

STATE OF NATURE

2020

Assessment of Norway's efforts to reach the Aichi targets



Norwegian Forum
for Development
and Environment



Naturvernforbundet
Friends of the Earth Norway

State of Nature 2020: Assessment of Norway's effort to reach the Aichi targets

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Sabima is an environmental organization that works to stop the loss of biodiversity. We make policy recommendations and disseminate knowledge about ecological contexts.

Friends of the Earth Norway (Norges Naturvernforbund) is Norway's oldest and largest nature and environmental protection organization. We are concerned with a wide range of issues in environmental and nature conservation, but work specifically with the areas conservation, climate, energy and transport.

WWF Norway is the national branch of the global environmental organization World Wildlife International. Our mission is to build a future in which people live in harmony with nature, and where and where no animals or other species will become extinct due to human actions.

The Norwegian Forum for Development and Environment (ForUM) is a network of 50 Norwegian civil society organizations within development, environment, peace, human rights and humanitarian aid. Our vision is a democratic and peaceful world based on fair distribution, solidarity, human rights and sustainability.

The views and conclusions presented in this report are made by the undersigned organizations and do not necessarily reflect the view of all the member organizations in ForUM.

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STATE OF NATURE NORWAY 2020

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Side	Innhold
4	Introduction
5	Recommendations for a better future - for humans and nature
6	Assessment of Norway's efforts to reach the Aichi targets with sub-targets
13	Recommendations in brief





Introduction

This report contains a review of the status of the state of nature in Norway. A group of member organizations in Forum for Development and Environment has assessed the extent to which Norway has contributed to meeting the international biodiversity goals. Based on this assessment, we present our recommendations on how Norway can contribute to halt the loss of nature. It is more important than ever that we take the nature crisis seriously. Last year, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) presented the largest study of all time on how we as humans affect nature. Their conclusion was dramatic: Nature is more at risk than ever.

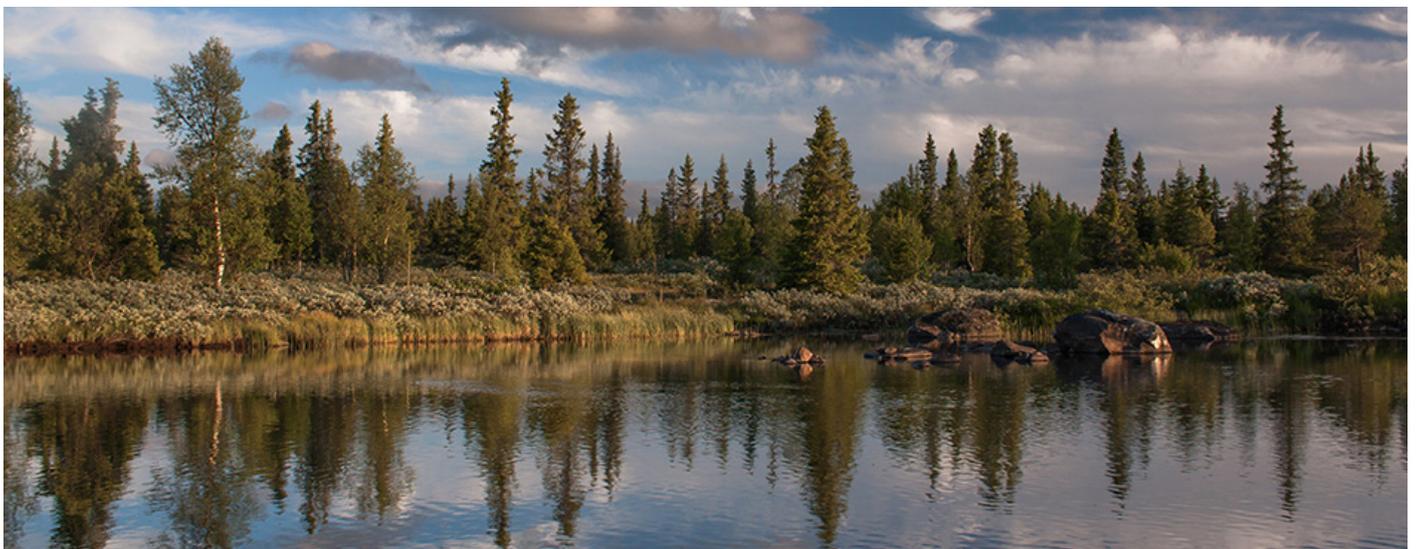
In 2010, 196 countries agreed on 20 targets for nature – the Aichi biodiversity targets – which would contribute to achieving the biodiversity convention’s three objectives: 1) conservation of biodiversity, 2) sustainable use of biodiversity, and 3) fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources. The Aichi targets are the foundation for the two of the UN Sustainable Development Goals which concern nature, and are closely related to the other sustainability goals. While the rest of the sustainability goals are to be reached by 2030, the deadline for the Aichi goals was already in 2020. By the end of the year, the biodiversity crisis was to be over. This is far from our present reality. Our over-consumption of nature and its resources means that we are slowly but surely sawing off the branch we are sitting on.

In this report, we review the 20 biodiversity targets and to which extent to which Norway has achieved these. We see that only four of the 43 sub-targets have been reached by 2020. This is far from sufficient, and it shows that the Norwegian authorities have failed to act upon the direness of the biodiversity crisis we are facing.

When mapping Norway’s efforts to achieve the various sub-targets, the organizations at times found it challenging to obtain the necessary data. Norwegian reporting on the targets has largely been at a generic level and target achievement has not been evaluated on the basis of sub-targets and indicators. The challenge has been twofold: There is a lack of knowledge on the condition of nature. In addition, not all existing information is made available to the public. The assessments in this report is made on the best available information, which are outlined next to each sub-target. The Aichi targets are ambitious, but implementation at the national level has not been satisfactory. In fact, Norway is not in a position to achieve any of them. Looking ahead, we must increase our ambitions as well as our ability to implement those ambitions.

A strong and binding global biodiversity framework – a new agreement for nature and people – is needed; one that ensures comprehensive, knowledge-based and sustainable management of nature. Slightly delayed, this new agreement for nature and people is scheduled to be completed at the convention’s 15th Biodiversity Conference in Kunming, China, in 2021.

Norway is often seen as a positive and progressive force in international negotiations on biodiversity. This makes it even more important for Norwegian authorities to walk the walk and deliver at home. It is time for our politicians to take the global nature crisis seriously, reduce our ecological footprint and prioritize those measures that will preserve Norwegian nature.



Recommendations for a better future – for humans and nature

Norway needs a comprehensive, knowledge-based and sustainable management of nature. Certain positive measures and initiatives are in place, but these are insufficient to address the challenges we and nature face. In working with this report, our member organisations have developed five overall recommendations and ten specific measures, that we believe are necessary to halt the loss of nature.

In order to take care of nature and the natural resources we all depend upon, we need the following:

- Protection of valuable nature and restoration of destroyed and degraded nature
- Knowledge-based and well-planned land management for nature and climate
- Reduced ecological footprint
- More mapping of nature and the interactions in nature
- More available knowledge and information about nature

In order to achieve this, we believe the following measures are necessary:

1. Treat the climate crisis and the biodiversity crisis as two sides of the same coin, and prioritize measures that have a positive effect on both climate and biodiversity. Nature risk and climate risk must be integrated into all use and planning of use of land.

2. Ensure more sustainable land use across all sectors, including agriculture, forestry, fisheries, aquaculture, transport and energy. In-depth knowledge must be gathered in assessment processes. A far heavier emphasis must be put on nature considerations and indigenous peoples' rights. Mitigating measures must be put in place where negative consequences for nature cannot be avoided.

3. Become land use neutral, in the same way as Norway aims to become climate neutral. Ensure no net loss of natural habitats as a minimum. This entails the reuse and densification of already developed areas rather than further expansion into nature. Over-consumption of areas must end. To achieve this, municipalities and sectors must keep tabs on and publicly report on land use (including conversion), which in turn can contribute to a national nature budget.

4. Strengthen the capacity and competence of municipalities to reduce the loss of nature through. Among other things, a "Nature positive" scheme, and biodiversity must be strongly emphasized in municipal land management.

5. Drastically increase restoration of destroyed and degraded nature, e.g. through national restoration plans for all main

nature types and subsidy schemes for forestry and agriculture. In addition, a restoration fund should be established, for example as part of a compensation fee for developers, which ensures long-term perspective and predictability in the work.

6. Norwegian authorities must, as soon as possible, develop a plan to phase out environmentally harmful subsidies, and avoid the introduction of new such subsidies. Such subsidies must be replaced by schemes that support both biodiversity and business activities, for example in agriculture and forestry.

7. Prioritize the development and adoption of a national marine protection plan as soon as possible. The Nature Diversity Act must be extended to also apply beyond 12 nautical miles, in order to be able to protect the natural values that lie in all Norwegian marine areas.

8. Improve the protection of endangered and vulnerable nature. The process with establishing new selected habitat types and priority species must be scaled up considerably, and the supplementary plan for protective areas (to achieve representativeness) must be adopted. The plan must capture the diversity in Norwegian biodiversity and promote networks of protective areas.

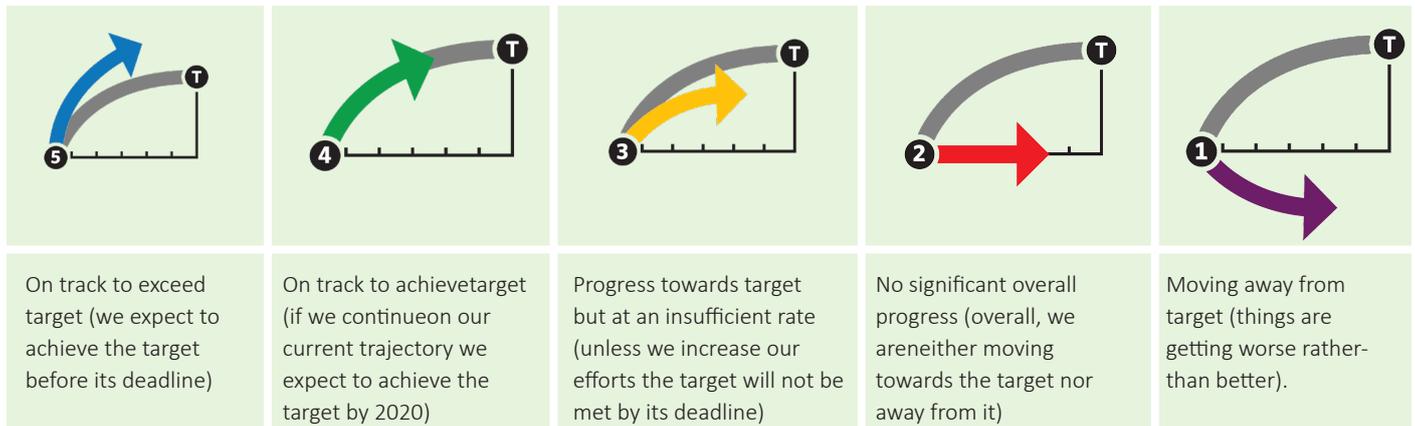
9. Develop new and creative solutions to strengthen the circular economy and reduce consumption, for example through VAT deductions on repairs, and a producer responsibility scheme for plastics.

10. Increase the pace and scope of nature mapping. Knowledge must be made available to and put to use by all actors. Knowledge of nature and ecosystems services must be strengthened among the majority of the public as well as decision-makers. Communication activities in order to deepen our understanding of nature must be prioritized by national authorities.

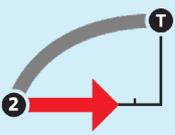
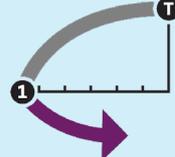
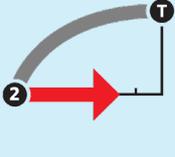
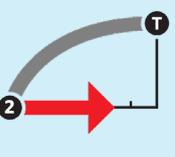
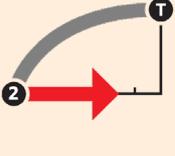
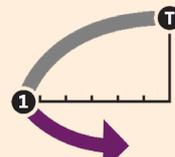




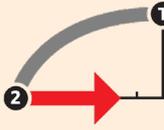
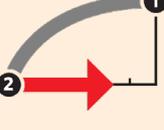
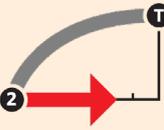
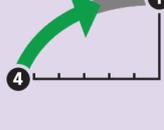
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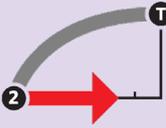
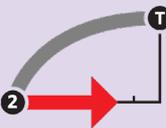
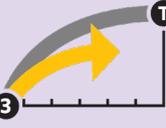
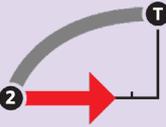
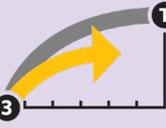
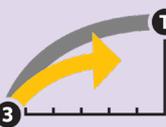
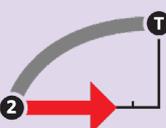


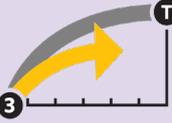
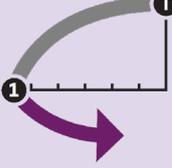
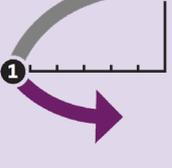
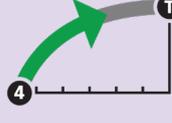
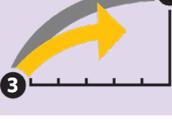
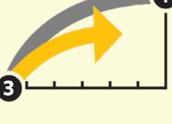
PUBLIC INFORMATION AND AWARENESS 	People are aware of the values of biodiversity		There are a number of websites with available environmental information, but only a part of the population has sufficient knowledge on biodiversity and biodiversity loss. Public knowledge on biodiversity has not been surveyed since 2014. Planned information actions have not been prioritized by the authorities, although funding is provided for private actors' information activities. For all practical purposes, information activities have been privatized.
	People are aware of the steps they can take to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity		There is a growing desire among the Norwegian public to contribute positively to biodiversity. However, the understanding of what needs to be done is lacking. As in the above case, the authorities give low priority to public information activities, but provide financial support for private actors' information measures.
INTEGRATION OF NATURAL VALUES 	Biodiversity values integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies		Norway has a national action plan for biodiversity (NBSAP), but the plan contains few concrete follow-up points. The evaluation of the Planning and Building Act (EVAPLAN) also shows that biodiversity and other environmental considerations are given little emphasis in development projects, and that the value of nature is not sufficiently elucidated. Sectoral plans often lack real assessments of consequences for nature. In many cases, environmental assessments are dominated by climate issues. The municipalities are very important land managers, but may have limited knowledge of the value of nature. Only a few municipalities have dedicated biodiversity plans. "Environment and climate" is supposed to be a cross-sector consideration in Norwegian development policy, but a major weakness is the lack of systematic evaluations of whether biodiversity has been ensured/taken into account in development cooperation, as well as high quality evaluation criteria for new projects.
	Biodiversity values integrated into national and local planning processes		Research shows that the Planning and Building Act fails to ensure that important biodiversity is safeguarded in a sustainable manner. On a national level, The Office of the Auditor General has pointed out that insufficient consideration is given to biodiversity in national planning processes.

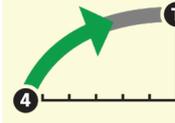
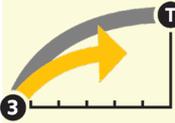
	<p>Biodiversity values incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate</p>		<p>Biodiversity is not an indicator in the national budget. There are limited reports of effects on biodiversity in the national budget, state budgets, reports to the parliament, and land regulation plans. Directorates and ministries have limited requirements to report on biodiversity. There are also very few reporting requirements and indicators for biodiversity in the municipalities' reporting to the state.</p>
<p>NATURSKADELIGE SUBSIDIER OG POSITIVE VIRKEMIDLER</p> 	<p>Incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity, eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts</p>		<p>Environmentally harmful subsidies have not been phased out, and there are no plans to do so. In early 2020, the Norwegian authorities received a report that was to provide an overview of such subsidies.</p> <p>In order to alleviate the economic setback created by COVID-19, environmentally harmful support schemes have been put in place, including for the oil and gas industry, and for the forestry industry.</p>
<p>BÆREKRAFTIG PRODUKSJON OG FORBRUK</p> 	<p>Positive incentives for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity developed and applied</p>		<p>There is a clear lack of coherence across sectors, with goals and actions that occasionally counteract each other.</p> <p>Several legal instruments have not been properly put into use, such as the schemes with priority species and selected habitat types.</p> <p>In addition, the use of subsidies harmful to biodiversity (such as fertilization of forests) has increased. At least one positive measure (safeguarding of wilderness through land use planning) has been removed.</p>
	<p>Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve, or have implemented, plans for sustainable production and consumption...</p>		<p>Many plans for sustainable use and consumption have been drawn up, but little has been done. Implementation of plans and actual change is too slow and mostly based on voluntary actions and consumer responsibility. The Norwegian economy is only 2.4 percent circular. There are no adopted specific goals for reduced consumption or for how circular the Norwegian economy should be.</p>
<p>BEVARING AV HABITAT</p> 	<p>... and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits</p>		<p>The ecological footprint per person in Norway has become somewhat smaller since 2010, but it is still far from being within planetary boundaries. Norway's overconsumption day in 2020 occurred already on April 18.</p> <p>Lack of achievement on sub-goal 2 has had a negative impact on goal achievement also in this area.</p>
	<p>The rate of loss of forests is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero</p>		<p>In the last decade, Norway has had deforestation of approximately 5,800 hectares annually (0.05 percent of the forest area). About 75 percent of productive forest areas outside strictly protected areas has been clear-cut, and thus converted from multi-layered forest with age variation to monotonous and species poor forest.</p>
	<p>The loss of all habitats is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero</p>		<p>Apart from forest areas, little is known about the loss of other types of nature biodiversity values due to clear-cut logging. Over the last ten years, construction rates of new cabins and buildings along the coast (<100 metres from the sea) have increased by 10 and 9 percent respectively. Simultaneously, the amount of nature that can be characterised as wilderness (more than 1 km from roads, buildings, power lines or other infrastructure) has been reduced. Nature is being lost at an increased pace. See also next sub-target.</p>

	<p>Degradation and fragmentation are significantly reduced</p>		<p>The nature index shows that the condition of all main nature types except forests is declining. The condition of forests is still relatively low. Areas with pristine nature are still declining in condition.</p>
<p>SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES</p>	<p>All fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches</p>		<p>Many of the commercially exploited fish stocks in Norwegian waters are sustainably managed. However, some stocks have been, or are still, overharvested. Pressure is increasing on salmonids (<i>Salmo</i> spp.), wrasses (<i>Labridae</i>) and coastal cod (<i>Gadus morhua</i>). Cod fishing has been closed down in several places.</p>
<p>Recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species</p>		<p>There are management plans to protect coastal cod in the north and rose fish (<i>Sebastes norvegicus</i>) in Norwegian waters as well as a number of plans and measures for the protection of wild salmon populations. However, the goal of rebuilding endangered fish stocks is far from reached.</p>	
<p>Fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems, and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits, i.e. overfishing avoided</p>		<p>Extensive bycatch fishing for endangered species such as common rose fish and spiny dogfish is still allowed. Several species, such as coastal cod and lobsters, are at a historically low level and there is little or no sign of improvement in the situation.</p> <p>In addition, we lack knowledge of the interaction between species and between species and their habitats, also with regard to the consequences of any new commercial fisheries, such as roe and deep-water fish.</p>	
<p>SUSTAINABLE AREAL MANAGEMENT</p>	<p>Areas under agriculture are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity</p>		<p>The main challenges to Norwegian agricultural ecosystems are that cultural landscapes are not used or maintained, and that the management of expansive, species-rich areas is being intensified. In addition, production in the most productive areas is becoming even more uniform and large scale. All semi-natural nature types are currently threatened. Runoff of phosphorus and nitrogen from agriculture to coastal areas have not decreased. There are some individual measures to preserve natural diversity in the agricultural landscape, but these do not outweigh an agricultural policy aimed at ever larger units and higher performance.</p>
<p>Areas under aquaculture are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity</p>		<p>The aquaculture industry in Norway is already extensive, and the political ambition is for production to grow to five times its current size.</p> <p>It is positive that measures have been introduced to limit the negative consequences of escaped fish and salmon louse, but these are inadequate and not in scale with the extent of the operation or the planned growth.</p> <p>The management has a significant weakness in the absence of systematic monitoring of the aquaculture industry's impact on the areas and ecosystems in which they operate. There has been a sharp increase in emissions of nutrient salts which constitute a significant source of pollution, and the extensive use of cleansing fish has a negative impact on ecosystems.</p>	

	<p>Areas under forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity</p>		<p>Regular forest registrations (MIS) overlook the largest biological values in forests, meaning that biologically important areas are cut down.</p> <p>The Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) has been weakened, and several environmentally harmful subsidies have been introduced into forestry. Even environmental considerations that are embedded in legislation are being followed up to a limited degree.</p>
<p>POLLUTION</p> 	<p>Pollution from excess nutrients has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity</p>		<p>Pollution still harms natural diversity and ecosystems in Norway, and no significant progress has been made over the last 10 years. Some good measures have been taken against pollution in agriculture and industry, and several clean-up projects have been carried out. Nevertheless, there are major unresolved challenges such as products with environmental toxins, emissions from the aquaculture industry and mining industries, plastic littering and accidental emissions risk, including oil. The lifting of a ban on the use of lead ammunition and a marked increase in forest fertilization in recent years are examples of backsliding.</p>
<p>INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES</p> 	<p>Invasive alien species and pathways identified and prioritized</p>		<p>We have good knowledge of risk and spread, including through the invasive alien species list. The legislation has been updated and reinforced, and the use and turnover of a variety of species is regulated.</p> <p>However, priorities have so far not been implemented, and few measures have been introduced to control pathways of spread.</p>
	<p>Priority species controlled or eradicated</p>		<p>A few select invasive alien species have been combated to a greater or lesser degree. According to the new action plan, a comprehensive plan for this issue specifically will be completed in 2021.</p>
	<p>Introduction and establishment of IAS prevented</p>		<p>There are regional action plans, but no comprehensive plan for the prevention and establishment of IAS. The law regulates a small selection of IAS. However, however planting of high-risk species is still allowed in the forest industry. A high number of plants carrying lumps of soil and blind passengers are imported, and several high-risk species are allowed in parks and urban areas.</p>
<p>VULNERABLE ECOSYSTEMS</p> 	<p>Multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs and other vulnerable ecosystems minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning</p>		<p>Only a very small proportion of known coral reefs has any kind of protection. These are also only protected from fishing activities, even if they are also threatened by petroleum activity close to known coral reefs.</p> <p>The ice edge zone in the Arctic is a particularly important and biologically valuable area. Nonetheless, parliament is supportive of petroleum activities in this area, in violation of advice from environmental experts.</p>
<p>PRESERVATION OF NATURE</p> 	<p>At least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas are conserved</p>		<p>17.5 per cent of the land area and 14 per cent of the area of Norwegian rivers and lakes are protected. However, this protection does not cover the breadth of variation in Norwegian nature. Only 3.8 percent of the productive forest is protected. See assessment of the other sub-targets.</p>
	<p>At least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas are conserved</p>		<p>Only 3.1 per cent of the sea area within the territorial boundary is protected. There has been a slight positive development in recent years.</p>

	<p>Areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services conserved</p>		<p>Only 25 per cent of what we assume to be valuable natural areas are mapped. As only a small portion of valuable nature is known to us, we can only take it into account in a limited extent. One of several examples is the flawed mapping of biologically important old forests. In the case of construction of power plants (including wind power and hydropower), inadequate surveys have been documented, and permissions have been granted in areas that should have been preserved for biodiversity.</p>
	<p>Conserved areas are well connected and integrated into the wider landscape and seascape</p>		<p>Forests, coastal areas and marine areas, nature types in cultural landscapes and open lowland, as well as several nature types in freshwater, are poorly represented in the protected areas. Supplementary protection measures to maintain the breadth of variation in Norwegian nature have not been adopted and will not include forests or marine protection. There has been little focus on creating coherent systems of protected areas. Conservation values are threatened in 27 per cent of protected areas.</p>
<p>ENDAGERED SPECIES</p> 	<p>Extinction of known threatened species has been prevented</p>		<p>There are currently 2,355 endangered species in Norway. Only a few of the most endangered species, such as arctic foxes and dwarf geese, are increasing in number. Few species have action plans to improve the situation. Important management tools, such as priority species, are not adopted to the extent intended.</p>
	<p>The conservation status of those species most in decline has been improved and sustained</p>		<p>There are no automatic measures in place for species in sharp decline. For the vast majority of the more than 4,000 species on the red list, there are no concrete plans for action.</p> <p>The number of birds in the cultural landscape and mountains has decreased sharply. Large predators are intentionally kept at an endangered population size.</p>
<p>GENETIC DIVERSITY</p> 	<p>The genetic diversity of cultivated plants, farmed and domesticated animals, wild relatives, including species of socio-economical and cultural value, is maintained</p>		<p>Select measures have been taken to preserve seeds, livestock breeds and tree species. Many livestock breeds are endangered. Nevertheless, developments seem to have moved in the right direction over the past 10 years.</p> <p>Wild relatives of food and feed plants in the cultural landscape are threatened by intensive agriculture and of regrowth of the species-rich cultural landscape.</p> <p>For wild salmon, a quality norm with a subnorm of genetic integrity has been established, but genetic diversity is still threatened by hybridization with escaped farmed salmon. See also goal 7.</p>
	<p>Strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding genetic diversity</p>		<p>Genetic diversity is mentioned in the white paper "Nature for Life" from 2015, and some action plans have been drawn up, but implementation is insufficient.</p>
<p>NATURE AND WELL-BEING</p> 	<p>Ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded</p>		<p>Norwegian drinking water generally holds a satisfactory quality. There is, however, room for improvement regarding water security.</p> <p>Ecosystems are not well enough taken care of. Several main ecosystems are not in good condition and some are deteriorating. This limits the ecosystems' ability to serve as flood protection and support pollination, fish and carbon uptake.</p> <p>Diverse forests with complex root systems are an important protection against landslides, especially in steep terrain, but this receives little attention in forest management (see goal 15).</p>

	<p>The needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable are taken into account</p>		<p>Norway is the only country with a Sami population that has ratified the ILO Convention on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Furthermore, sustainable use and protection of nature, also as a basis for Sami culture, is regulated in the Biodiversity Act. In spite of this, there are several examples of conflicts where mining projects, wind power development and other area-intensive development threaten Sami natural resources and Sami reindeer husbandry.</p>
<p>RESTORATION AND ADAPTION</p> 	<p>At least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems are restored, contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation, and to combating desertification</p>		<p>Some restoration projects have been carried out, especially on bogs. A plan for the restoration of wetlands for 2016-2020 was vague on the number and which objects were to be prioritized but has still resulted in the restoration of several wetlands. At the same time, significantly more area is destroyed of all habitat types than is restored. Despite increased awareness of the role of nature as a carbon store, carbon-rich nature is still being destroyed on a large scale.</p>
	<p>Ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks have been enhanced through conservation and restoration</p>		<p>The average temperature in 2019 was 1.9 degrees above normal. Climate change and nature's ability to withstand it are going in the wrong direction. We expect major climate change in the future, followed by more extensive and costly consequences in the form of higher temperatures, floods, landslides and ocean acidification, among other things.</p> <p>The number of species that have climate change as a negative influencing factor increased from 61 in 2010 to 87 in 2015. Of the red list habitat types, 35 out of 75 are negatively affected by climate change.</p>
<p>THE NAGOYA PROTOCOL</p> 	<p>The Nagoya Protocol is in force</p>		<p>Norway has ratified the Nagoya protocol..</p>
	<p>The Nagoya Protocol is operational, consistent with national legislation</p>		<p>There are still two regulations that must be adopted for Norway to have fulfilled all our obligations under the Nagoya Protocol.</p>
<p>NATIONAL STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN</p>	<p>Submission of NBSAPs to Secretariat by (end of) 2015</p>		<p>Norway presented its action plan in 2015, and it was approved by the parliament in 2016.</p>
	<p>NBSAPs adopted and implemented as an effective and updated policy instrument based on participation</p>		<p>Several specific policies in the action plan, and decisions from the parliament's consideration of the plan, have not been implemented. The late preparation of the action plan is an important reason why many of the targets are not achieved in time. Furthermore, the implementation has not been sufficiently prioritized in national budgeting processes.</p>

<p>URFOLKS- OG LOKALKUNNSKAP</p> 	<p>Traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities are respected and fully integrated and reflected in implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities</p>		<p>In Norway, indigenous rights are enshrined in several laws and regulations, and the Sami parliament has a right to be heard and involved in management decisions.</p> <p>Nevertheless, Sami interests and indigenous rights are often inadequately emphasized, especially in wind power and mining matters, even though the Sami Parliament and Sami organizations have been allowed to provide input. See also target 14.</p>
<p>KUNNSKAP OG TEKNOLOGI</p> 	<p>Knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved</p>		<p>We have acquired significantly deeper knowledge on the species level, but our knowledge of ecosystem functions and value is not significantly improved.</p> <p>Norway has invested relatively heavily in research and development, including through the Species Project and the "Ecological Ground Map". This helped build more solid knowledge about nature, although the work on ecological ground maps remains academically disputed.</p>
<p>Biodiversity knowledge, the science base and technologies are widely shared and transferred and applied</p>	<p>Biodiversity knowledge, the science base and technologies are widely shared and transferred and applied</p>		<p>A large portion of our knowledge has not been put into practice. It is also highly unfortunate public familiarity with national environmental goals remains low. So far, there is no well functioning system for open sharing of research results, although this is currently being developed. However, in Norway there are very good internet-based systems for sharing and use of location-attached information about species.</p>
<p>FINANSIELLE RESSURSER</p> 	<p>Mobilization of financial resources implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 from all sources has increased substantially from 2010 levels</p>		<p>Norway has met expectations under the Biodiversity Convention on a doubling of international funding for biodiversity, including funding for the Climate and Forestry Initiative. The Climate and Forest funding counts towards Norway's assistance to both climate and natural diversity.</p> <p>National funding of biodiversity is not emphasized in the national budget. This is one contribution to the fact that Norway will not achieve the majority of the Aichi targets. For example, with the current rate of grants for forest protection, Norway will only reach the target of 10 per cent forest protection in the year 2042.</p>

Recommendations in brief

1. Treat the climate crisis and the biodiversity crisis as two sides of the same coin
2. Ensure more sustainable land use across all sectors
3. Become land use neutral
4. Strengthen the capacity and competence of municipalities
5. Drastically increase restoration of destroyed and degraded nature
6. Norwegian authorities must, as soon as possible, develop a plan to phase out environmentally harmful subsidies
7. Prioritize the development and adoption of a national marine protection plan
8. Improve the protection of endangered and vulnerable nature
9. Develop new and creative solutions to strengthen the circular economy and reduce consumption
10. Increase the pace and scope of nature mapping



SABIMA



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