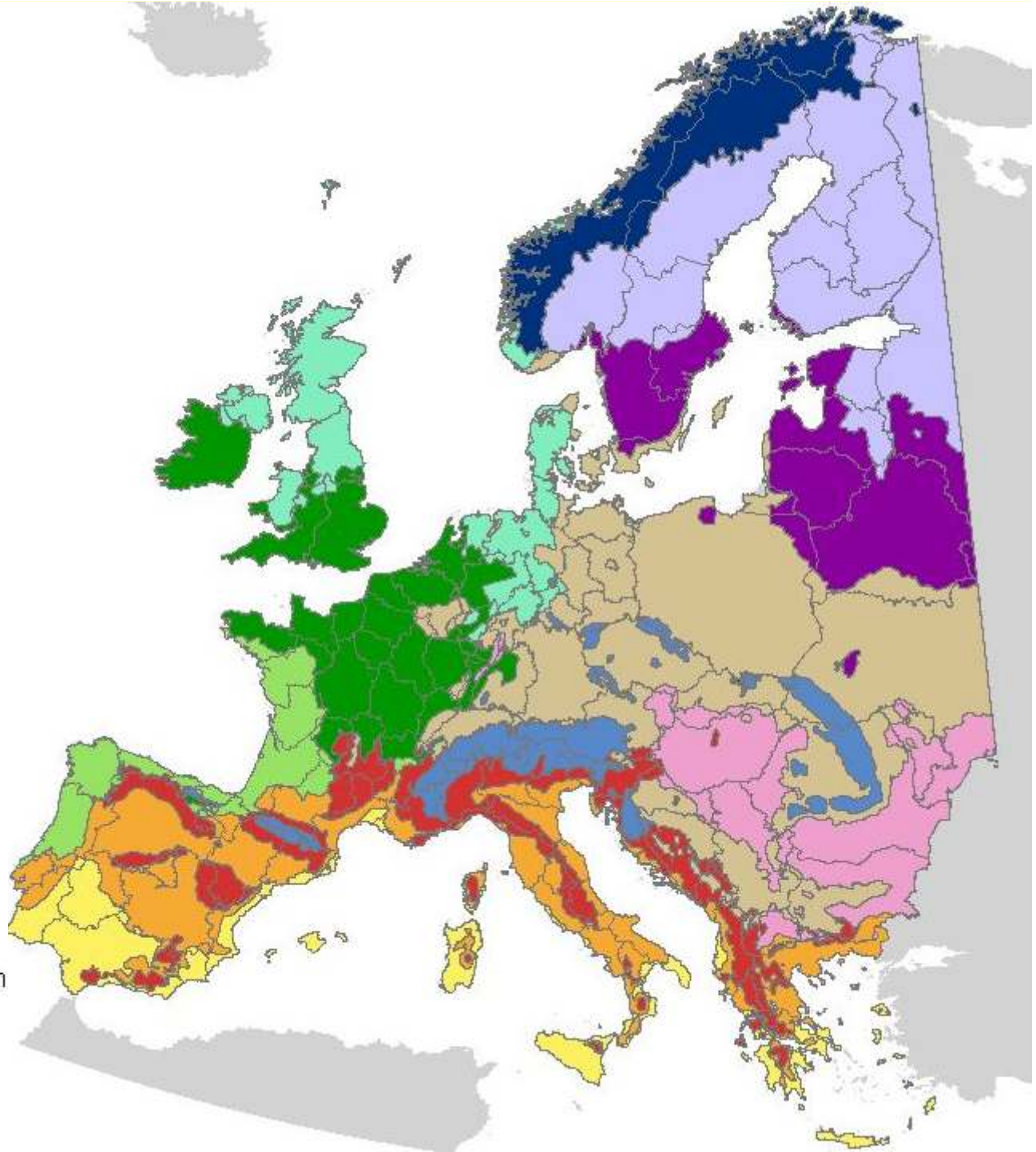


Environmental Zones

= 12 zones for EU 25

environmental zones

- Alpine North
- Boreal
- Nemoral
- Atlantic North
- Atlantic Central
- Continental
- Alpine South
- Lusitanian
- Mediterranean Mountain
- Mediterranean North
- Mediterranean South
- Pannonian





Agricultural Biodiversity in Europe

Habitat diversity

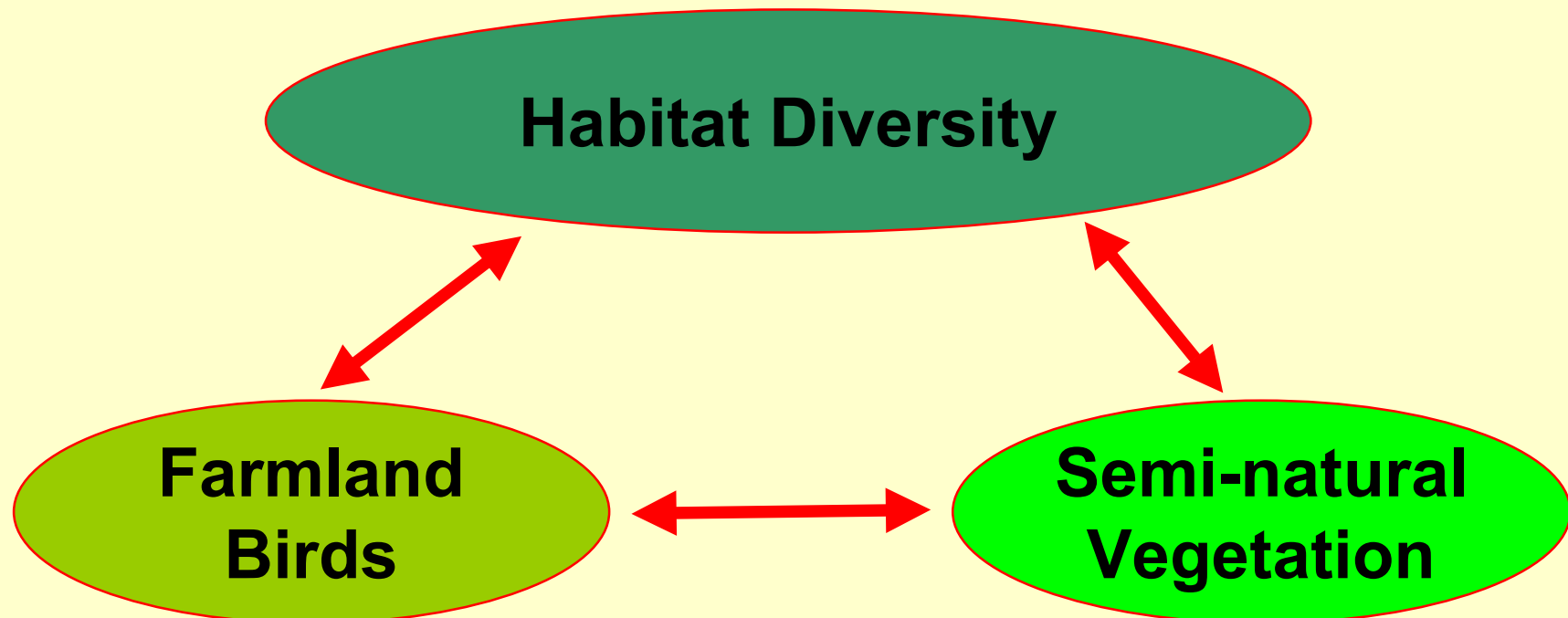
So help narrow the focus by also considering

- reversing the decline of farmland birds and**
- maintaining existing semi-natural vegetation**

BUT still need to think of issues affecting farm types within specific regions to consider where emphasis of measures needs to lie

Measure Selection

1. Initial focus on measures to address Habitat Diversity concerns for that Environmental Zone/Farm Type
2. Then add, if necessary, additional measures specific to Farmland Birds and Semi-natural Vegetation concerns for that Environmental Zone/Farm Type





For each environmental zone

- highlight characteristics and the major biodiversity concerns within each by broad farm type and
- identify priorities, targets and relevant combinations of measures for the 3 issues

Arable
systems

Horticulture
and
permanent
crop
systems

Grazing
livestock
and
mixed
systems

Pigs and
poultry
systems

Small-
scale
farming
systems

Habitat
diversity

Farmland
birds

Semi-natural
vegetation



Example: Mediterranean North

Habitat diversity:

Potential Targets (depending on farm type issue):

General: Within any 500 ha, no more than 20% of UAA is dominated by any one broad agricultural land cover. For every 25 ha of UAA there is a minimum of 1 ha of non-farmed habitat

Med North: Dryland cereal (arable) and traditional olive systems (perm crop) support important bird assemblages but - under threat from irrigation and intensification. No more than 10% UAA to be irrigated.

Potential measures:

Any irrigated land above 10% threshold ineligible

Support 5 ha of 1-2 year fallow for every 20 ha of UAA

Set max size of any one single-cover plot at 50 ha and require a min 3 m wide buffer area between plot and non-farmed habitat

[Conversion of arable land to grassland - Other zones]

[Establishment of non-farmed habitat - Other zones]



Example: Mediterranean North

Farmland birds:

Potential Targets (depending on farm type issue):

General: Maintain or re-establish characteristic farmland bird communities. Ensure there is a minimum of 2 ha of relevant bird foraging habitat for every 25 ha of UAA

Med North: Arable pseudo-steppe assemblage requires fallow and diversity of crop types

Potential measures:

Premia for dryland cereal systems and traditional olive prod.

[Maintenance of open farmland habitats in woodland and/or upland dominated areas - zone]

[Establish 0.5 ha of wild bird seed crops every 25 ha of UAA - other zone]

[Establish 0.5 ha of skylark plots within every 25 ha of arable crops - other zone]

[Rewetting of arable and grassland fields - other zone]



Example: Mediterranean North

Semi-natural vegetation:

Potential Targets (depending on zone/farm type issue):

General: Maintain existing extent of semi-natural vegetation.
Re-establish agricultural management on semi-natural vegetation (e.g. grassland) abandoned in last 10 years.

Potential measures:

[Set maximum application of 50 kg/ha N pa and set livestock grazing density between 0.2 and 1.0 LU/ha depending on habitat - other zones]

[Management of species rich grassland - other zones]

[Management of mountain pastures - other zones]

[Livestock protection in large carnivore areas - other zones]



Thank you for your attention!