

## Partners

### Flanders

Agency For Nature and Forest (coordinating beneficiary)

[www.natuurenbos.be](http://www.natuurenbos.be)

Natuurpunt (NGO)

[www.natuurpunt.be](http://www.natuurpunt.be)

Inverde

[www.inverde.be](http://www.inverde.be)

### Wallonia

Walloon Public Service

[www.environnement.wallonie.be](http://www.environnement.wallonie.be)

Natagora (NGO)

[www.natagora.be](http://www.natagora.be)

### Federal

FPS Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment-

[www.health.belgium.be/nl/milieu/zeen-oceanen-en-antarctica/mariene-milieu](http://www.health.belgium.be/nl/milieu/zeen-oceanen-en-antarctica/mariene-milieu)

## Complementary actions

In addition to the integrated project budget itself (19 million), the project will facilitate the coordinated use of € 203 million of complementary funding from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), and national and private funds, as applicable.



layout: Patrick Van den Berghe

Responsible publisher: Marleen Evenepoel  
Koning Albert II-laan 20 bus 8, 1000 Brussel

## Where can I find more information?

• Visit the LIFE BNIP website:

[www.life-bnip.be](http://www.life-bnip.be)

• Visit the Natura 2000 websites:

Flanders: [www.natura2000.vlaanderen.be](http://www.natura2000.vlaanderen.be)

Wallonia: [www.natura2000.wallonie.be](http://www.natura2000.wallonie.be)

EU: [www.ec.europa.eu/](http://www.ec.europa.eu/)

[environment/nature/natura2000/index\\_en.htm](http://environment/nature/natura2000/index_en.htm)

• Visit the LIFE website:

[www.ec.europa.eu/life](http://www.ec.europa.eu/life)

• Contact the BNIP coordination team:

BNIP team

Graaf de Ferraris gebouw

Koning Albert II-laan 20 bus 8

1000 Brussels, Belgium

+32(0)486/06 82 87

[Info@life-bnip.be](mailto:Info@life-bnip.be)



**BNIP**

## LIFE Belgian Nature Integrated Project

2015 - 2021

[www.life-bnip.be](http://www.life-bnip.be)

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## What is an Integrated Project?

Integrated Projects were introduced to implement environmental legislation and objectives on a wider scale and to increase the impact of the LIFE programme in the EU. They provide funding for plans, programmes and strategies developed on a regional, multi-regional or national level.

## Why is this Integrated Project necessary?

This project aims to boost the implementation of Prioritised Action Framework (PAF) targets for the Natura 2000 network in Belgium, through collaboration between the Flemish, Walloon and Federal authorities and relevant stakeholders. The BNIP is co-financed by the LIFE programme of the European Union.



Pelobates fuscus © Yves Adams

## Goals of the Integrated Project

In total 48 actions or projects will be carried out, clustered in seven themes.



### Establishment of Natura 2000 programme structure and management

This theme focuses on the further development and support of the Natura 2000 programme and establishing local Natura 2000 platforms and an interregional steering committee.



### Development of habitats and species action plans and site management plans

Several habitat action plans and species protection programmes will be drafted followed by screening and updating specific management plans. Another task is setting up a defragmentation agenda for the implementation of measures to improve connectivity.



### Capacity building

Greater knowledge and involvement is needed to assure quality services and cooperation. Capacity building for target groups, both within the government administration and outside is key.



### Communication

A feeling of involvement and responsibility cannot be achieved unless the target groups are familiar with the subject matter. Creating wider internal and external communication is crucial, targeted at specific stakeholders. Various communication products will be developed.



### Implementation in the field

Concrete restoration measures will be implemented in the field. The acquired knowledge is shared between interested parties and regional administrations and is then disseminated through best practices guidelines.



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Specifically, grant-aided projects are foreseen for various stakeholder groups to provide an incentive for cooperation.



### Technical instruments and tools

Databases will be developed and tested by the integrated project to compile the information of the large scale Natura 2000 programme. The programme foresees a geo-database system and a data management systems for monitoring the species and for monitoring effectiveness of conservation measures.



### Biological monitoring and socio-economic surveys

Monitoring programmes are an important factor in increasing our knowledge of habitats and species. They can also improve management planning and assessment.

Specifically, the integrated project covers eco-hydrological studies in relation to environment quality and the nitrogen issue, knowledge building on the subject of ecosystem recovery and ecosystem services in a socio-economic context.