

**HUMAN RIGHTS,
DEMOCRACY
AND THE RULE OF LAW**

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

**DROITS DE L'HOMME,
DÉMOCRATIE
ET ÉTAT DE DROIT**

CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE AND NATURAL HABITATS

Standing Committee

Revisited targets for the Emerald Network for the period to 2030

Otars Opermanis

History and background

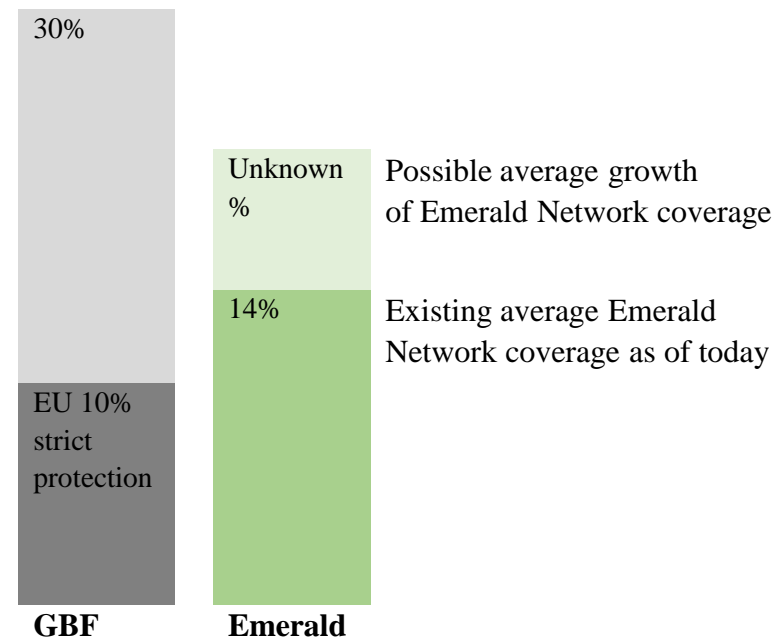
- First proposal of targets (2020)
- Numeric targets linked to Emerald Barometer indicators
- Two scenarios: cautious and optimistic
- Cautious: based on the EU's experience in building the Natura 2000 Network
- Optimistic: fulfilment of CBD's 2030 targets
- Divergent views, postponed decision

Emerald Network Barometer

Country	Country Area	PHASE I			PHASE II				PHASE III
		Number of all types of sites types	Area of all types of sites (km2)	National terrestrial coverage of all types of sites (%)	Sufficiency index (%)	Number of Adopted sites	Area of Adopted sites (km2)	National terrestrial coverage of Adopted sites (%)	Proportion of all sites with management plan (%)
Albania	28750	25	4721,3	16.4%	19.9%	-	-	-	100.0%
Andorra	465	2	26,1	5.6%	11.9%	2	26,1	5.6%	100.0%
Armenia	29743	23	10826,2	36.4%	68.7%	-	-	-	13.0%
Azerbaijan	86600	17	15974,3	18.4%	21.7%	-	-	-	0.0%
Bosnia and Herzegovina	51197	29	3250,5	6.3%	0.5%	-	-	-	20.7%
Georgia	69700	66	12904,1	18.5%	30.8%	66	12904,1	18.5%	36.4%
Iceland	102820	5	17081,5	16.6%	1.6%	-	-	-	40.0%
Liechtenstein	160	2	1,4	0.9%	9.6%	-	-	-	0.0%
Monaco	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Montenegro	14026	32	2507,1	17.9%	11.4%	-	-	-	93.8%
North Macedonia	25713	35	5797	22.5%	11.3%	-	-	-	42.9%
Norway	323802	706	48214,8	14.9%	20.1%	568	42935,3	13.3%	31.3%
Republic of Moldova	33846	61	2744,6	8.1%	24.1%	61	2744,6	8.1%	44.3%
Serbia	88361	61	9601,6	10.9%	9.4%	-	-	-	100.0%
Switzerland	41285	37	642,5	1.6%	1.2%	37	642,5	1.6%	81.1%
Turkey	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ukraine	603500	538	95354,2	15.8%	40.0%	377	68916,5	11.4%	8.6%
United Kingdom	244755	943	20960,4	8.6%	-	943	20960,4	8.6%	16.3%
Non-EU 16	1744723	2582	250607,6	14.4%	24.0%	2054	149129,5	8.5%	25.0%

Emerald Network role in GBF's 30% targets

- Emerald is not supposed to cover all 30% (also OECMs)
- But more than 10% (strict protection areas)
- Emerald's primary target: network sufficiency



Emerald Network development since 2020

Year	Bio-geographical region(s)	Countries	Meeting type	Remarks
2021	ALP-Cau, STE, BLS	GE	Tele-conference	Sufficiency
2022	CON, PAN (ALP)	RS	Tele-conference	Only Reference List
2022	ALP, CON, MED, PAN	AL, BA, ME, MK, XK	Tele-conference	Only Reference List
2022	ARC	IS	Hybrid	Sufficiency
2022	ALP	LI	Hybrid	Sufficiency

New proposal: considerations

- Previous targets over-optimistic
- Need to be aligned capacities of all range of Contracting Parties, also recognising their current status
- Primary focus (for 2030) on Sufficiency Index increase (**main discussions here!**)
- But also ensuring legal status and appropriate conservation measures through site management plans
- Linkage to submission of Emerald databases and bio-geographical assessments

Rank countries by the number of bio-geographical assessments

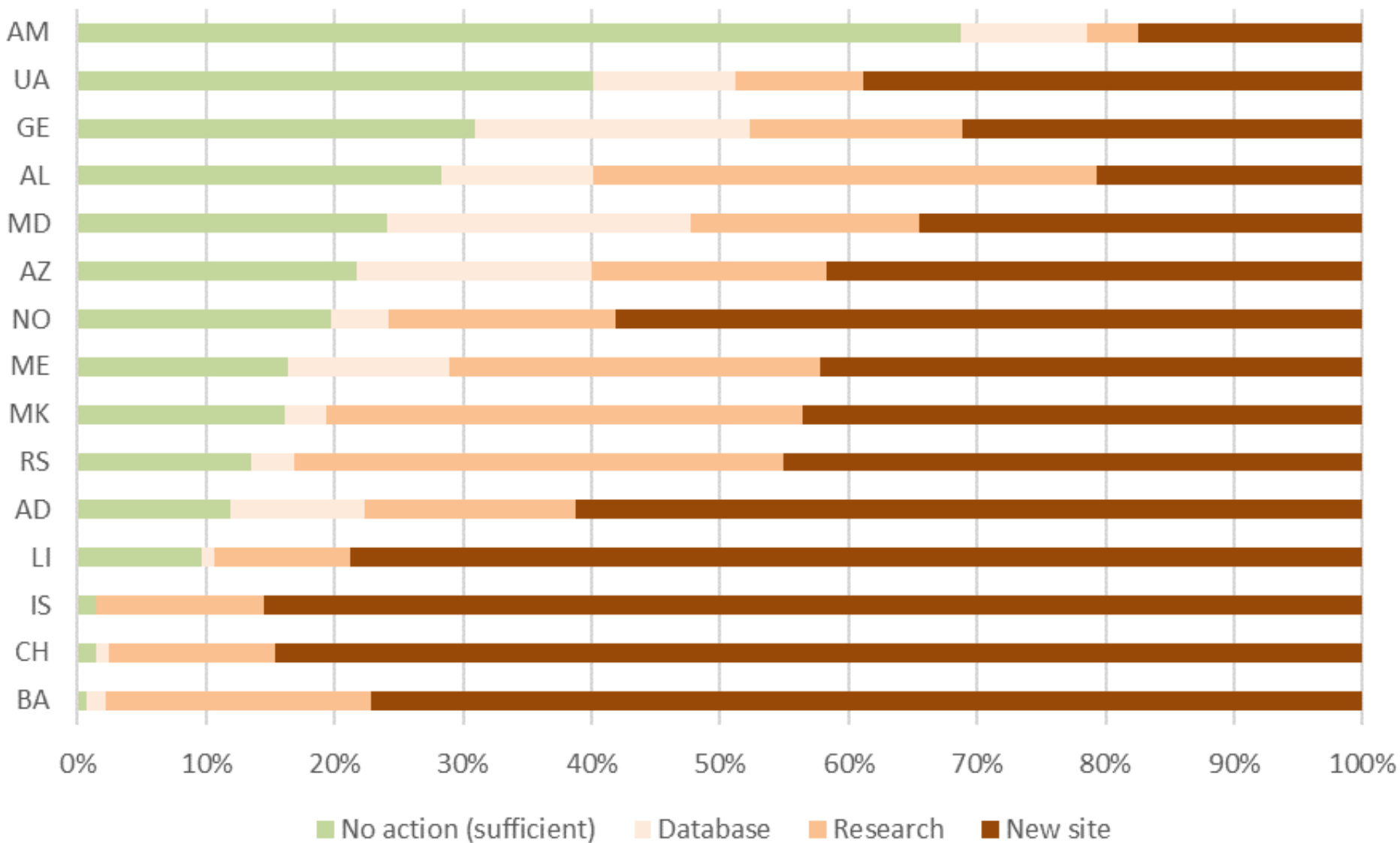
No evaluation	One round	Two rounds	Three rounds	Other
<i>Group 0</i>	<i>Group 1</i>	<i>Group 2</i>	<i>Group 3</i>	<i>Group 4</i>
Burkina Faso Monaco Morocco Senegal Tunisia Türkiye	Albania (AL) Andorra (AD) Bosnia and Herzegovina (BA) Iceland (IS) Liechtenstein (LI) Montenegro (ME) North Macedonia (MK) Serbia (RS) Switzerland (CH)	Armenia (AM) Azerbaijan (AZ) Republic of Moldova (MD) Norway (NO) Ukraine (UA)	Georgia (GE)	United Kingdom (UK)

Approximate targets according to average increase of SI after each evaluation round; two rounds by 2030

Country grouping	2024 baseline			Target to 2030	
	Evaluation rounds	Number of countries	Average Sufficiency Index in March 2024	Evaluation rounds	Proposed Sufficiency Index target by the end of 2030
Group 0	None	7	-	2	25
Group 1	1	9	11.0	3	35
Group 2	2	5	26.3	4	50
Group 3	3	1	30.9	5	60

Further issues to consider

- Follow previous conclusions which explain what remains to do: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/bern-convention/conclusions-of-the-biogeographical-seminars>
- Understanding of conclusions!
- Different types of conclusion require different type of effort



Final proposal

Number of indicator	Indicator description	Proposed 2030 target value
1	Number of new or updated Emerald Network databases	2
2	Sufficiency Index A proportion of “sufficient” conclusions versus all conclusions	Group 0: 25% Group 1: 35% Group 2: 50% Group 3: 60%
3	All Emerald Network sites which went through the biogeographical evaluation process until 2028 should be adopted by the Standing Committee by 2030.	Qualitative: yes
4	A proportion of Emerald Network sites with site management plans	40% (based on EU’s experience)

Thank You for attention!

