

Biodiversity governance in Europe - a comparative analysis



EU Target(s): Good governance will benefit all targets

Anne Turbé, Sandra Berman, Shailendra Mudgal, BIO Intelligence Service
Study commissioned by GIP ATEN, supervised by Naik Faucon

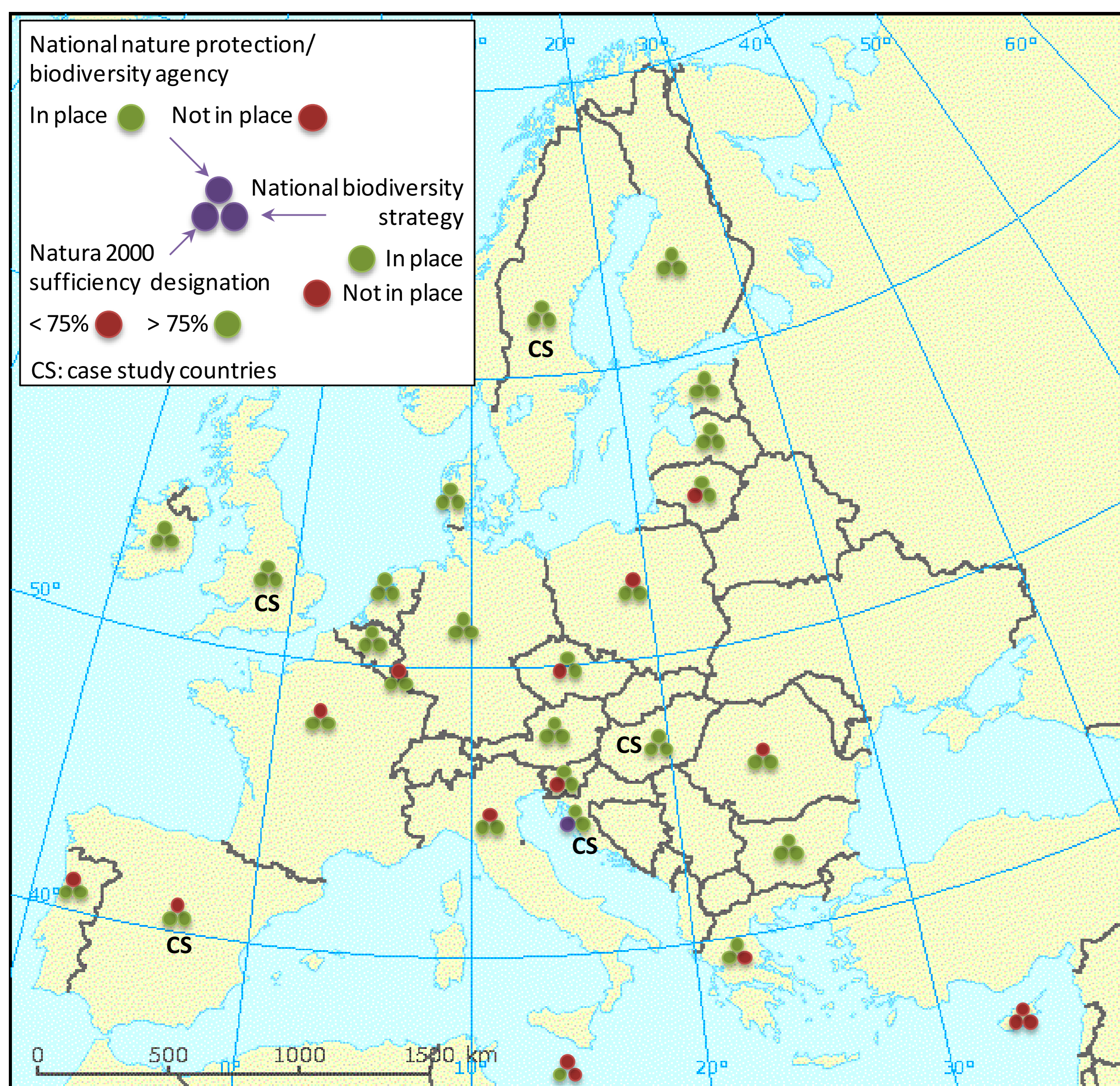
Aims of the study

- Facilitate understanding of biodiversity governance in Europe
- Provide insights as to which types of governance are the most efficient

Methodology

- Rapid assessment of the different types of biodiversity governance in Europe
- In-depth case studies in 5 countries

Main characteristics (EU overview)

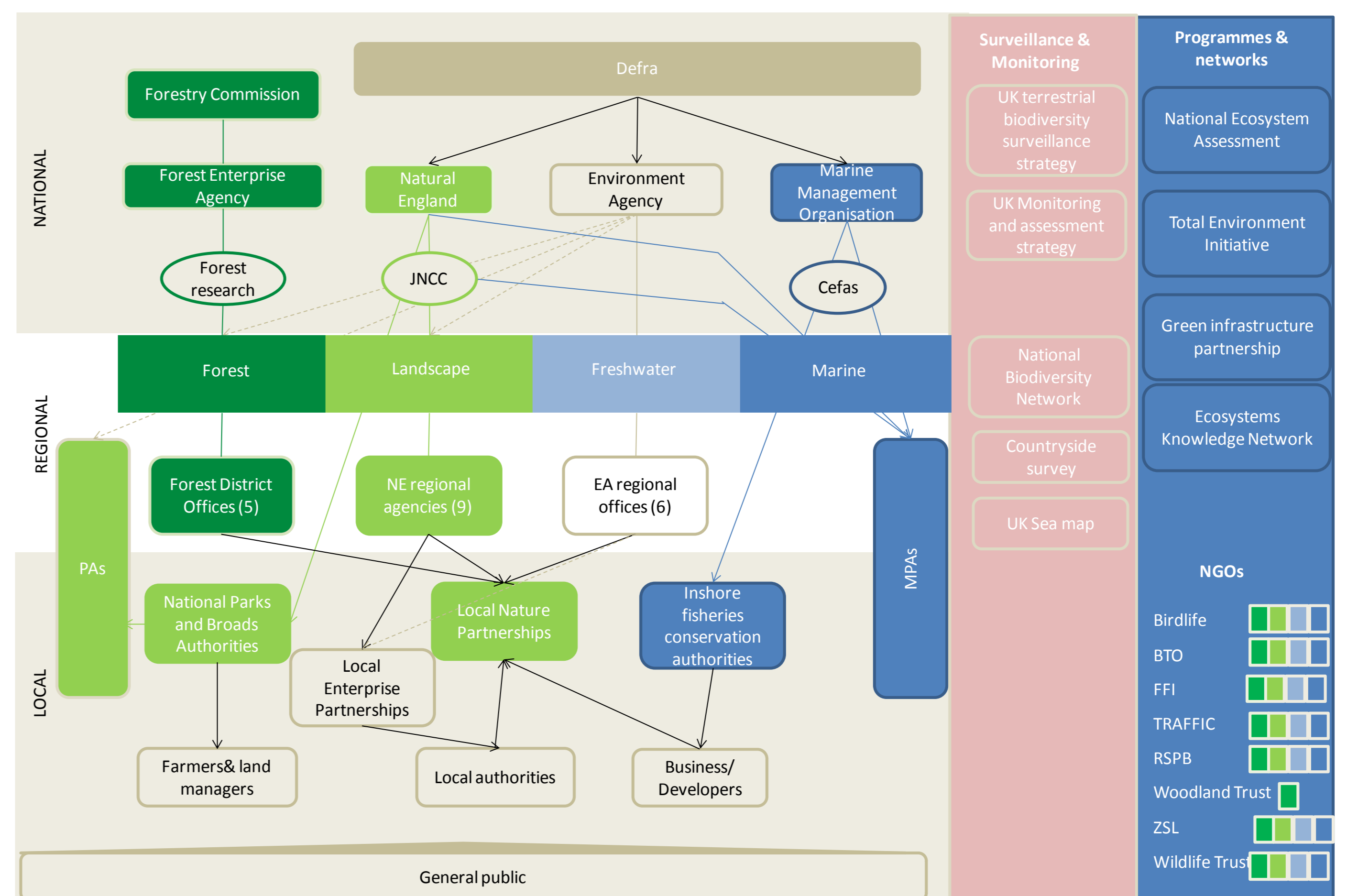


- Biodiversity is a relatively new policy area that involves a quite dynamic governance and policy changes
- Biodiversity governance is moving from nature protection to streamlining of biodiversity into a variety of sectors
- Resources (human and/or financial) are decreasing or insufficient in several countries
- Nature protection/biodiversity agencies exist in several MS, but are very different in their roles (advisory, consultative, PA management, etc.)

Contribution to EU target implementation

Governance is a cross-cutting issue that benefits all targets:

- **Vertical governance** for ensuring good implementation, management and enforcement of biodiversity policy at all levels (targets 1, 2, 6)
- **Horizontal governance** for streamlining of biodiversity objectives into sectors (targets 3, 4, 5)



Example of diagram of biodiversity governance in England

SWOT analysis (based on case studies)

Strengths

- Some countries still have pristine areas (FI, HR)
- Paradigm shift (UK)
- Good coordination and distribution of competences (ES, UK)

Weaknesses

- Financial and human resources shortages (ES, HR, HU, UK)
- Lack of capacities at local level (ES, HR)
- Separate forest and water governance (FI, HR, HR, UK)

Opportunities

- Reliance on natural capital (FI, HR)
- Dynamic governance systems, with responsibilities that evolve rapidly (UK, HU, HR)
- Strong voluntary involvement in monitoring (FI, HR, UK)

Threats

- Increased threats due to human activities (ES, FI, HR)
- Risks linked to devolution and privatisation (UK)
- Transfer of power from experts to non-experts (HU)