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22 partner institutions

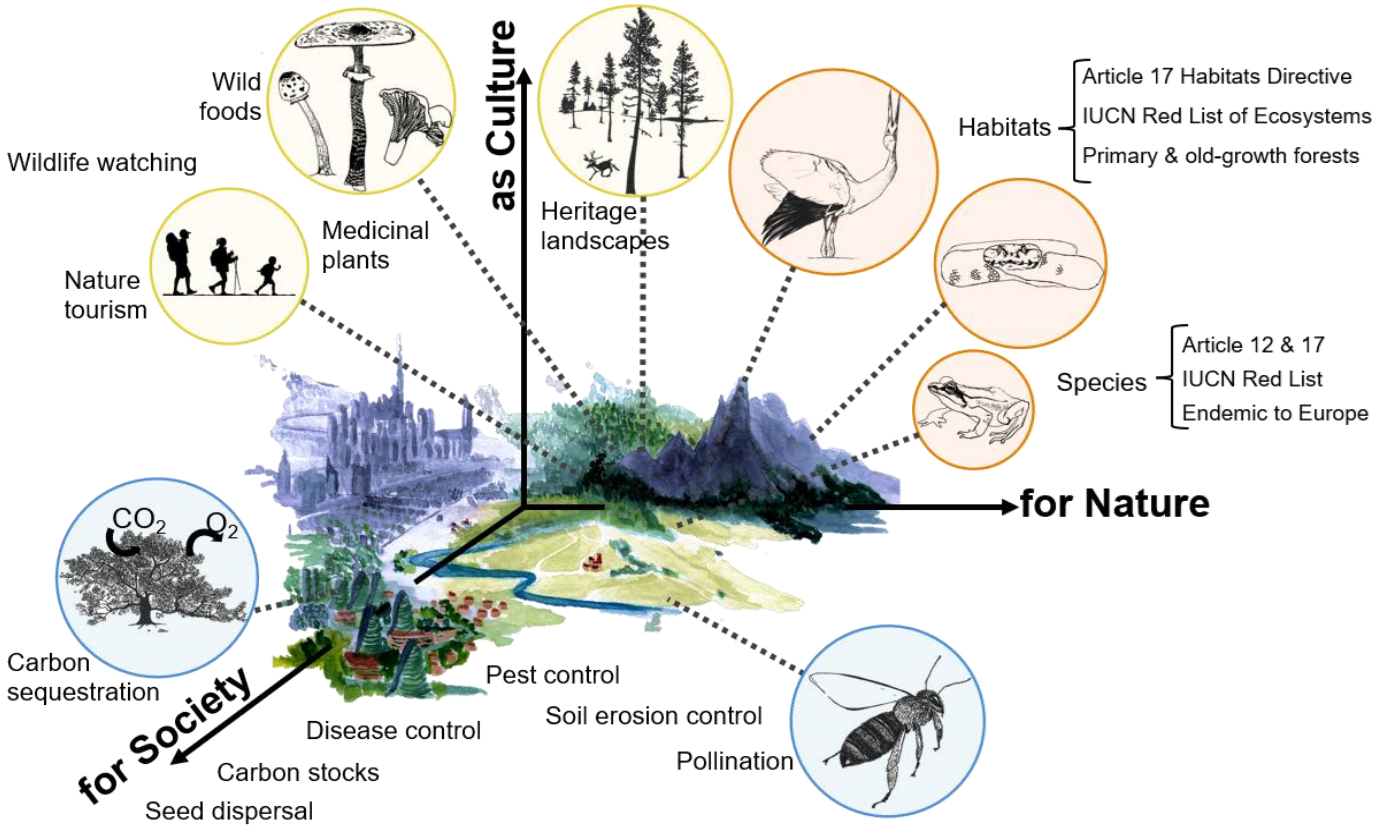
from **12** different countries

Co-develop knowledge, tools and capacity building to support Member States in implementing an ecologically representative, resilient and well-connected trans-European nature network



Integrierte Planung verschiedener Daten und Werte

Ziel: Identifikation von umfassenden, resilienten, verbundenen und machbaren Potentialen für Schutzgebietserweiterungen



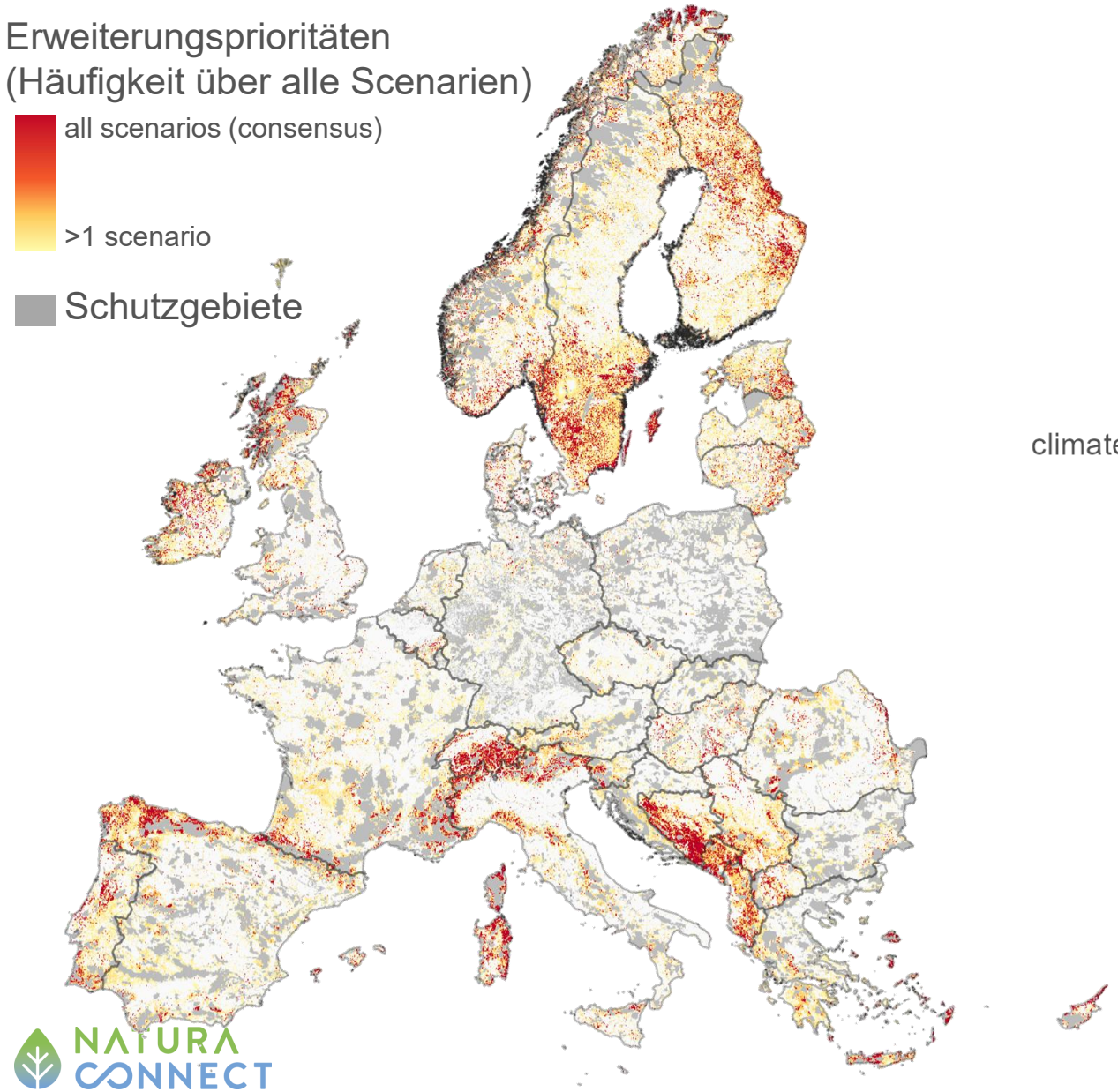
O'Connor et al., (2021) | Illustrations by C. Martinez-Almoyna

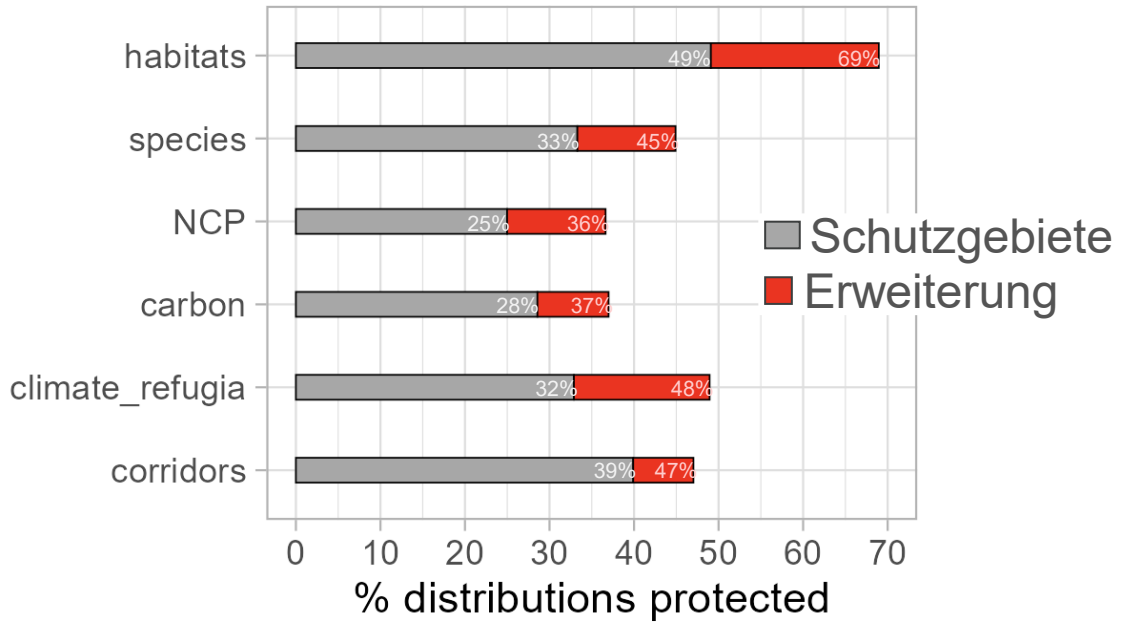
Top Prioritäten:

1. 30% Schutzgebiete
2. 10% Strenger Schutz
3. 20% Wiederherstellung
4. Ökologische Korridore

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Ergebnisse – Prioritäten für 30% Schutzgebiete in Europa

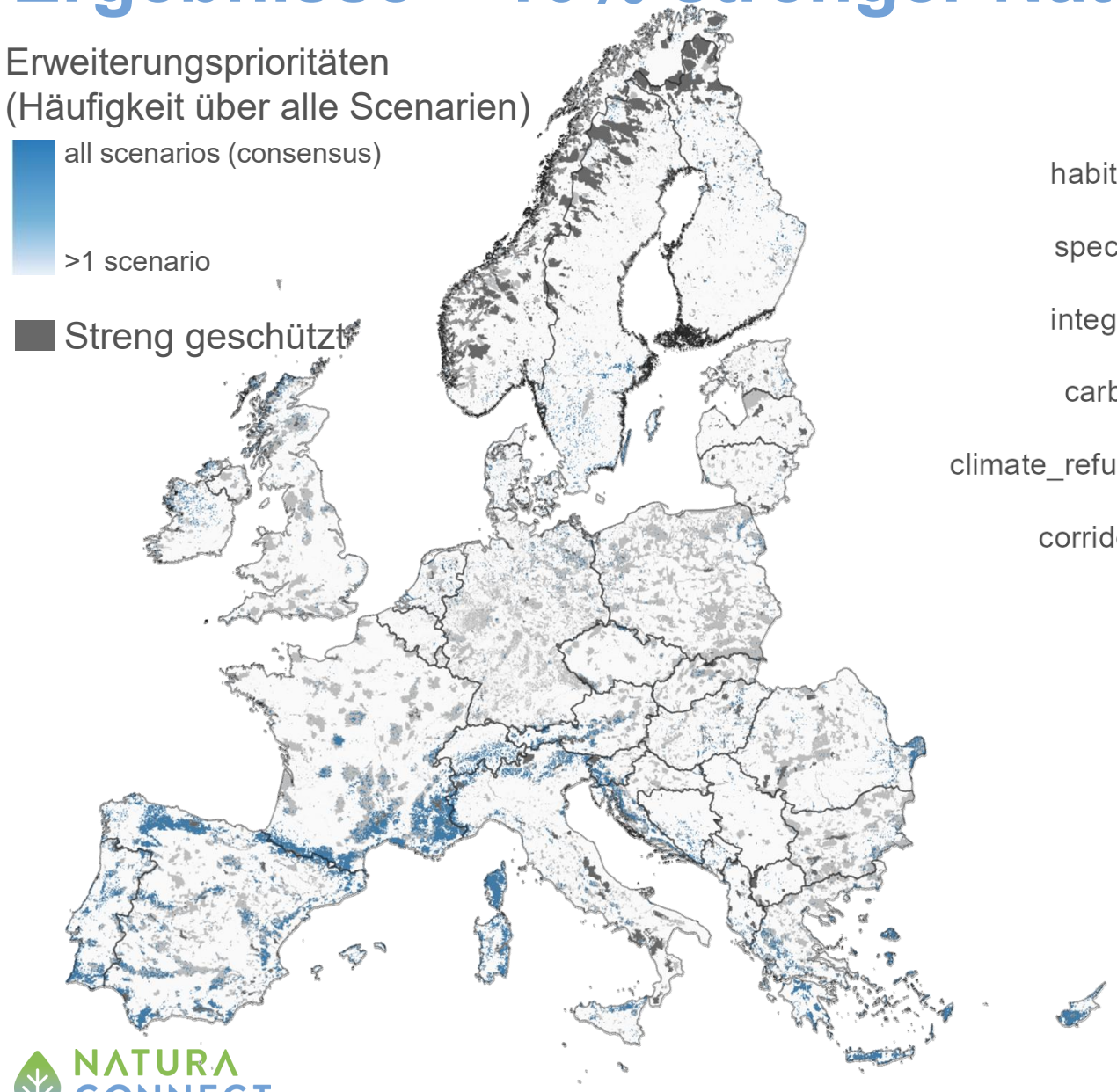


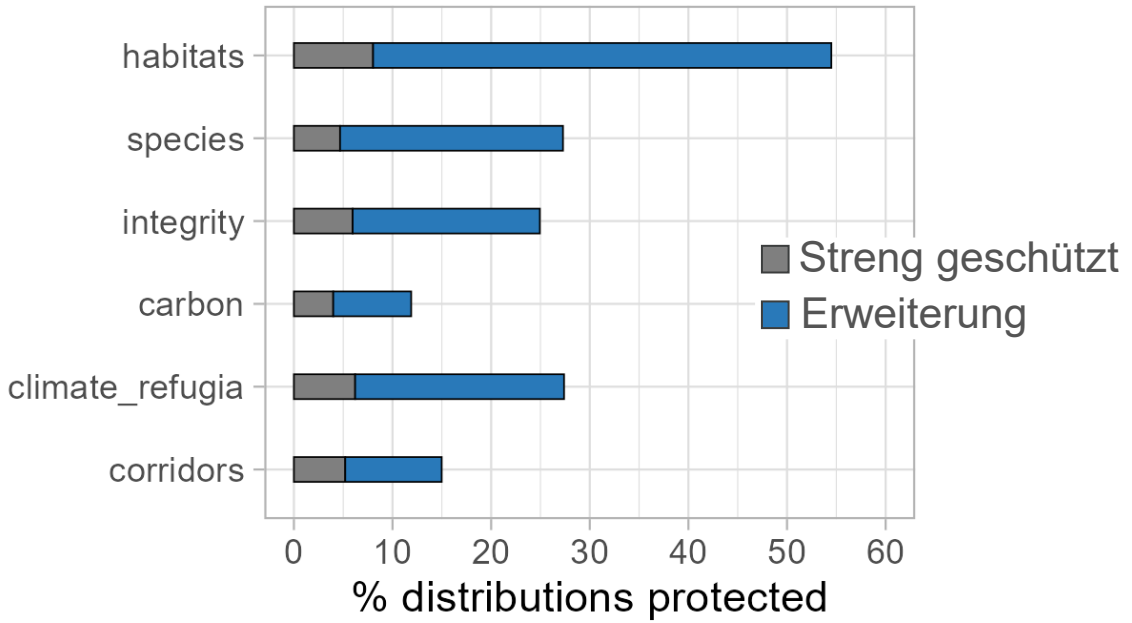


5% Strategische Schutzgebietserweiterungen können große Potenziale haben

O'Connor, Brumm, …., Visconti, & Jung (in preparation)

Ergebnisse – 10% strenger Naturschutz in Europa



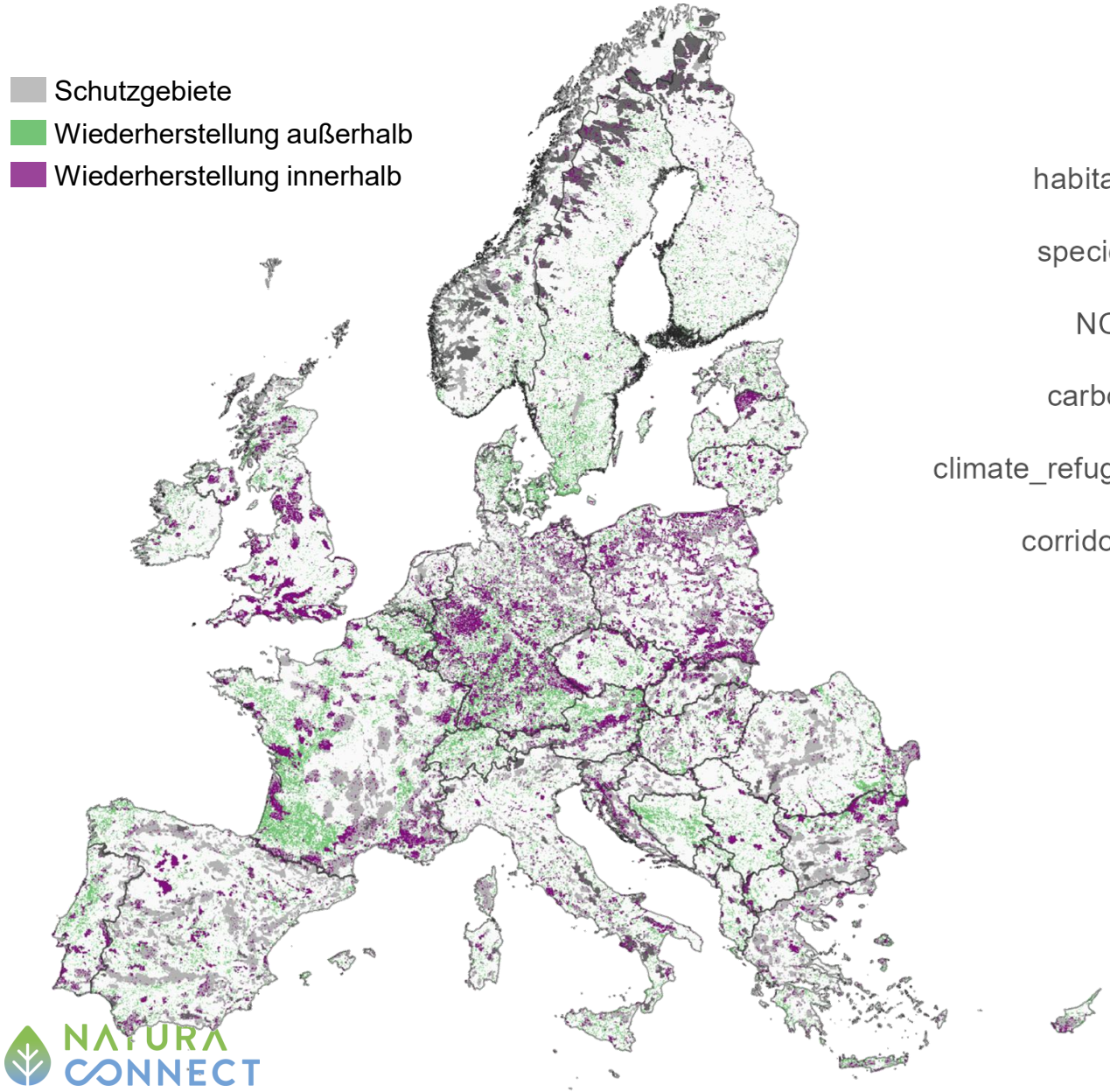


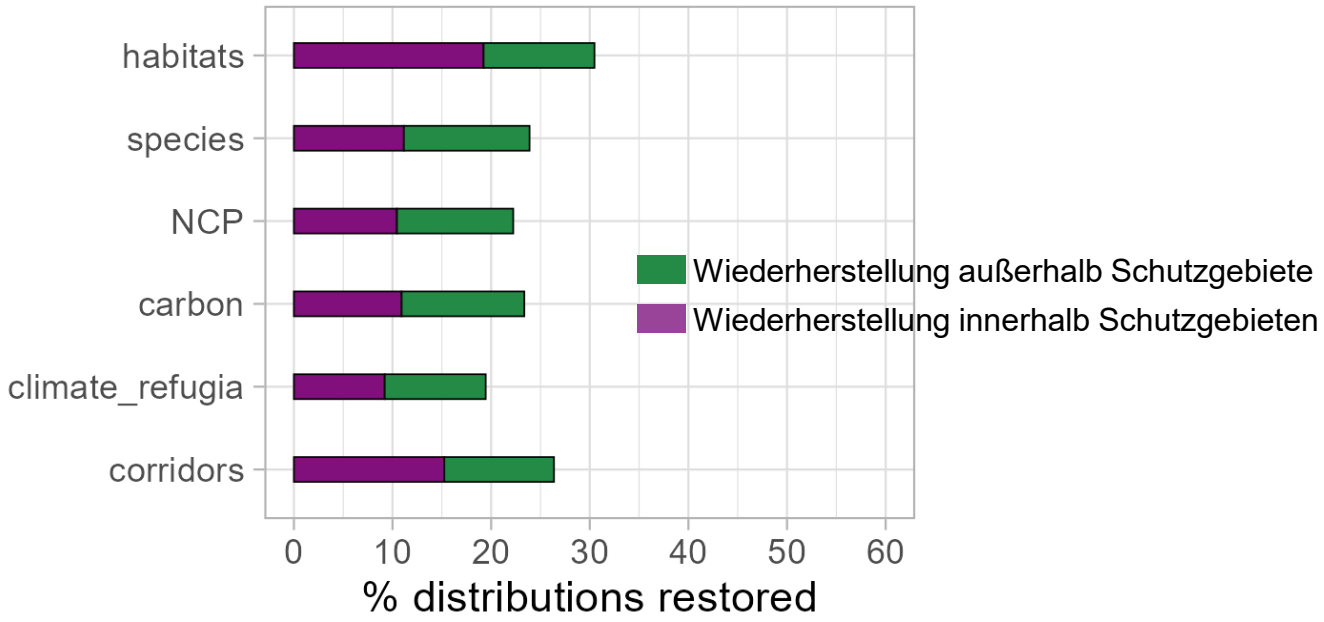
10% Strenge Schutzgebiete haben das potential Biodiversität 6-7 mal besser zu schützen

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O'Connor, Brumm, …., Visconti, & Jung (in preparation)

Ergebnisse – Prioritäten für 20% Wiederherstellung





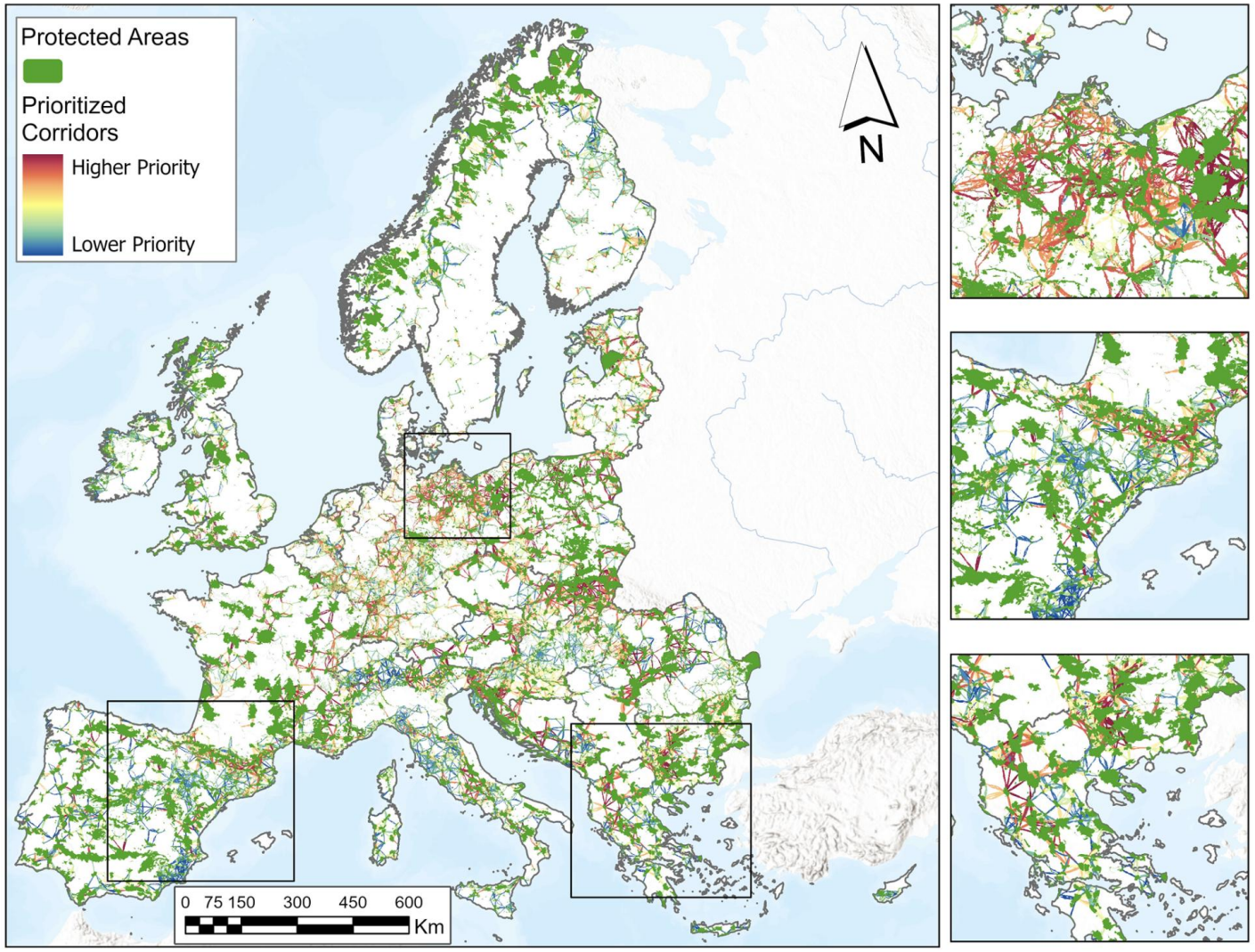
20% der "besten" Wiederherstellungs prioritäten sind sowohl innerhalb als auch außerhalb von Schutzegebieten

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O'Connor, Brumm, …., Visconti, & Jung (in preparation)

Ökologische Korridore und Engpässe

Verbinden von kritischen Habitaten durch Grüne Infrastrukturen

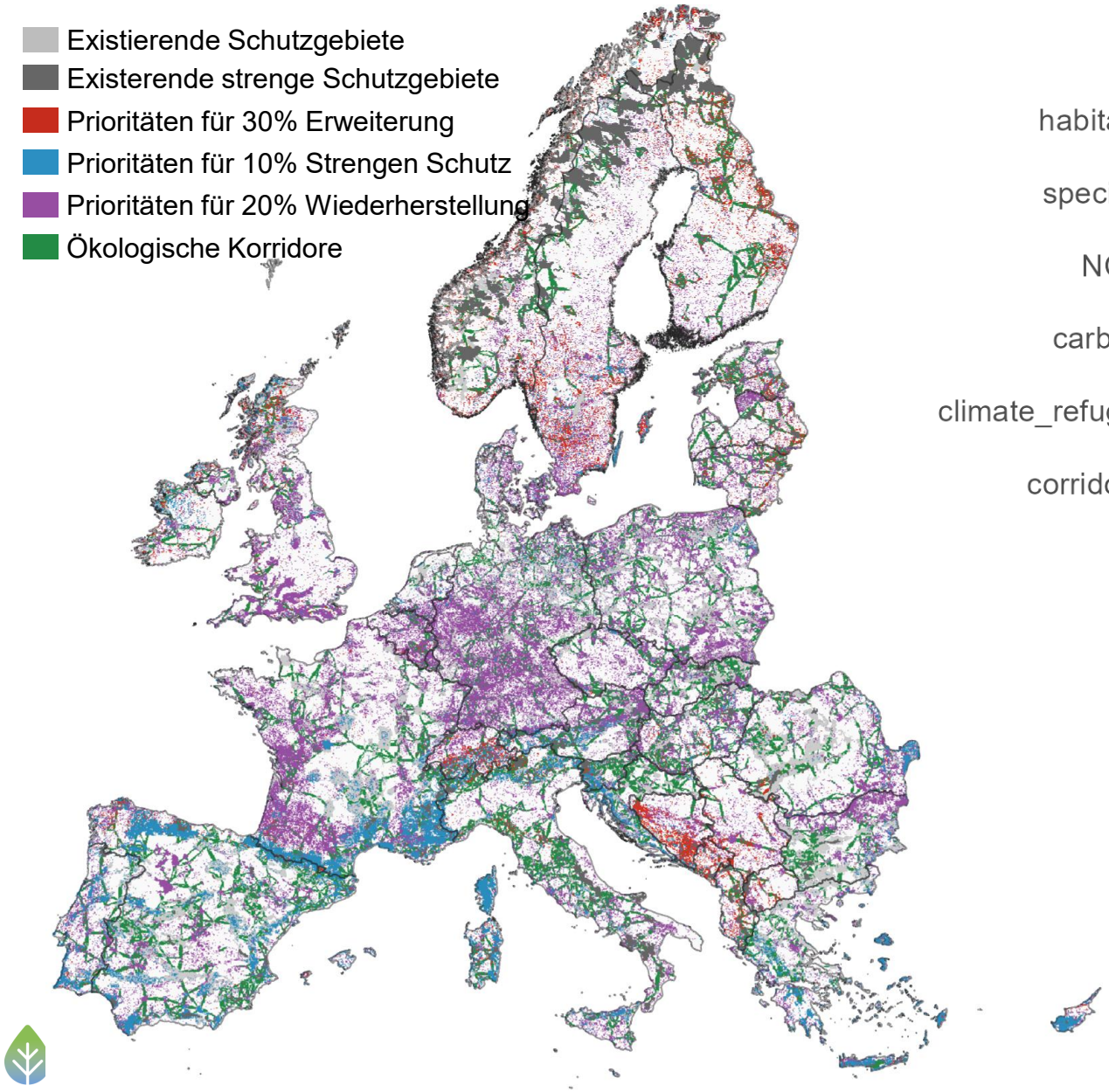


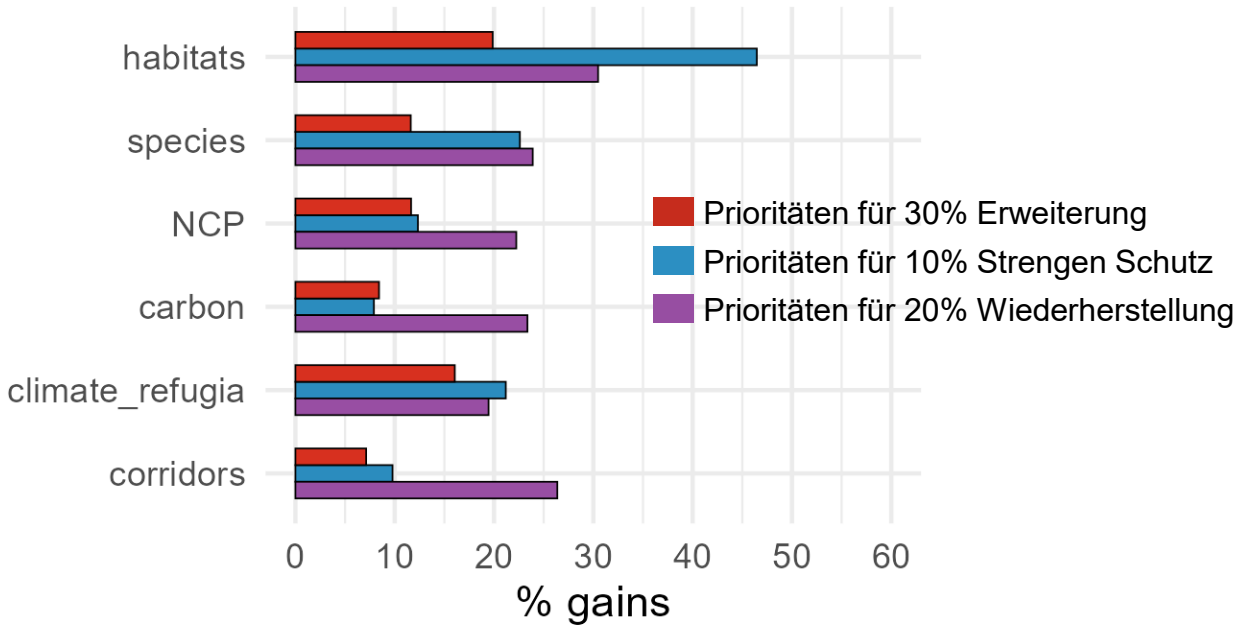
Dertien et al. in prep.

Es wurden rund 76.000 ökologische Vorrangkorridore zwischen Schutzgebieten identifiziert.

Grenzüberschreitende Regionen sowie Verbindungen zwischen Gebirgs- und Tieflandgebieten von besonderer Bedeutung.

Eine integrierter Bauplan zu TEN-N Prioritäten





62% sind nahe nationaler Grenzen. Europäischer Naturschutz benötigt grenz-überschreitende Koordinierung und Plannung!

O'Connor, Brumm, …., Visconti, & Jung (in preparation)

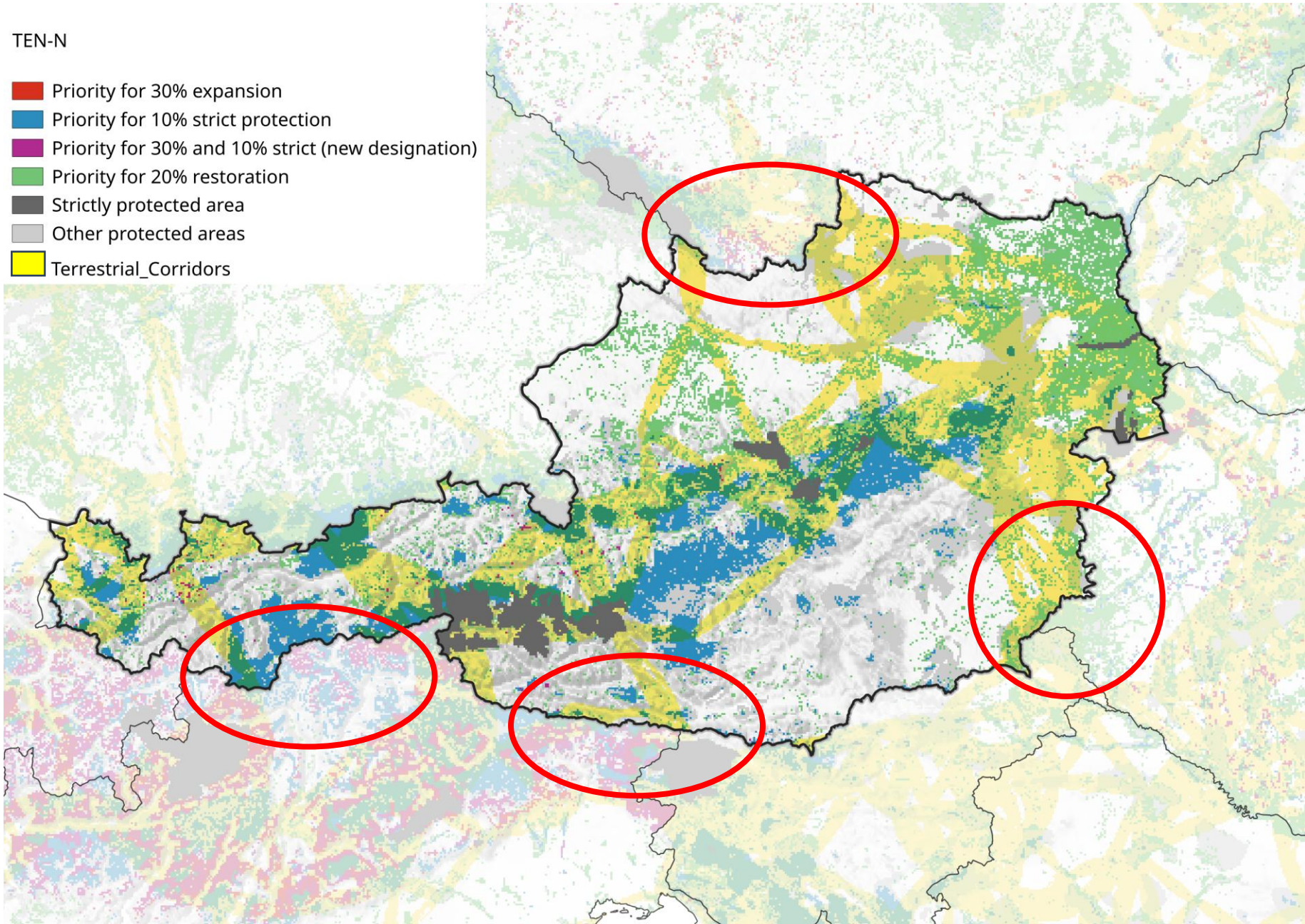
Beispiel: Was bedeutet dies für Österreich?



- ❑ Bereits auf 29% von Schutzgebieten.
- ❑ Viel Potenzial bei strengem Naturschutz.
- ❑ Wichtige Role von ÖE im Korridorverbund.

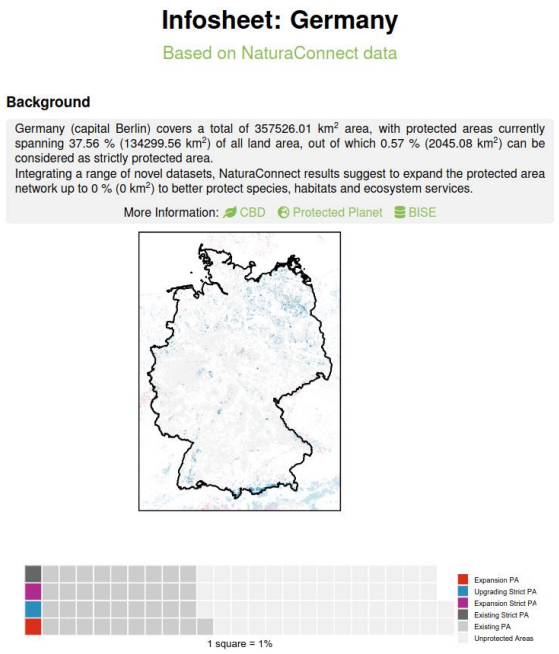
<u>Wichtig:</u> Die Analysen heben Areale hervor, nicht Maßnahmen!

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Weitere Zusammenfassungen und Platformen

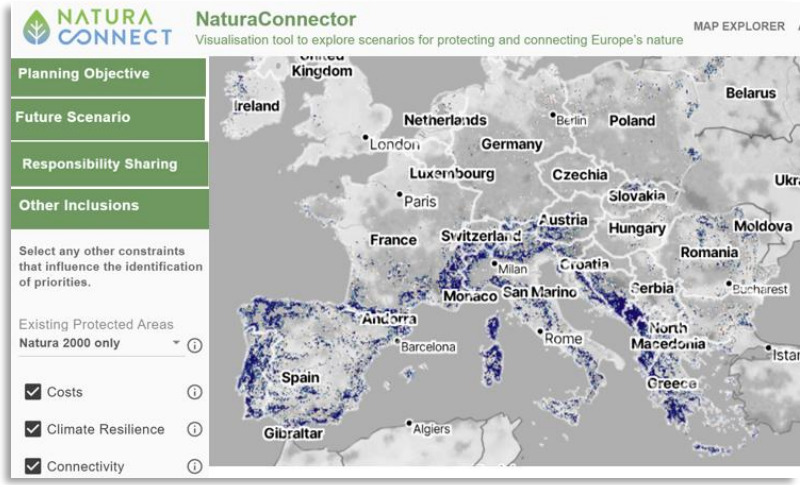
Länder-spezifische Infoblätter



https://zenodo.org/records/21728439

NaturaConnector

Zum erkunden verschiedener Erweiterungsszenarien



https://naturaconnector.iiasa.ac.at/

A Strategy for TEN-N.
Key recommendations from NaturaConnect

| Dr. Piero Visconti (IIASA)

Recommendations for TEN-N

- The role of international coordination
- Spatial planning instruments
- Protected area management
- Knowledge creation and sharing
- Spatial planning technical guidance
- Monitoring and reporting

Visconti, P., Fernández, N., Dertien, J., Jung, M., O'Connor, et al. 2026 Scientific guidance on planning and implementation of TEN-N. NaturaConnect. 48 pages https://doi.org/10.3897/arphapreprints.e219108



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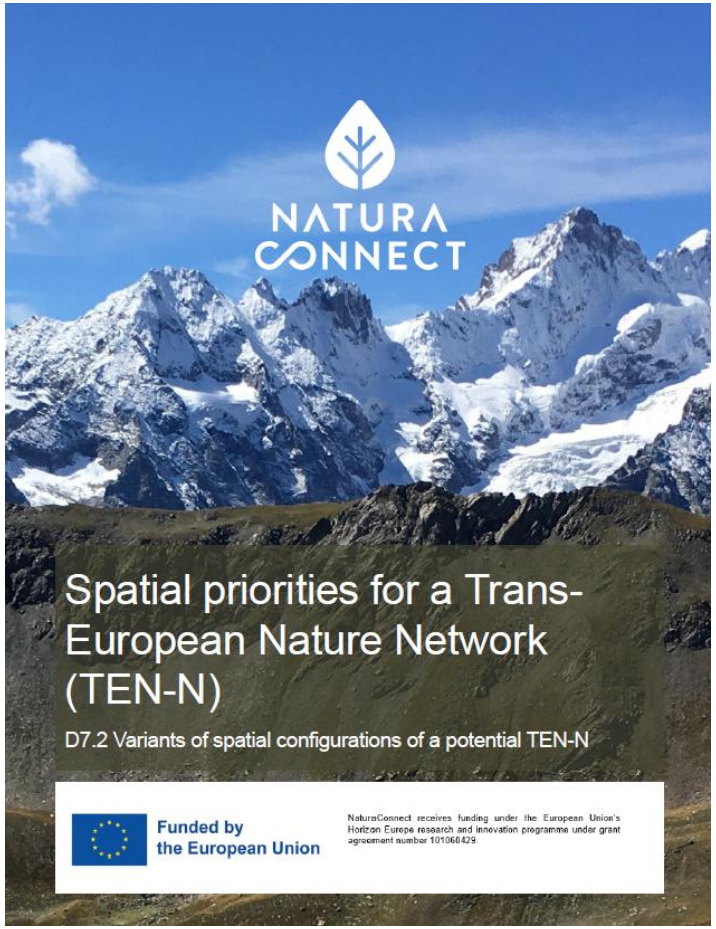
The role of international coordination

Realizing a coherent and resilient TEN-N that is effectively managed requires international coordination.

- Strengthen EU coordination mechanisms, such as the Biogeographical Process and the EU Biodiversity Platform
- Support regional conventions (**Alpine Convention** and **Danube River Protection Convention**) and other regional coordination mechanisms to facilitate knowledge and effort sharing and strategically place area-based conservation measure to achieve EU level targets.

NaturaConnect output can support:

- Assessing nationally proposed protected area designations for their coherence and contribution to international targets
- Assess candidate sites for transboundary protected areas, or other areas of transboundary conservation cooperation

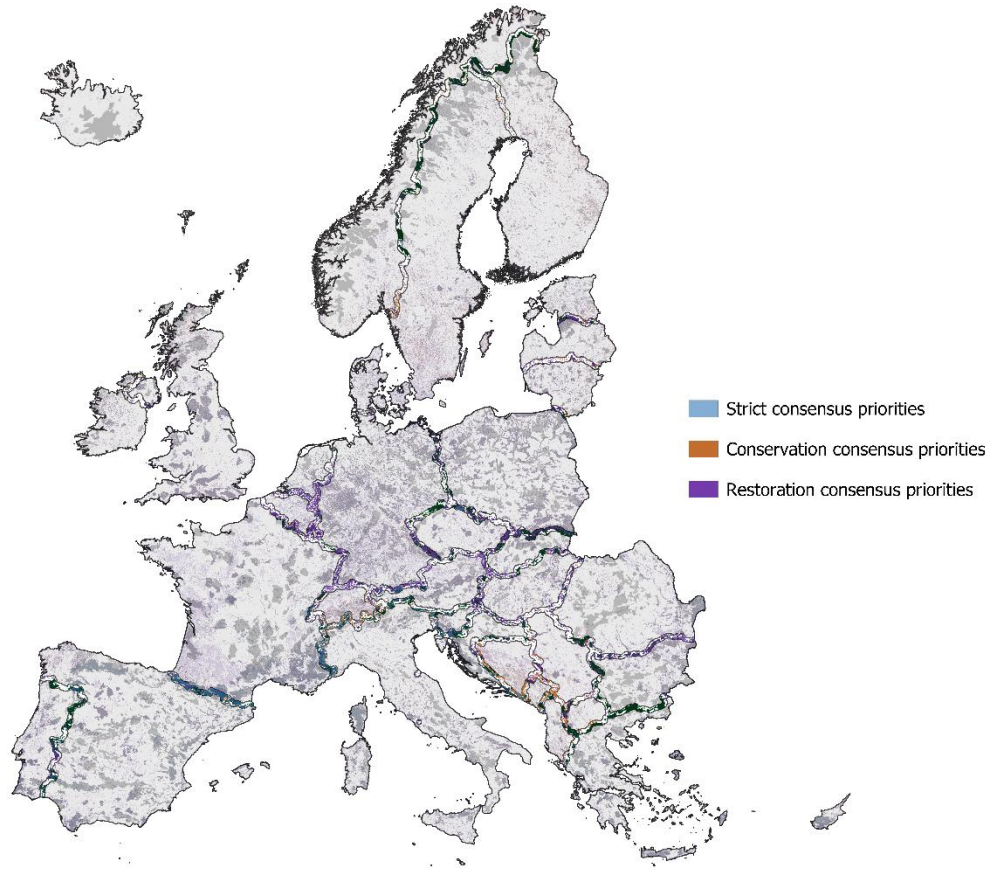


Protected area management

- **Require protected area management plans to include connectivity planning and management**
- **Foster cross-boundary institutional cooperation and governance mechanisms in priority areas for TEN-N.**

NaturaConnect can support:

- Data, tools and guidelines on connectivity conservation
- Priority areas within transboundary regions for new designations, PA expansion, cross-border management



Priority areas for protection, strict protection and restoration within transboundary regions (O'Connor et al. 2026 Deliverable 7.2)

Knowledge creation and sharing

- **Knowledge gaps for TEN-N planning can be addressed through better knowledge access, sharing and capacity building.** On all aspects of spatial planning, from accessing the right ecological and socio-economic data, to establishing priorities to establishing monitoring programs.



NaturaConnect can support:

- Knowledge Hubs of the European Technical and Scientific Cooperation Support Centre (TSCC) - hosted and coordinated by the EC Knowledge Centre on Biodiversity: data, capacity building, network creation.
- EU Biodiversity Platform and the EEA: data, tools, indicators, scenarios, guidelines

Technical guidance

- **Incorporate the notion of comprehensiveness and adequacy in protected area strategies and planning processes** to reduce gaps in coverage of underprotected habitats and species and ensure their long-term persistence
- **Incorporate future climate risk, future habitat suitability and bioclimatic diversity as criteria** to inform protected area designation and management of intervening landscapes to promote resilience to climate change





Cimatti et al. (2025) bioRxiv, 2025.10.26.684389
Cavalcante et al. (2025) bioRxiv, 2025.10.27.684983
Visconti, P., O'Connor, L. and Beher, J., 2024. Approaches to identify terrestrial priority areas for achieving the 30% and 10% protection target in the EU.(ETC BE Report 2024/4).

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Monitoring TEN-N

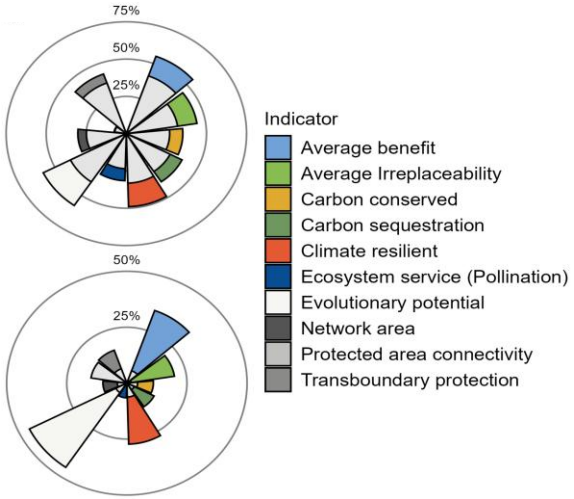
Implement a TEN-N monitoring strategy capable of generating reliable trends in biodiversity, pressures, and management across the network over time. The monitoring system should be built around five principles:

- capturing biodiversity trends both inside and outside protected areas
- monitoring gradients of key anthropogenic pressures and management responses to support causal inference;
- prioritizing monitoring of species and habitats that are sensitive to change or currently poorly documented;
- building on existing monitoring schemes to leverage existing in-place infrastructure and long-term continuity of data.
- consider model predictions for species and habitats in unsampled location to guide and prioritize survey efforts



Indicators for tracking TEN-N performance

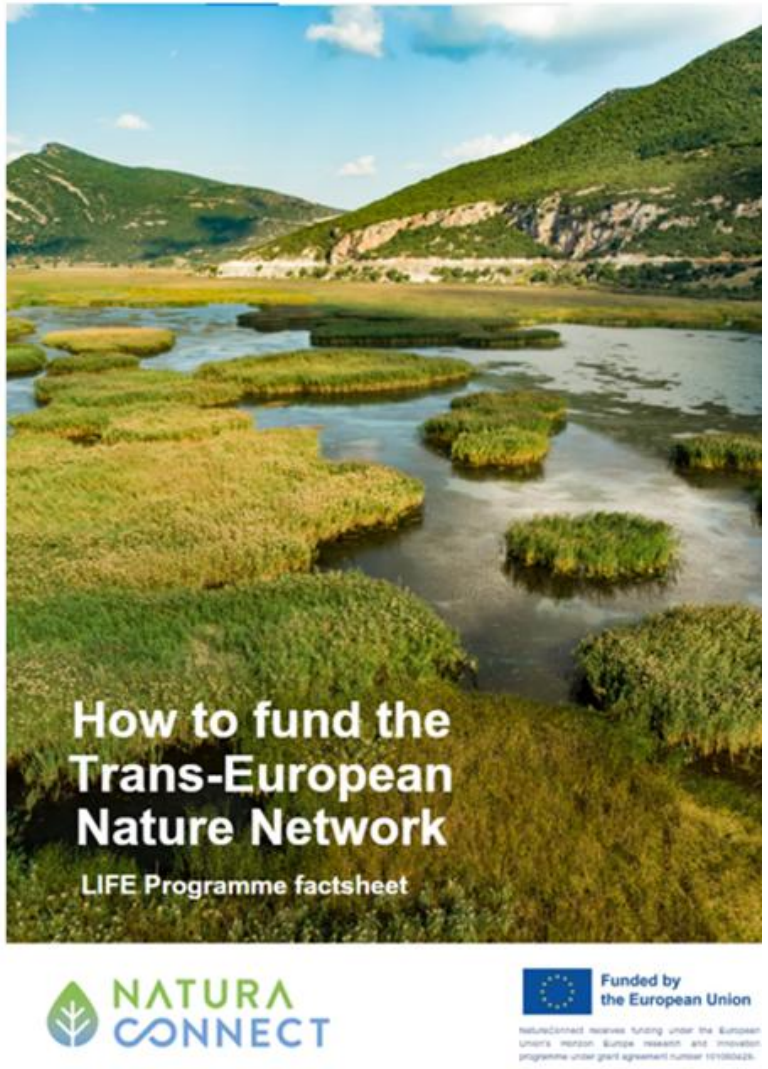
Integrate indicators of all aspects of PA quality: **comprehensiveness, adequacy, resilience, management effectiveness**, within EU/MS monitoring and reporting, including the EU Biodiversity Strategy Dashboard



Proposed indicators for TEN-N planning and monitoring

Financial instruments

- **Establish a dedicated budget** for the coordinated planning, management, monitoring and periodic evaluation of TEN-N in the next MFF
- **Keep the LIFE program**
- **Strengthen DNSH and enforcement of EU law**
- **Encourage Member States to identify corresponding needs** and budget lines for TEN-N planning and management in their Prioritised Action Frameworks, national restoration plans and relevant sectoral programs
- **Tie funding disbursement to positive outcomes,** tracked through SMART indicators;



Freund, C., Underwood, E., de Pouzols, F., Visconti, P., 2026. Funding Resilience: Securing Europe's Biodiversity through the Trans-European Nature Network (TEN-N) (Science-Policy Brief).

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Annex

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