



WWF

ANNUAL
REVIEW

EU

2016



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WWF is one of the world's largest and most experienced independent conservation organisations, with over five million supporters and a global network active in more than 100 countries.

WWF's mission is to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by conserving the world's biological diversity, ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable and promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption.

The European Policy Office contributes to the achievement of WWF's global mission by leading the WWF network to shape EU policies impacting on the European and global environment.

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FOREWORD GENEVIÈVE PONS

Following the turbulence of 2016, Europe is seeking to redefine its role. To do so, it should look to its origins.

© Lode Saïdane / WWF



Geneviève Pons
Director
WWF European
Policy Office

The building blocks of the European Union were coal and steel after the Second World War. Today, we are witnessing the acceleration of the transition to a green economy powered by clean energy, on a continent which cherishes nature protection and is a frontrunner on climate change action.

This is the role the EU must continue to embrace, rather than shy away from. It must lead the world on climate action, environmental protection, and a sustainable future for all.

There is strong support of citizens for these priorities, and we must use this public energy – which has demonstrated its power in the successful NGO campaign to save the EU Nature Directives – to give Europe its new direction.

We must call on our leaders to live up to our international commitments. We need to begin the urgent task of implementing the 17 Sustainable Development Goals across all policy areas in Europe; to ensure the EU's 2030 climate and energy legislation is ambitious enough to reflect the Paris Agreement's goal of keeping global temperature rise well under 2 degrees; and to continue to improve the implementation of the nature laws across all Member States to meet our biodiversity targets.

60 years after the Treaty of Rome, as the EU is searching for its role in a turbulent world, Europe's leadership is more important than ever, and we must use this moment to make the European Union a champion for environmental protection, climate action and sustainability. This is what the WWF European Policy Office will work towards in 2017 and the years to come.



Geneviève Pons and European Commission First Vice-President Timmermans at Earth Hour 2016



The coast near Sennen, Cornwall, UK

FOREWORD

TANYA STEELE

If politics can divide, nature unites. The air, seas and climate belong to us all, and people everywhere care deeply about protecting them.

© WWF-UK



Tanya Steele
CEO
WWF-UK

Last year saw the UK vote to leave the European Union. While no-one can predict what exactly will happen, working together on environmental and climate action will be more important than ever.

EU environmental laws are some of the strongest in the world, underpinning our social and economic wellbeing. As WWF-UK we will stand up for UK policies that appropriately reflect current, or preferably higher, levels of environmental protection.

As a member of the EU, the UK was instrumental in bringing about many of the regulations which have already made our air and beaches cleaner, preserved habitats and reduced carbon emissions. We must all build on these successes to combat ongoing environmental degradation, wildlife loss and global warming.

But this is not only about political and legal systems. Citizens on both sides of the Channel care greatly about the environment, and indeed nature protection is one of the joint values that unites us Europeans. At a time when public trust in political leaders is low, it is all the more important to listen to citizens' concerns and act on those issues they care about.

To do so, WWF-UK will continue to work closely with our European national and policy offices to influence EU policy making and to raise awareness on the relevance of strong environmental policy frameworks that work across borders to protect our nature and wildlife.

And of course, the UK will continue to be part of the international community – showing leadership, for example, through the implementation of its outstanding UK climate change act. Also international commitments such as the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and the Paris climate agreement continue to stand, and we will continue to strive to see them fulfilled.

Only by continuing to work together can we ensure we look after our shared air, wildlife, forests, water, oceans and climate, protecting nature for the generations to come.



SUSTAINABLE EUROPE

2016 was a year of major challenges, from the ongoing refugee crisis and frequent terror attacks, to the UK's vote to leave the European Union in June, and the US presidential elections in November.

Faced with uncertainty and change, some observers began to question the EU's values, role and its very existence.

Convinced that the need for a Europe united around common values – such as solidarity, equality, environmental protection, and social rights – was more crucial than ever, WWF worked with CONCORD, the European Trade Union Congress and the European Youth Forum to produce a declaration on a 'New Europe for People, Planet and Prosperity for All'. This declaration called on European leaders to relaunch the European project around those shared values, and to work on reconnecting with citizens from all backgrounds and across the continent.

The declaration was signed by 177 European and national civil society organisations and trade unions, and published ahead of the EU summit on the future of Europe in Bratislava in September 2016. It was supported by an article from former European Commission president Jacques Delors, printed in major newspapers in several European countries.

Mr Delors wrote: "In this time of crisis for European identity, it is essential for the EU to show that it is ready to act as a leading force in the many challenges we face: the fight against climate change, increasing inequality, the need to ensure sustainable and inclusive development, promoting human rights and ensuring that nobody is left behind."

These words hold as true as ever for WWF's European Policy Office, and our partners and allies, as we continue our work in 2017 and beyond.

A turbine at the
Walney offshore windfarm,
Cumbria, UK

Common statement by 177 European and national Civil Society Organisations and Trade Unions

12 September, 2016

A new Europe for people, planet and prosperity for all

Europe is at a crossroads, and the future of European cooperation and the benefits it brings are at stake. **This is about the future of our society and how we want to be viewed by the wider world. The future of our planet and the kind of Europe our children will grow up in.** The current crisis highlights the urgent need to reflect on fundamental questions: how do we ensure that the European project reclaims its promise of peace, democracy and solidarity? How can Europe work for its people?

Too many people across Europe are dissatisfied and disillusioned with the European Union and feel remote from its institutions and policies. But there are groups of committed politicians, trade unions, community groups and non-governmental organisations across Europe who are ready to take action and work for a renewed Europe. Together, we can shape a Europe that is inclusive, open, just, sustainable, and that works for people of all ages, social backgrounds and nations.

Where do we go from here to build the Europe we want and need?

Reject populist solutions

This crisis in confidence comes as people struggle with decreasing living standards, declining buying power and the rise of precarious work, hardship created by austerity policies, anxiety over movements of people to our shores, and the impacts of climate change and environmental destruction. As people search for answers, euroscepticism and nationalism, intolerance and misinformation are winning out over cooperation, humanity and solidarity with one other. **We must all – leaders, media and individuals – actively and at every opportunity speak out and act against division, marginalisation of different groups in society and those that play on fears for their own political ends.**

Tackle challenges together

Many of the challenges facing Europe – such as inequalities, climate change, natural resource depletion, and a global economy that benefits the few and not the many – are better tackled together than by countries individually.

The European Union, which embodies international cooperation and collaboration, needs to be leading in ensuring **sustainable and inclusive development, advancing human rights, and allowing for dignified movements of people, where refugees are welcome and all people feel safe.**

Fight for a sustainable, social Europe for people and for our planet

There needs to be a decisive and transformational change in political will, direction and policy. Such a vision is provided in the **United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in which people, social justice, environmental and health protection, democracy and transparency take centre stage.** Guided by this agenda, EU economic policies need to go hand in hand with strong social and environmental

policies. The EU single market and international policies must promote enforceable rules to protect workers, consumers, all citizens – men and women, young and old – and the planet. EU policies must support democracy, dialogue and more equality within and beyond the EU. **We need a Europe that aims at improving the living standards of everyone.**

Work for better Europe, not less Europe

The current tendency to weaken EU institutions and to strip away protections for people and planet in the name of 'deregulation' is not the answer. **Current economic policies of reducing deficits and boosting 'competitiveness' have promoted too narrow an interpretation of growth**, and corporate profits have failed to make it into workers' wages or trickle down to improve people's lives.

It is these policies, not 'too much Europe', that have alienated people, leaving them feeling disempowered and left behind. We now need new, progressive European initiatives to deliver tangible benefits for people and to win back their confidence and trust. A 'better Europe' is where joint European action creates tangible benefits for people and planet. This includes **a new focus on equality and inclusion, a relaunch of the European social model to provide decent work, quality jobs and better living conditions, strong environmental protection, meaningful action on climate change, and an EU-wide effort to welcome and integrate migrants.**

Listen and engage

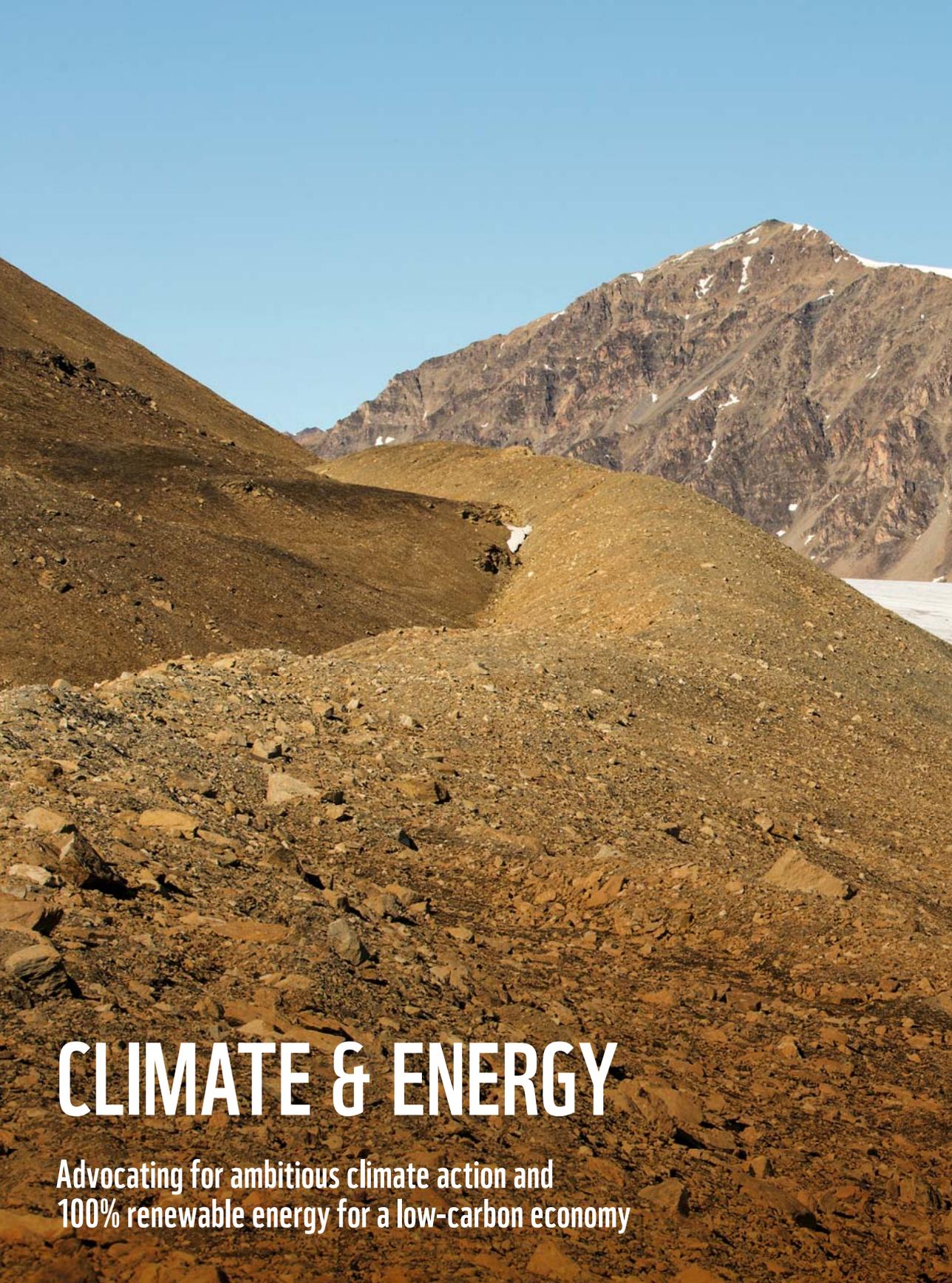
EU leaders, prime ministers, presidents, chancellors and parliamentarians must **listen and engage actively with citizens of all ages and social backgrounds** to understand and respond better to people's concerns and propose a new, positive vision of Europe. Everyone, perhaps most importantly the young, needs to be more actively involved in decisions that have an impact on our future. Together, we can take the decisions and actions on the issues that matter.

Make the case for Europe

We need a genuine, democratic and inclusive dialogue on the future of Europe, and on how the EU can deliver tangible benefits for Europeans. We stand ready to play an active role in this dialogue, and to **work even harder in making the case for the benefits that working together have brought to European citizens, and the values for which this Union stands.**

This common statement was drafted on the initiative of WWF, CONCORD, ETUC and European Youth Forum, and supported by 177 signatories. More on www.wwf.eu





CLIMATE & ENERGY

Advocating for ambitious climate action and
100% renewable energy for a low-carbon economy



Paris Agreement comes into force

2016 was the year the Paris Agreement on climate change came into force. It was also the hottest year on record.



Clean energy for all Europeans?

In November, the European Commission published too unambitious proposals on 2030 energy and climate policy. WWF made clear that they would have to be improved by the European Parliament and Member States, to match the ambition level agreed in Paris.



WWF gets busy

WWF organised a 'Santa Claus' media stunt on the Emissions Trading System, published hard-hitting reports on coal and health, revealed the 'governance beast', co-launched a 'carbon calculator' and promoted long-term planning to 2050.

THE PARIS AGREEMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE

The Paris Agreement on climate change entered into force in 2016. The EU ratified the agreement in October. WWF congratulated Member States but urged them to agree on tougher cuts to greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, and to develop strong 2050 climate plans, to comply with their Paris commitments.



“Now that the Paris Agreement is in force, the EU must add the bricks of ambition and cement of action to its climate and energy policies. The Commission’s 2030 proposals are not yet good enough. We will work to improve them.”

Imke Lübbecke,
Head of Climate
and Energy

REDUCING INDUSTRIAL EMISSIONS - FIXING THE EU CARBON MARKET

The EU’s carbon market – the Emissions Trading System (ETS) – puts a cap on emissions and allows polluters to buy and sell allowances for the rest. However the carbon price has never reached a high enough level to force polluters to reduce their emissions. In 2015, the European Commission proposed a reform of the ETS, but unfortunately, the proposal was weak. In 2016, WWF worked hard to push the EU Parliament and Council to improve the text by supporting higher ambition.

Together with other NGOs, we motivated nearly 100,000 citizens to sign a WeMove petition to call for an ETS that makes polluters pay (wemove.eu/ETS). In December, CAN Europe, Carbon Market Watch and WWF organised a media stunt in front of the European Parliament. ‘Emissions Trading Santa’ gave presents to heavy industry, while five key MEPs tried to stop him by calling for the ETS to work for the climate, not for polluters.

Also in December, we published findings from our EU-funded MaxiMiseR project showing that Member States could get as much as €120 billion more for climate action with a properly working ETS.

MEPs in the environment committee voted for a stronger reform in December 2016, and several EU environment ministers called for a better ETS at their discussion in June.



March for the climate at COP22, Marrakech, December 2016

FIVE STEPS TO FIXING THE EU ETS

TODAY: ETS works for polluters	What needs to be done?	TOMORROW: ETS works for the climate	TODAY: ETS works for polluters	What needs to be done?	TOMORROW: ETS works for the climate
<p>Paris pledge at risk</p>	<p>1 Cut emissions faster</p>	<p>Keep the Paris pledge</p>	<p>Limited revenues, badly spent</p>	<p>4 Auction all allowances, spend sustainably</p>	<p>More revenues, sustainably spent</p>
<p>Surplus allowances can return</p>	<p>2 Scrap surplus allowances</p>	<p>Surplus allowances stay away</p>	<p>Less emissions = more pollution permits</p>	<p>5 Let countries scrap allowances</p>	<p>Less emissions = fewer pollution permits</p>
<p>Polluters get paid</p>	<p>3 No more free allowances</p>	<p>Polluters pay</p>	<p>Can the EU make the fix?</p>		



Leading MEPs call for an end to free pollution under the Emissions Trading System



DID YOU KNOW?

IT'S NOT JUST NGOS SAYING IT! THE EU'S TOP COURT RULED IN APRIL THAT TOO MANY FREE POLLUTION ALLOWANCES WERE GIVEN TO INDUSTRY

The Parliament and Council agreed their positions on the ETS reform in early 2017. They proposed some measures which were a step in the right direction. However overall, the measures are too weak and more effort will be required during the upcoming negotiations between both institutions to make the EU carbon market fit for purpose.

COUNTING CARBON - ENSURING REAL EMISSIONS CUTS ECONOMY-WIDE

Transport, buildings, agriculture and some other sectors are not covered by the ETS, but fall under the so-called Effort-Sharing Regulation (ESR). The ESR sets national goals for emissions reductions in those sectors.

In July, the European Commission published proposals on the ESR which would allow Member States to 'cheat' on emissions reductions. For example, Member States could use carbon-absorbing forests to count towards their emissions reduction goal. WWF called for these 'loopholes' to be removed and the targets increased to bring action in line with the Paris Agreement.



DID YOU KNOW?

THE EFFORT-SHARING REGULATION COVERS **60%** OF EU EMISSIONS - MAKING IT THE BIGGEST CLIMATE INSTRUMENT WE'VE GOT

2030 carbon calculator

Sometimes it's hard to measure the impact of policy on the real world. A tool launched in October by WWF Germany and the WWF European Policy Office aims to help with that. The '2030 Carbon Calculator' lets you try out different climate policy options and check their impact on EU emissions. Try it: www.2030carboncalculator.eu

THE 'CLEAN ENERGY' PROPOSALS THAT ARE TOO DIRTY

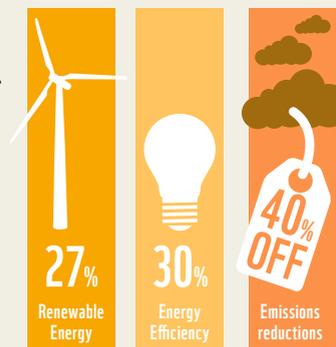
On 30 November, the European Commission released a major set of proposals to cut emissions from the EU's energy system between 2021 and 2030. The proposals cover everything from energy savings to the rules setting out how the EU can meet its renewables targets.

For WWF, despite its name – 'Clean energy for all Europeans' – this package is still too dirty. Far from accelerating the energy transition, the proposals leave the door open to coal subsidies and undermine support for renewables. Clear leadership to make Europe the world number one in renewable energy is still missing, putting at risk investors' confidence in EU based projects. The Commission also misses some big opportunities on energy efficiency, for example it could have removed loopholes that limit the effectiveness of the energy efficiency obligation scheme.

What is in the 'Clean energy for all Europeans' package?

The package contains proposals to revise the Energy Efficiency Directive, the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive and the Renewable Energy Directive, as well as new proposals on the design of the electricity market and on the governance of the Energy Union.

It proposes targets by 2030 of: 30% energy efficiency, 27% renewable energy and 40% emissions reductions.



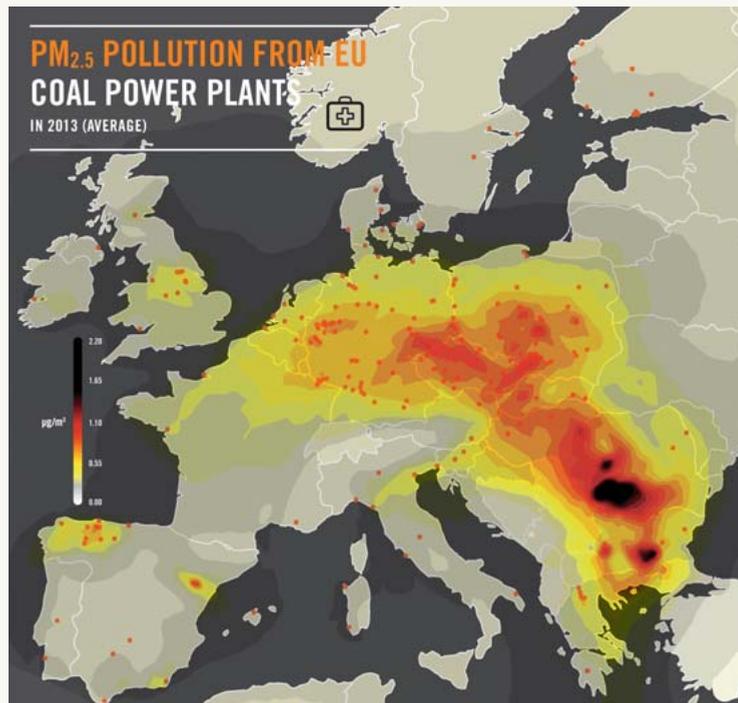


Lifting Europe's Dark Cloud: How cutting coal saves lives', published October 2016

COAL

2016 saw the end of coal power come closer in Europe, as a host of countries announced phase-outs – Portugal, Finland, France and the UK, as well as the city of Berlin, and Austria's largest electricity supplier – and Belgium went coal-free. Altogether 6.6 Gigawatts of net coal capacity was switched off, saving thousands of lives and avoiding many tonnes of CO₂.

Together with other organisations, WWF launched two major reports on coal in Europe and its impacts on health. *'Europe's Dark Cloud: How coal-burning countries make their neighbours sick'*, launched in July, finds that EU coal emissions were responsible for over 22,900 premature deaths and up to EUR 62.3 billion in health costs in 2013 (see graphic on p18/19). *'Lifting Europe's Dark Cloud: How cutting coal saves lives'*, published in October, shows that effective coal regulation could slash deaths from toxic fumes by as much as 85%.



Average PM_{2.5} pollution (fine airborne particles) from EU coal in 2013

WWF also published a report commissioned from Ecofys which shows how even ‘most efficient’ coal plants emit too much carbon to keep to the Paris Agreement’s temperature limit of ‘well below 2°C’.

Despite coal’s harmful impacts and ongoing decline, the European Commission left the door open to subsidies to existing coal plants in its 2030 climate and energy proposals in November.

More: www.wwf.eu/what_we_do/climate



DID YOU KNOW?

THE EU AIMS TO
CUT EMISSIONS BY
80-95%
BY 2050: WE MUST
FULLY DECARBONISE
TO BE IN LINE
WITH THE PARIS
AGREEMENT

Thinking ahead on climate: the MaxiMiser project

Immediate action is crucial in tackling climate change, but so is long-term planning, which needs to guide the short-term actions. Only by linking both can we avoid wasting money on technologies that will be obsolete in 2050, when Europe must be a net zero emitter.

The most effective long-term climate plans are ambitious, credible, based on the latest science and developed in a transparent and open way.

EU countries committed to submitting long-term ‘low carbon development strategies’ in 2015, and to report on progress in 2017.

WWF’s MaxiMiseR project is evaluating EU countries’ plans and making recommendations for long-term planning.

It has also looked at how ETS auctioning revenues can best be used to fund decarbonisation.

The project runs until mid-2018, and is funded by the EU Life Programme and the MAVA Foundation.

More: www.maximiser.eu

MaxiMiseR
STRATEGIES FOR A LOW CARBON EU BY 2050

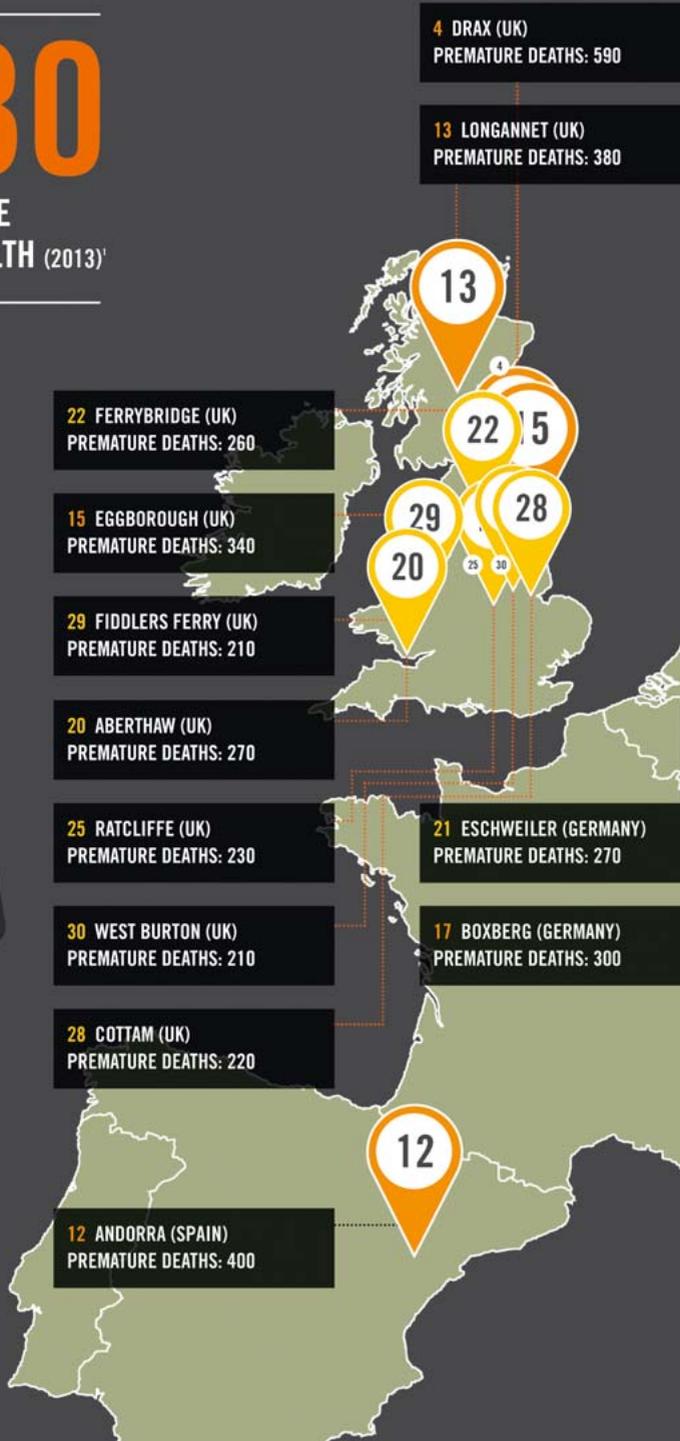


EUROPE'S TOXIC 30

THE COAL PLANTS WITH THE BIGGEST IMPACTS ON HEALTH (2013)¹



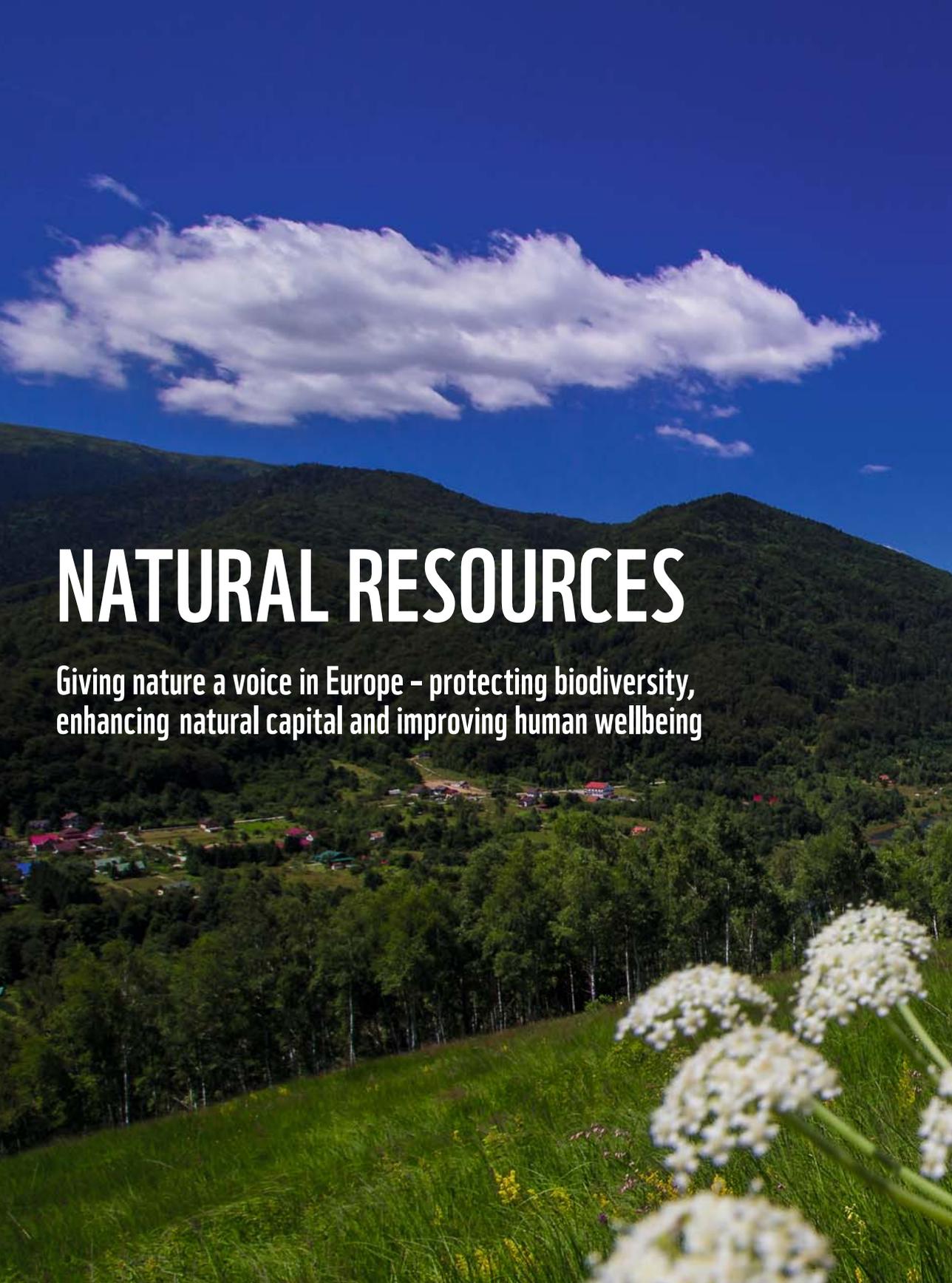
 **PREMATURE DEATHS**



¹ For the methodology used, please see Annex 1.

EUROPE'S DARK CLOUD





NATURAL RESOURCES

**Giving nature a voice in Europe – protecting biodiversity,
enhancing natural capital and improving human wellbeing**



A win for nature

The #NatureAlert campaign and its supporters won!
The Commission decided to save the EU Birds and Habitats Directives.



Sustaining our planet

Three of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals relate directly to protection of natural resources - 6. Clean water, 14. Life below water, and 15. Life on land.



A way to go

Chairs, books and musical instruments are among the wood products still not covered by EU law on illegal timber trade.

BIODIVERSITY

December 2016 saw a major victory for people power, when – after nearly two years of

campaigning, involving the biggest number of responses ever to an EU public consultation, many NGO partners and several politicians – the EU finally decided not to weaken its Nature Directives.



“People power saved the EU nature laws. Now we have to ensure those laws can save nature, by making them work on the ground.”

Andreas Baumüller,
Head of Natural
Resources

It is thanks to these Directives that Europe has Natura 2000, the biggest network of protected areas in the world; they are the reason for the recovery of many threatened species, like the wolf, the brown bear, and the Mediterranean loggerhead turtle.

The ongoing work of WWF and its European network and partner NGOs in 2016 – under the banner of the #NatureAlert campaign – was fundamental in bringing about the final decision to leave the Directives intact. In May, WWF EPO and offices in 18 EU countries launched an online tool called ‘Turn up the Volume of Nature’ (see opposite page). People could choose sounds like birdsong, water lapping, and branches creaking to create ‘songs’ and send them with a message to their national environment ministers. More than 60,000 songs of nature were produced and shared across Europe – a 300 hour long symphony for nature!

WWF also produced a series of stories on iconic European animals like the wolf, the brown bear, the lynx and the mediterranean sea turtle. We launched public campaigns to draw attention to natural areas threatened by industrial activities, like the Doñana wetlands in Spain, Białowieża forest in Poland and Pirin national park in Bulgaria. And there was always room for the clever pen of a cartoonist to help use humour to make the point!



© Mark Bitter / WWF



© Pixabay



DID YOU KNOW?

EU NATURE LAWS
SAFEGUARD MORE
THAN **1,400**
THREATENED SPECIES
AND ONE MILLION
SQUARE KILOMETRES
OF NATURAL
HABITATS IN EUROPE

Through an “access to documents” request, WWF obtained, in July, the expert report containing the results of the fitness check consultation. The conclusion of the report was very clear: “The EU Nature Directives are fit for purpose”. By publishing this report, we increased the pressure on the European Commission to take the right decision.

In September, WWF handed out organic honey from European protected areas to policy-makers to show that when people and nature work hand in hand they can produce great things – and to stress that this (as well as the honey bee) is threatened by intensive agriculture.

More: www.wwf.eu/natureup #NatureAlert
www.wwf.eu/what_we_do/biodiversity



© WWF / THINKDIGITAL



Bialowieza is one of Europe's best preserved old-growth forests

FORESTS

When you next relax on a wooden seat, or read your favourite newspaper, take a closer look – it could originate from illegal timber. The EU's main tool for fighting the illegal timber trade, the EU Timber Regulation, is still not properly implemented and enforced in many EU countries, as the evaluation by the European Commission published in February 2016 showed. Moreover, the regulation only covers 86% of wood-related items by volume and as little as 33% by value. This means that many items – such as musical instruments or books – could contain timber from illegal sources.



DID YOU KNOW?

**BETWEEN 1990
AND 2008 THE EU
WAS THE BIGGEST
IMPORTER OF
DEFORESTATION
THROUGH PRODUCTS
IN THE WORLD**

Under pressure from WWF and others, the Commission will launch an impact assessment on the products covered by the regulation in 2017. WWF is calling for the regulation to cover *all* wood products. We will also continue to work to increase timber legality and sustainability and protect forests worldwide.

Deforestation has a massive impact on climate change, wildlife and communities. Experts have estimated that agriculture is responsible for 80% of deforestation globally. While the EU has committed under the Sustainable Development Goals to end deforestation globally by 2020, it is still responsible for much of it. This is chiefly through its consumption – for example meat from animals fed on soy grown on deforested areas – and its imports.

WWF, together with others, is challenging the EU institutions on deforestation, forest degradation and agriculture supply chains, and 2016 has seen successes with both the European Parliament and the EU Member States supporting EU action on deforestation.

WWF is calling for the development of an EU Action Plan on deforestation and forest degradation.

WATER

2016 was an important year for freshwater within WWF: it became one of the organisation's six global priorities. A goal was suggested: 'Freshwater ecosystems and their services sustain people and nature'.

Inadequate protection threatens Doñana, Spain, one of Europe's most important wetlands



© Diego López / WWF-Spain



DID YOU KNOW?

FRESHWATER SPECIES DECLINED BY **81%** BETWEEN 1970 AND 2012, FASTER THAN THOSE ON LAND OR IN THE SEA

In support of this global goal, WWF is strengthening its work for freshwater protection in Europe. To raise awareness about the need of reducing dams in the EU and neighbouring countries, WWF and partners screened the DamNation documentary to key policymakers in Brussels.

WWF helped to improve the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive – the laws that ensure sustainable water management in Europe. Special attention was given to ensure exemptions to the Directive are not mis-applied by Member States. It also supported national WWF offices in infringement cases against EU Member States which had violated the Directive.

With other NGOs, WWF started building a European coalition for the protection of EU waters, officially launched at the European Parliament event on World Water Day 2017 – 22 March.

OCEANS

The global ocean is the largest habitat on Earth, and provides food and jobs for millions of people. These benefits are at risk due to overfishing, habitat destruction, climate change and pollution.



“Europe’s seas are in a critical state - fish stocks, biodiversity and habitats continue to decline. The EU has many strong legislative tools to address ocean governance challenges, but implementation is still too slow and patchy to drive recovery.”

Samantha Burgess,
Head of European
Marine Policy



DID YOU KNOW?

**93% OF
ASSESSED FISH
STOCKS IN THE
MEDITERRANEAN
ARE OVERFISHED**

WWF is working in a coalition with the Environmental Justice Foundation (EJF), Oceana and the Pew Charitable Trust to fight illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing within and outside European waters.

Steps were taken in 2016 to close the legal loopholes associated with IUU fishing. In January, the European Commission published a requirement for European fishing vessels above a certain size, and all vessels fishing in EU waters above a certain size, to have a unique vessel number. This helps clamp down on illegal activities. In June, an international treaty – the Port State Measures Agreement – was ratified, reducing the number of ports where illegally caught fish can be unloaded.

Together the WWF network continued to ensure effective implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy. The fish crisis in the Mediterranean led to a new campaign from EU Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Commissioner Vella, #MedFish4ever, urging Mediterranean Fisheries Ministers to address the situation of fish stocks in the region. WWF’s position paper on how Mediterranean fisheries can be sustainably managed influenced the Ministerial draft declaration to be launched in 2017. This declaration strengthens collaboration between Mediterranean countries and intends to bring fish stocks to sustainable levels.

WWF European Policy Office raised awareness amongst EU policy makers and industry on the lack of a proper legal framework to manage shark fisheries in the Atlantic. This led to an international agreement on catch limits for blue sharks. WWF helped push for the adoption of a recovery plan for the threatened Mediterranean swordfish – the plan was adopted in November.

WWF has been a leading voice in the development of the sustainable Blue Economy agenda and integrated ocean governance both in the EU and globally. The EU launched a Communication on Ocean Governance in November with an ambitious implementation roadmap for 2017-2020.

More: www.wwf.eu/what_we_do/oceans/



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Promoting sustainable development in the EU and abroad





2030 Sustainable Development Agenda

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals turned a year old in September 2016.



Sustainability begins at home

These goals can and should transform EU policy-making.



Fighting wildlife crime

The EU now has an Action Plan to tackle illegal wildlife trade.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The 2030 Agenda for sustainable development – and its 17 goals – celebrated their first anniversary in September 2016.



“People and planet can flourish together if we have the right policies in place. We need an EU strategy, built with civil society’s input, to ensure our policies work in a compatible way towards greater sustainability.”

Sally Nicholson,
Head of Development
Policy & Finance

This agreement, signed by governments worldwide, aims to tackle the causes of environmental degradation, poverty and social injustice in a way that includes people, planet and prosperity. To mark the occasion, WWF sent policy-makers a first anniversary card with its messages: an overarching strategy for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in domestic and external policies is needed.

In November, the EU published its first response on how it will implement the SDGs. However, this response was glossy but weak in content – above all on action within the EU. The Commission “was busy repainting the front door to impress the neighbours while ignoring the fact that much of the house was missing”, commented WWF.

The Commission also issued a proposed revision of its development policy. This looks at how the EU can take forward the Sustainable Development Goals in cooperation with developing countries.

WWF sent a card to decision-makers to remind them that sustainable development concerns all policy areas



SDGs: signed, sealed...but far from delivered

The EU has signed up to the UN Sustainable Development Goals for 2030
But with no plan for how to reach them, it's falling way short



 <p>7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY</p>  <p>Harmful fossil fuels still supply 75% of Europe's energy</p>	 <p>13 CLIMATE ACTION</p>  <p>Carbon emissions in Europe went up by 1.4% in 2015</p>	 <p>12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION</p>  <p>We would need 2.6 Earths if everyone lived like an EU citizen</p>	 <p>14 LIFE BELOW WATER</p>  <p>Nine out of ten Mediterranean fish species are at risk due to overfishing</p>	 <p>15 LIFE ON LAND</p>  <p>36 species have already gone extinct in Europe</p>
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What now?

WORDS INTO POLICIES

the EU must produce a strategy to implement the 17 Goals urgently

POLICIES INTO ACTIONS

This strategy must transform EU policy-making, putting the environment and sustainable development at its heart

WWF is an associate member of CONCORD Europe, a confederation of development NGOs, as well as of SDG Watch, a civil society coalition representing 75 groups from youth to health to farming working on implementing the SDGs at EU level.

CONCORD
European NGO confederation for relief and development



Encouragingly, this proposal realises how important the environment, climate change action and natural resources are for human development. Tripartite discussions are taking place between the EU institutions to finalise the EU's new development policy before the summer. We are now working to ensure these principles are incorporated into EU proposals for new partnerships with Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific.



WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING



DID YOU KNOW?

WILDLIFE CRIME IS ESTIMATED TO BE THE 4TH LARGEST INTERNATIONAL ILLEGAL TRADE - AROUND **20,000** ELEPHANTS ARE POACHED EACH YEAR

Trafficking of ivory, rhino horn and other wildlife products is one of the world’s biggest cross-border crimes. In February, the EU adopted an Action Plan to better tackle the problems of poaching and trafficking.

WWF worked with the Commission, Member States and the European Parliament on making this plan as strong as possible. For example, it pushed for the plan to propose measures to boost data sharing and cooperation between EU member states, for stronger sentencing options, and for it to help developing countries tackle wildlife crime.

If this plan is put into place and followed through, it should make the EU a top player in the fight against illegal trade in wildlife.

WWF EUROPEAN POLICY OFFICE OUTSIDE THE EU

Have you heard of the “Silk Road” – the ancient routes across Asia used by Chinese silk traders? The Chinese government has a major new “Silk Road” – a vast infrastructure project known as the Belt and Road initiative, which aims to improve connections between China and the rest of Asia and Europe.



DID YOU KNOW?

WITH THE HELP OF EU FUNDING, WWF IS WORKING TO PROTECT AFRICA'S LARGEST TROPICAL RAINFOREST RESERVE, THE SALONGA NATIONAL PARK IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

WWF EPO is working with colleagues across Europe and Asia to address the environmental aspects of this project and ensure it is done sustainably. We will soon publish a map showing the potential overlap between the different parts of the Belt and Road initiative and protected sites and other key biodiversity areas.

We also help colleagues apply for EU funding for projects in developing countries. One such project is in Salonga National Park in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) – home to many endangered species including forest elephants and dwarf chimpanzees. WWF has secured EUR 17 million of EU funding to support the management of the park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Another project is based in the Greater Mekong region – a vast area spanning Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam and part of China. Here WWF is working in partnership with another NGO – The Centre for People and Forests – on a EUR 5 million EU-funded project to help citizens work together to look after forests. And in the Guyana and Suriname, WWF has received EUR 1 million from the EU to improve the protection of marine and coastal biodiversity.

More: www.wwf.eu/what_we_do/eu_world

Salonga National Park in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is home to many endangered species including forest elephants and dwarf chimpanzees



© Kate Holt / WWF-UK



SUSTAINABLE FINANCE

Sustainable economy allows people and planet to flourish together. Making financial flows and investments consistent with this goal is a critical first step.



“European finance must urgently be made greener and more sustainable to bring business models in line with the Paris Agreement and our international sustainability commitments.”

Sébastien Godinot,
Economist

In 2016, progress was made at EU and international level: In June, EU policy-makers agreed that all European pension funds must include sustainability factors in their risk assessment process. In September, the European Commission confirmed that a European strategy on sustainable finance would be developed in 2017 by an expert group: WWF will be one of the group members. In the autumn, the EU required investors to disclose their responsible investment policy.

In December, a European Commission study recommended standards to be set for EU green bonds, to ensure green claims are met and to scale up the green bond market. In the same month, the Financial Stability Board recommended that companies and investors around the world report the climate-related risks of their operations. WWF welcomed this and called on G20 finance ministers, financial regulators and central banks to make such reporting mandatory and to establish “climate stress tests” for investors.

However, there is still much to be done. In September, a report from WWF and other NGOs revealed that EU Investment Plan money is still being spent on carbon-intensive projects like motorways, airports, and fossil-fuel infrastructure – for example, 68% of transport investment is destined for carbon-intensive projects. This Plan is now under review.

DID YOU KNOW?

**EU NATIONS STILL
GIVE VAST AMOUNTS
OF PUBLIC MONEY**

TO COAL: \$9 BILLION
GERMANY SPENT
ON IT FROM 2007-2015, FRANCE, \$2.5 BILLION;
ITALY, \$2 BILLION AND THE UK,
\$1 BILLION



LOOKING TO 2017

Amidst the political upheaval of 2016, steps were taken on putting the environment and sustainability at the centre of EU policy-making. In 2017, WWF will work to use this progress as a basis to push for further action.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

We will be pressing for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 goals to be included in the heart of all EU policy-making, to reflect its truly transformative potential. The way to begin to do this is through a high-level EU implementation strategy which ensures nothing is missing and all policy action reinforces the goals.

CLIMATE AND ENERGY

2017 and beyond will be critical in defining how the EU translates the Paris Agreement into action. The core elements of EU climate and energy legislation for 2030 are going through the legislative process this year. The WWF Climate and Energy team will work with determination to ensure the European Parliament and Council add some backbone to the Commission's 2030 proposals. This will help Europe avoid missing out on the huge benefits that the energy transition brings for our economies, our job opportunities, and our health.

NATURE RESOURCES

As the EU – following the decision not to open the Nature Directives – prepares an Action Plan on their implementation in 2017, we will continue to call for delays and gaps in implementation and enforcement of the laws to be tackled. And with the Common Agricultural Policy reform upcoming, we will push for the EU to move once and for all to sustainable agriculture.

OCEANS

2017 will be an exciting year for the oceans with a strong agenda for ocean governance and a sustainable blue economy. There will be multiple ministerial declarations on ocean issues such as the state of fisheries and the blue economy in the Mediterranean hosted by the Maltese Presidency. On a more international outlook there will be the SDG 14 conference in New York in June and the EU will host the Our Ocean conference in Malta in October.

SUSTAINABLE EUROPE

In 2017, WWF will continue to engage with its civil society partners and national offices to push for a Europe strong and united by the values of openness, tolerance, sustainability, inclusivity, and protection of nature.



© Tomáš Hulík / WWF

The social panda

WWF's Twitter account was as active as ever in 2016, with:

2,433 Tweets

5,427,800 impressions

2,725 mentions

19,699 RTs

Many staff members Tweeted throughout the year too!

Follow us on @WWFEU

OUR DONORS, PARTNERS & ALLIES

The success of WWF's policy work at EU level depends on funding for our critical programmes, a coordinated and supportive network and key stakeholder alliances.

WWF NETWORK

Throughout the year, many WWF offices provided WWF EPO with their expertise and advocacy support. Fourteen offices contributed financially to our office. This support makes it possible to operate, make a real impact in Brussels and to help address issues raised by millions of WWF supporters around Europe and the world.

FOUNDATIONS

WWF EPO is supported both financially and in terms of policy development by major foundations. We are grateful for the continued support from the European Climate Foundation, the KR Foundation, the MAVA Foundation, Oceans 5 and the Paul M. Angell Family Foundation.

BUSINESS ALLIANCES

Our effectiveness is enhanced by our cooperation with leading business groups willing to join us in building common advocacy positions.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

We continued to receive an operational grant from the European Commission through the LIFE Programme. We also received project funding via LIFE, Horizon 2020, and the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad).

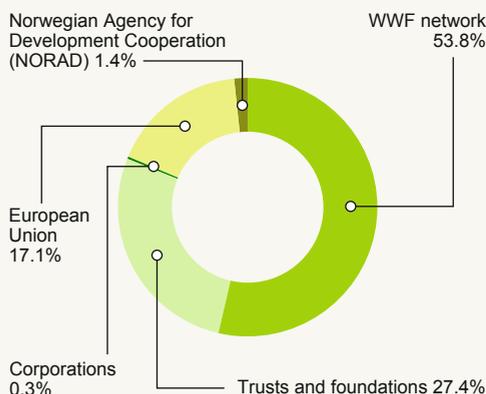
CIVIL SOCIETY

WWF EPO works with other organisations in various alliances: In the Green 10 coalition of the ten biggest European environmental NGOs in Brussels; as the only green NGO of CONCORD, the European confederation of development NGOs; as a member of the Climate Action Network (CAN) Europe, working on climate and energy issues; as part of the sustainable Europe coalition, and as a member of the European Habitats Forum (EHF), bringing together nature conservation organisations on EU biodiversity policy.

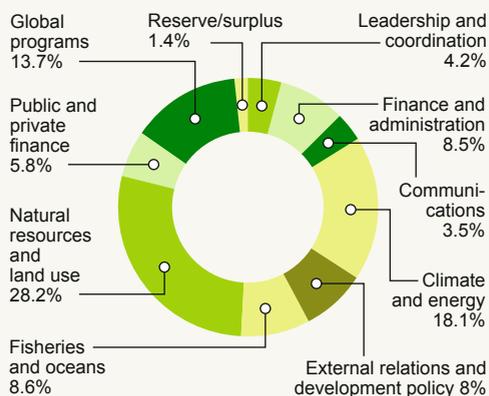
OUR BUDGET

WWF network	€ 2,474,563	53.8%
Trusts and foundations	€ 1,259,483	27.4%
Corporations	€ 15,000	0.3%
European Union	€ 787,200	17.1%
Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)	€ 65,100	1.4%
Total Income	€ 4,601,345	100%
Leadership and coordination	€ 194,047	4.2%
Finance and administration	€ 391,784	8.5%
Communications	€ 161,458	3.5%
Climate and energy	€ 831,084	18.1%
External relations and development policy	€ 368,135	8.0%
Fisheries and oceans	€ 396,045	8.6%
Natural resources and land use	€ 1,299,273	28.2%
Public and private finance	€ 265,383	5.8%
Global programs	€ 628,277	13.7%
Reserve/surplus	€ 65,859	1.4%
Total expenditure	€ 4,601,345	100%

INCOME



EXPENDITURE



THE WWF EUROPEAN POLICY OFFICE TEAM

OPERATIONS



DALE CHADWICK
Operations
Director



FLORENCE MOUNÉ
Office & HR
Manager



LAURENCE JACQUES
Finance Officer



DENIS PORTAELS
IT Manager

COMMUNICATION



ANGELIKA PULLEN
Communications
Director



STEFANIA CAMPOGIANNI
Communications Manager



AUDREY GUEUDET
Senior Communications
& Media Officer,
Climate & Energy



SARAH AZAU
Senior Communications
& Media Officer,
Climate & Energy

CLIMATE & ENERGY



IMKE LÜBBECKE
Head of Unit,
Climate & Energy



ALEXANDER MASON
Senior Renewable Energy Policy
Officer



DAREK URBANIAK
Senior Energy Policy
Officer



SAM VAN DEN PLAS
Senior Policy Officer
Climate & Energy

NATURAL RESOURCES



ANDREAS BAUMÜLLER
Head of Unit,
Natural Resources



ANKE SCHULMEISTER
Senior Forest Policy
Officer



MARTINA MLINARIC
Senior Policy Officer,
Biodiversity & Water



ERIK GERRITSEN
Policy Officer,
Biodiversity & Water

DEVELOPMENT & FINANCING



SALLY NICHOLSON
Head of Unit, Development
Policy & Finance



EMILIE VAN DER HENST
Senior EU Development
& Funding Officer



MARGHERITA SOLCA
Senior EU Development
& Funding Officer



TATIANA LAMBIN
Development Policy
& Finance Officer



GUIDO BROEKHOVEN
Regional Manager,
China - Africa Trade
Initiative

LEADERSHIP



GENEVIÈVE PONS
Director



ANDREA KOHL
Deputy Director
& Programme Director



DIANA RUBINI
Office Assistant



EVELYNE PARCA
Office Assistant



JEAN SHEARN
Director's
Personal Assistant



KARMEN SPILJAK
Senior Web & Social Media
Officer



FLORENCE DANTHINE
Communications
Assistant



TYCHO VANDERMAESEN
Senior Public Affairs
Officer



REBECCA HUMPHRIES
Public Affairs
Officer



IGNACIO FRESCO VANZINI
Public Affairs
Assistant

PUBLIC AFFAIRS



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Senior Policy Officer for
Energy Conservation



ADAM WHITE
Senior Research Coordinator,
Climate & Energy



LEIA ACHAMPONG
Policy Officer
MaxiMiseR



SABIEN LEEMANS
Senior Policy Coordinator,
Biodiversity



JABIER RUIZ
Senior Policy Officer
Agriculture and Sustainable
Food Systems



SAMANTHA BURGESS
Head of Unit,
EU Marine Policy



RITA SANTOS
Senior Policy Officer,
Marine & Fisheries



ESZTER HIDAS
Senior Policy Officer,
Illegal Fishing

MARINE & FISHERIES



SÉBASTIEN GODINOT
Economist



JAN VANDERMOSTEN
Policy Officer
Sustainable Finance



LISE DEVAUX
Green Economy
& Natural Resources
Assistant



JULIA LINARES
Sustainable Energy
Investment Assistant

SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIES

WWF OFFICES IN EUROPE

Country	Office	Website	Social Media
AUSTRIA	WWF-Austria	wwf.at	@wwfaustria
	WWF Danube-Carpathian Programme Office	panda.org/dcpo	@WWFCEE
BELGIUM	WWF-Belgium	wwf.be	@WWF_Belgique
	WWF European Policy Office	wwf.eu	@WWFEU
BULGARIA	WWF-Bulgaria	wwf.bg	@wwf_bulgaria
CROATIA	WWF-Adria	adria.panda.org	facebook.com/wwfadria
DENMARK	WWF-Denmark	wwf.dk	@WWFdk
FINLAND	WWF-Finland	wwf.fi	@WWFSuomi
FRANCE	WWF-France	wwf.fr	@WWFFrance
GEORGIA	WWF-Caucasus	panda.org/caucasus	
GERMANY	WWF-Germany	wwf.de	@wwf_deutschland
GREECE	WWF-Greece	wwf.gr	@WWF_Greece
HUNGARY	WWF-Hungary	wwf.hu	facebook.com/wwfhungary
ITALY	WWF-Italy	wwf.it	@wwfitalia
	WWF Mediterranean Programme Office	mediterranean.panda.org	@WWFMed
LATVIA	Pasaules Dabas Fonds	pdf.lv	facebook.com/PasaulesDabasFonds
NETHERLANDS	WWF-Netherlands	wnf.nl	@wnfnederland
NORWAY	WWF-Norway	wwf.no	@WWFNorge

Country	Office	Website	Social Media
POLAND	WWF-Poland	wwf.pl	facebook.com/WWFpl @WWF_Polska
PORTUGAL	WWF-Portugal	wwf.pt	facebook.com/portugalWWF @WWF_Portugal
ROMANIA	WWF-Romania	romania.panda.org	facebook.com/WWFRomania @wwf_romania
RUSSIA	WWF-Russia	wwf.ru	facebook.com/wwfRU @wwfRu
SERBIA	WWF-Serbia	wwf.rs	facebook.com/WWFSerbia @WWFSerbia
SLOVAKIA	WWF-Slovakia	slovakia.panda.org	facebook.com/wwfslovakia @wwfslovakia
SPAIN	WWF-Spain	wwf.es	facebook.com/WWFEspana @WWFEspana
SWEDEN	WWF-Sweden	wwf.se	facebook.com/VarldsnaturfondenWWF @WWFSverige
	WWF Baltic Ecoregion Programme	panda.org/baltic	
SWITZERLAND	WWF-Switzerland	wwf.ch	facebook.com/WWFSuisse @WWF_Schweiz
	WWF International	panda.org	facebook.com/WWF @wwf
TURKEY	WWF-Turkey	wwf.org.tr	facebook.com/wwfturkiye @wwf_turkiye
UKRAINE	WWF-Ukraine	panda.org/uk	facebook.com/wwfukraine @WWF_Ukraine
UK	WWF-UK	wwf.org.uk	facebook.com/WWFUnitedKingdom @wwf_uk
	WWF-Scotland	wwf.org.uk/scotland	facebook.com/WWFScotland @WWFScotland
	WWF-Wales	wwf.org.uk/wales	facebook.com/WWFCymruWales @WWFCymru

WWF IN EUROPE

100%
RECYCLED



1989

WWF European Policy Office
was founded in Brussels in 1989

80%

Up to 80% of national
environmental legislation is
decided by the EU



27 countries

WWF is present in
27 countries in Europe

3.5+ Million

WWF has over 3.5 million
supporters in Europe



Why we are here

To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and
to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.

wwf.eu