



VALUING NATURE

EU funding: opportunities and challenges

Allan Watt

Valuing Nature Europe Workshop

30 March 2021

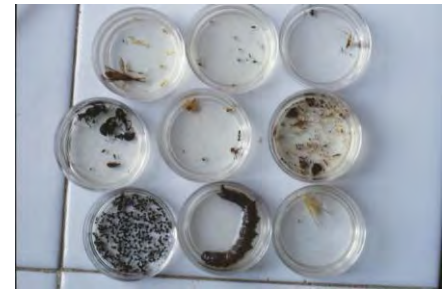
From UK funding (Defra, ODA, NERC) to EU funding

- Tropical forest biodiversity projects – UK funding
- BEAR: European forest biodiversity indicators – EU funding
- BioAssess: land use change and biodiversity in Europe – FP5
- BIOFORUM... ALTER-Net... BeSafe... RUBICODE... SPIRAL... Openness... EKLIPSE – FP5 to H2020
- Alternet and Eklipse



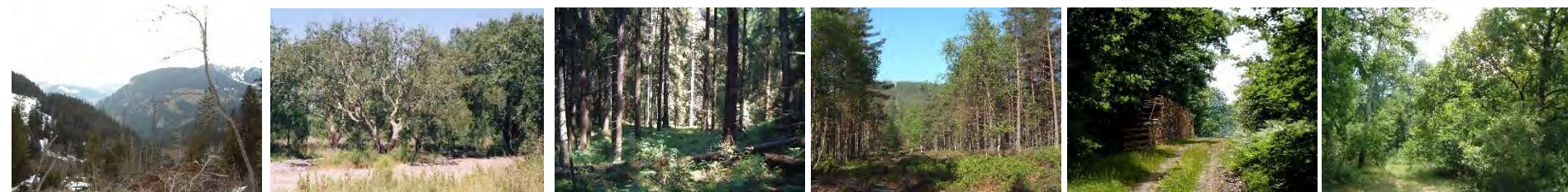
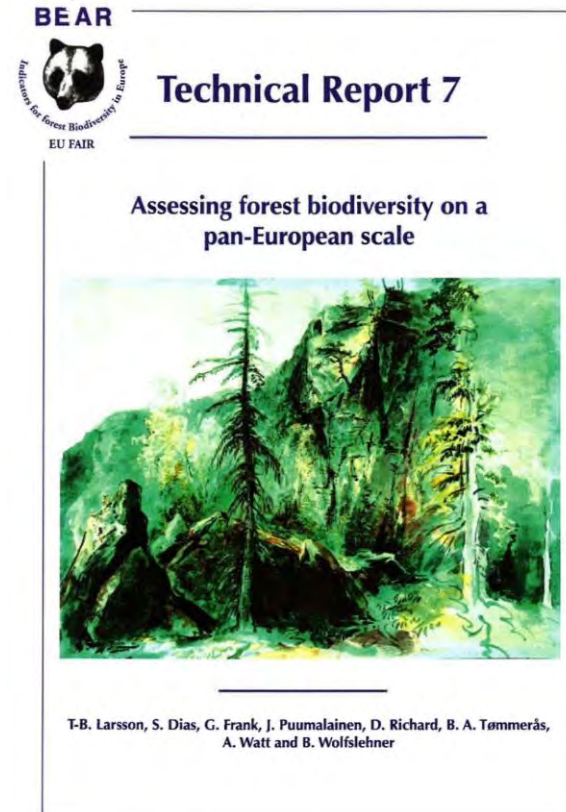
Tropical forest biodiversity projects

- Impact of deforestation on biodiversity and forest restoration



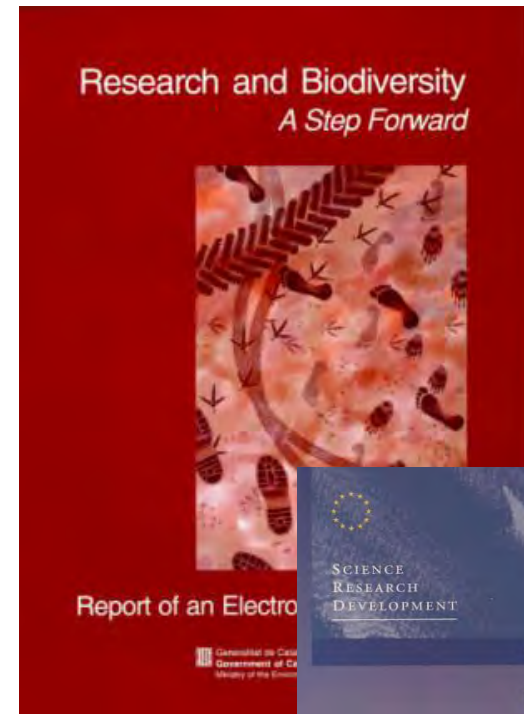
EU funding: getting started

- BEAR: European forest biodiversity indicators
 - Funding: EU FAIR Programme
 - Background: forest biodiversity
 - Opportunity: CEH in network of European research institutes
 - Involvement: proposal co-author and Work Package leader



Biodiversity science-policy interface

- FP5: EC RTD ambition for biodiversity research
- European Working Group on Research on Biodiversity
- Questionnaire
- E-conference & conference
- “Understanding Biodiversity”
- Understanding FP5 calls...



EU funding: consortium building

- BioAssess: land use change and biodiversity in Europe
- Background: BEAR Work Package leader and EWGRB involvement
- Consortium:
 - A few partners from BEAR project
 - EC Open Day
 - Web of Science...
 - 24 partners from 10 countries



EU funding: new opportunities

- BIOFORUM: conflicts between biodiversity conservation, agriculture, forestry etc.
- Background: BioAssess coordinator and networking
- Consortium:
 - Interdisciplinary project
 - Stakeholder involvement
 - Co-coordination



Biodiversity science-policy interface

- European Platform for Biodiversity Research Strategy
 - EU funded
 - Links to national Research Councils and Ministries
 - Drafted research priorities
 - E-conferences and workshops
 - Project funding support: Bioplatform and Biostrat
 - Links to EU Biodiversity Strategies
 - Links to CBD and IPBES
- Informed research calls from FP5 to H2020

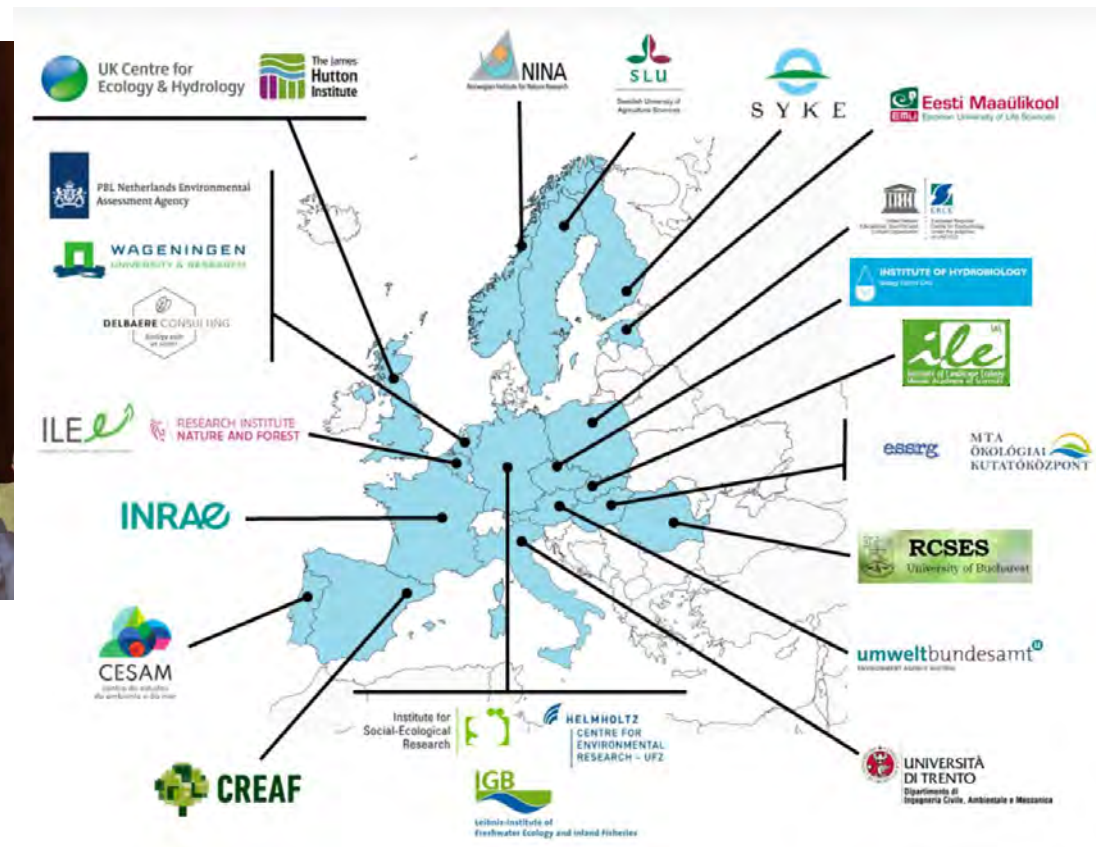


ALTER-Net: project to network

- ALTER-Net: FP6 Network of Excellence project
- Alternet: network of 25 partner institutes from 18 countries
- Conferences with EC



- Eclipse partnership
- Summer schools



Eclipse biodiversity science-policy mechanism

- Bridging the gap between policy and knowledge on biodiversity in Europe
- H2020 project to independent mechanism within Alternet
- Takes questions from EC, NGOs, Ministries etc
- Sets up Expert Working Groups (including early career)
- Knowledge synthesis methods



<https://eclipse.eu/>

Alternet summer schools

- Biodiversity, ecosystem service concepts, valuing nature, conservation conflicts, science-policy-society interface, transformative change...
- Open annually to 30 students: postgraduates and “early” career



<http://alterneteurope.eu/>

Conclusions: engaging in H2020 etc.

- Previous research and management experience
- A moving (European) research agenda
- Networks and networking
- Calls and proposals (FPs)
 - Excellence
 - Impact
 - Implementation
- Biodiversity Partnership etc.





VALUING NATURE

Thank you