

# Greening cities initiatives in EU

Benjamin Caspar

*Greening Cities: Urban Nature and Biodiversity for  
Integrated Solutions to Climate Change and  
Biodiversity Loss*

*1 December 2022*

European Union



CLIMATE  
PACT AND CLIMATE  
LAW



PROMOTING  
CLEAN  
ENERGY



INVESTING IN  
SMARTER, MORE  
SUSTAINABLE  
TRANSPORT



STRIVING  
FOR GREENER  
INDUSTRY



ELIMINATING  
POLLUTION



ENSURING  
A JUST TRANSITION  
FOR ALL



FINANCING  
GREEN  
PROJECTS



MAKING  
HOMES ENERGY  
EFFICIENT



LEADING THE  
GREEN CHANGE  
GLOBALLY



FROM FARM  
TO FORK



PROTECTING  
AND RESTORING  
NATURE



# The European Green Deal



# | EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030

Ensure that by 2030, Europe's biodiversity will be on a path to recovery for the benefit of people, the planet, the climate and our economy



Protect Nature



Enable Transformative Change



Restore Nature



EU For An Ambitious Global Agenda



# EU Biodiversity Strategy - key points:



- Continuing ecosystem degradation and biodiversity loss across the EU →

➤ **Protection is not enough**

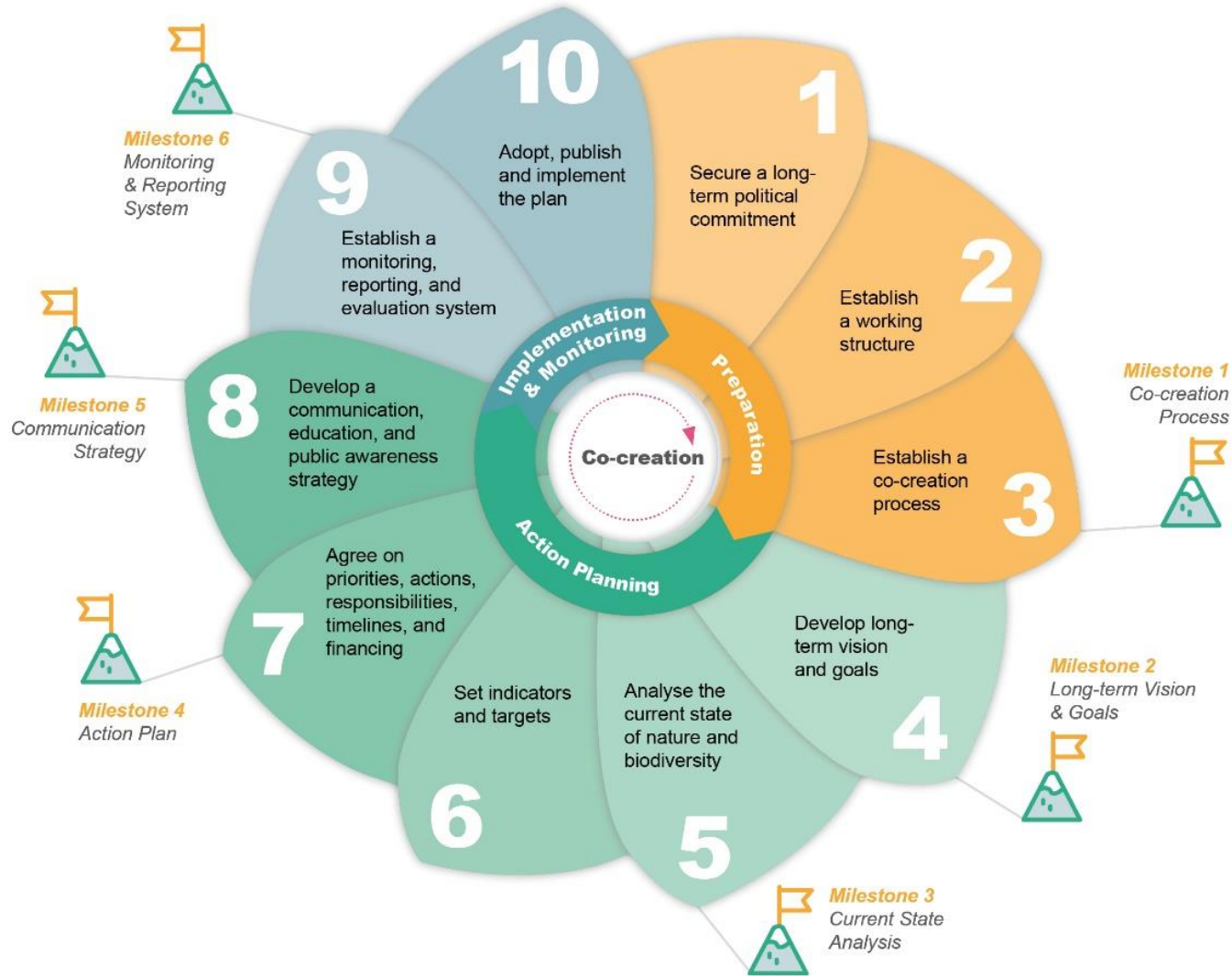
➤ Voluntary targets of the 2020 EU Biodiversity Strategy: **not met**

→ **a reinforced approach is needed**

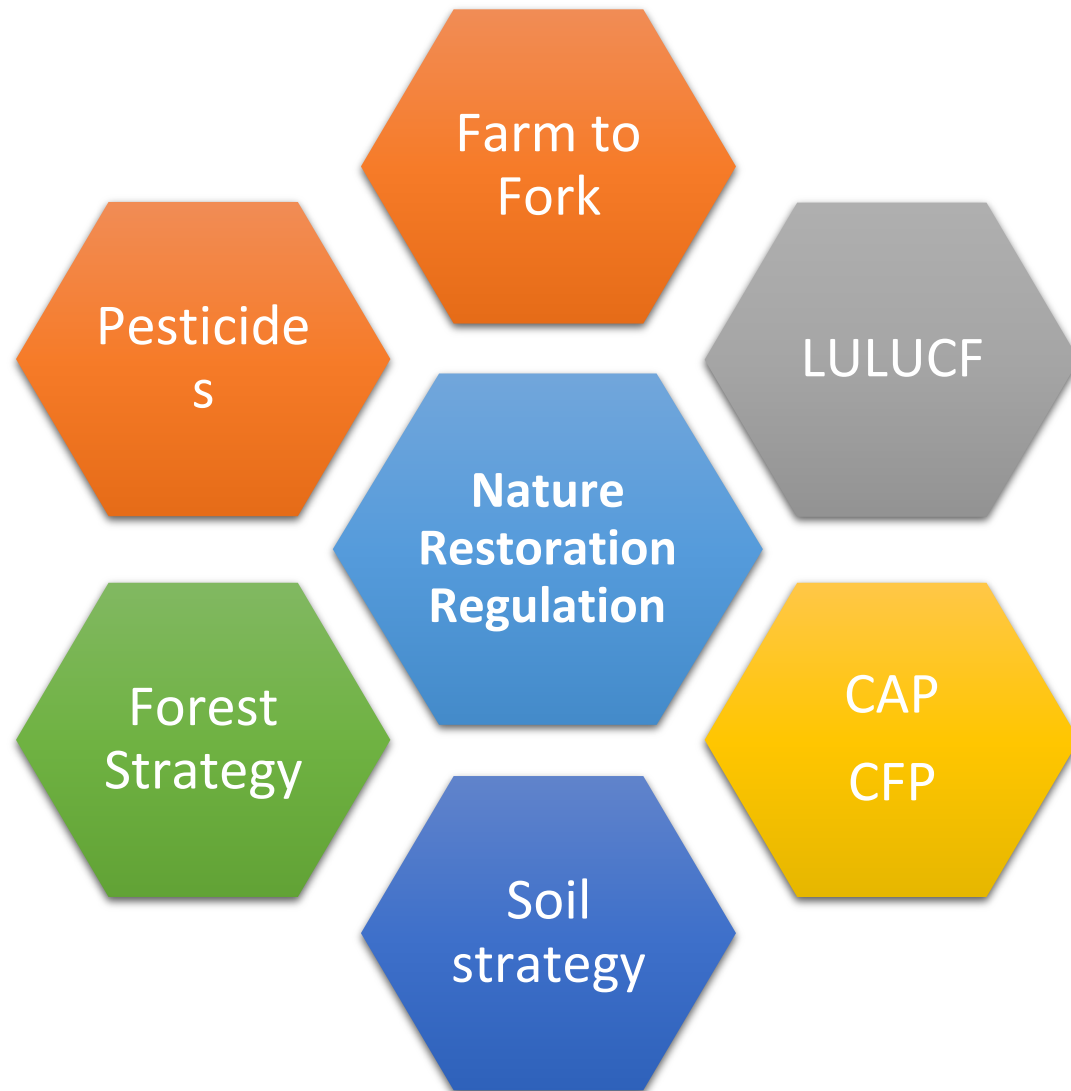
- Conclusion: The Commission to come forward with a proposal for legally binding targets for nature restoration



# Urban greening plans



# Nature Restoration Regulation: collaboration



Close Collaboration / co-creation → thanks to:

- ✓ DG AGRI
- ✓ DG MARE
- ✓ DG SANTE
- ✓ DG CLIMA
- ✓ Joint Research Centre
- ✓ DG RTD
- ✓ European Environment Agency



## Overarching objective

- By 2030 → restoration measures will cover **20%** of EU's land and sea
- By 2050 → measures in place for **ALL ecosystems in need** of restoration

## Restoration targets

Habitats  
Directive



Marine  
Habitats



Urban  
ecosystems



Rivers



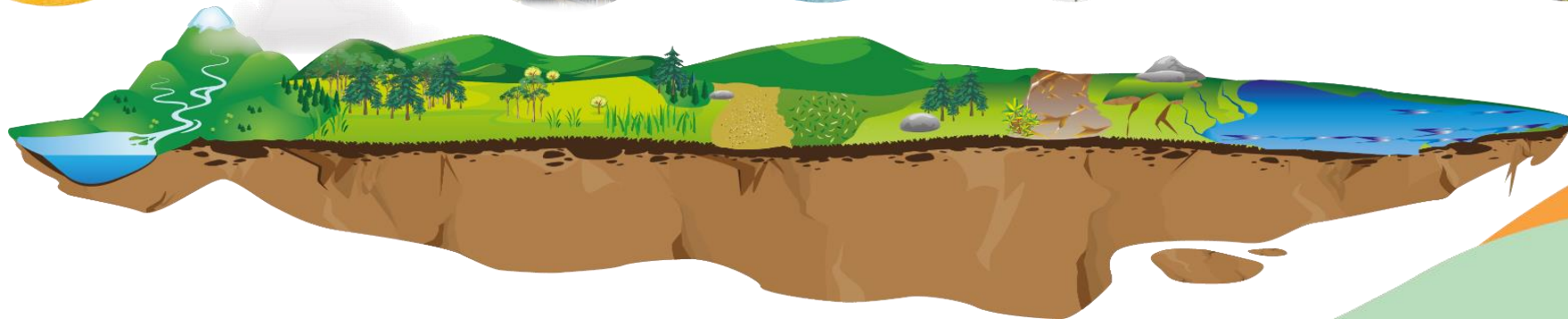
Pollinators



Agro-  
ecosystems



Forests



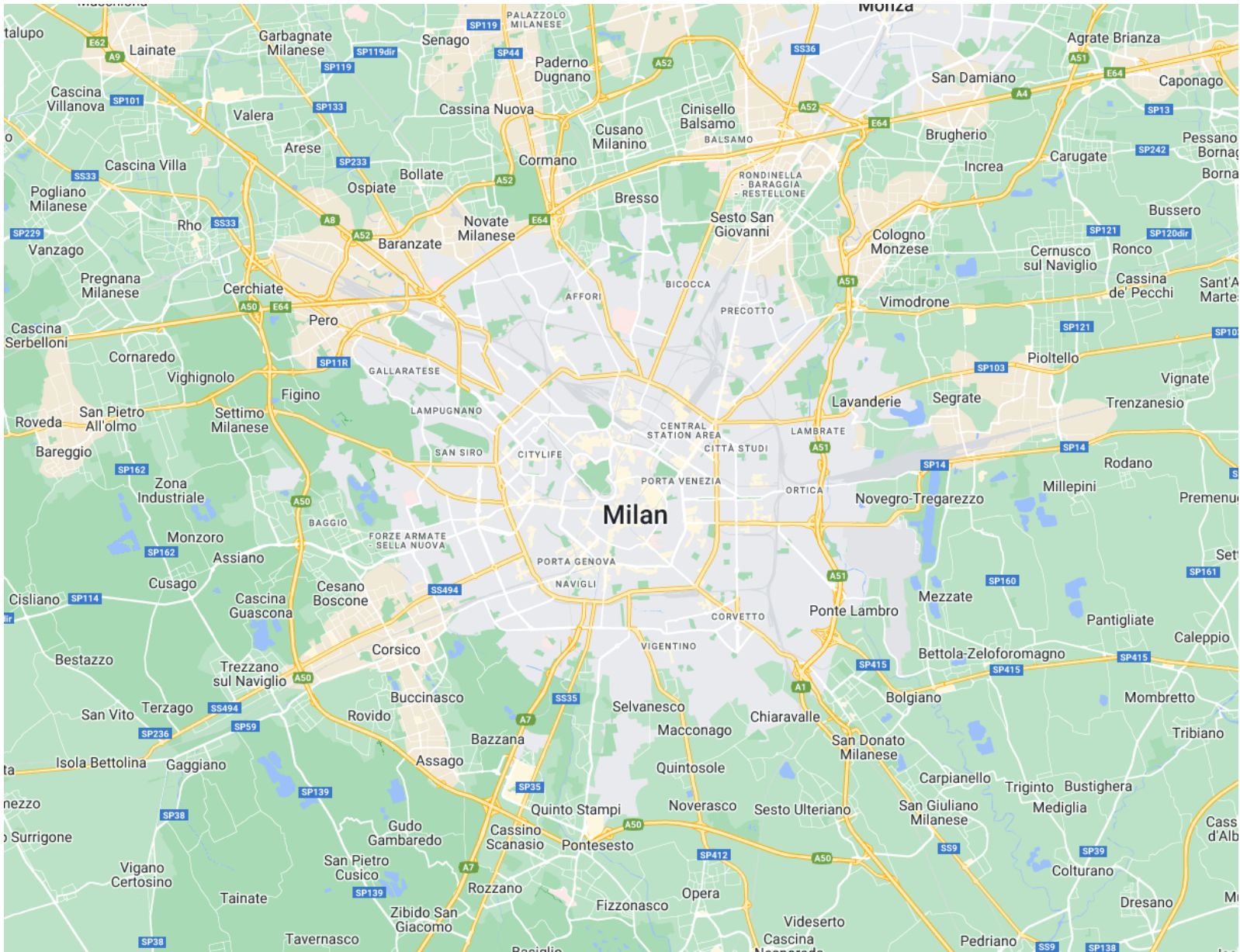
# | Urban ecosystem targets (Art.6)



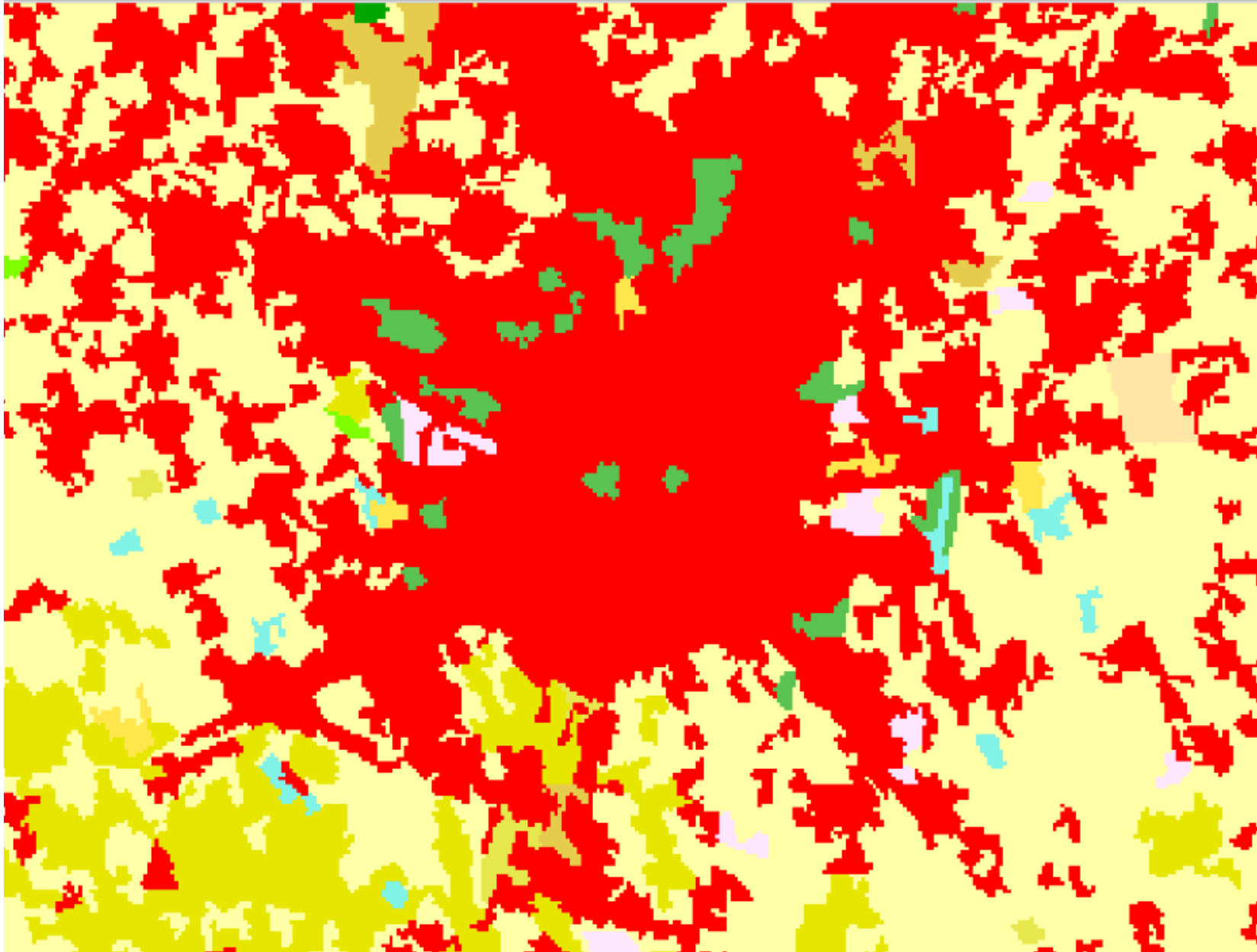
- No net loss of urban green space by 2030
- 3% increase in the total national area of urban green space by 2040 & 5% increase by 2050
- Minimum of 10 % urban tree canopy cover by 2050
- Net gain of urban green space integrated into buildings and infrastructure developments



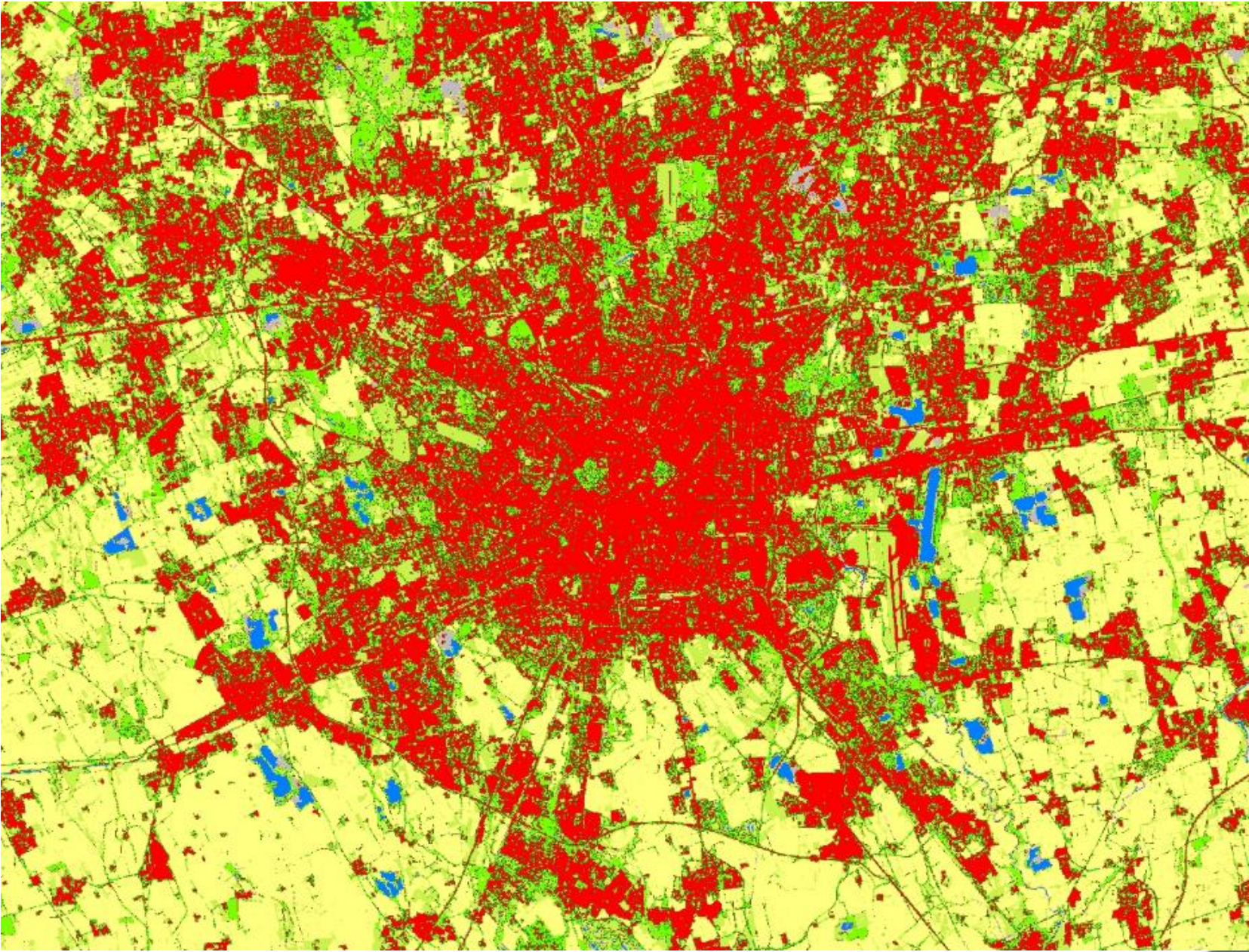




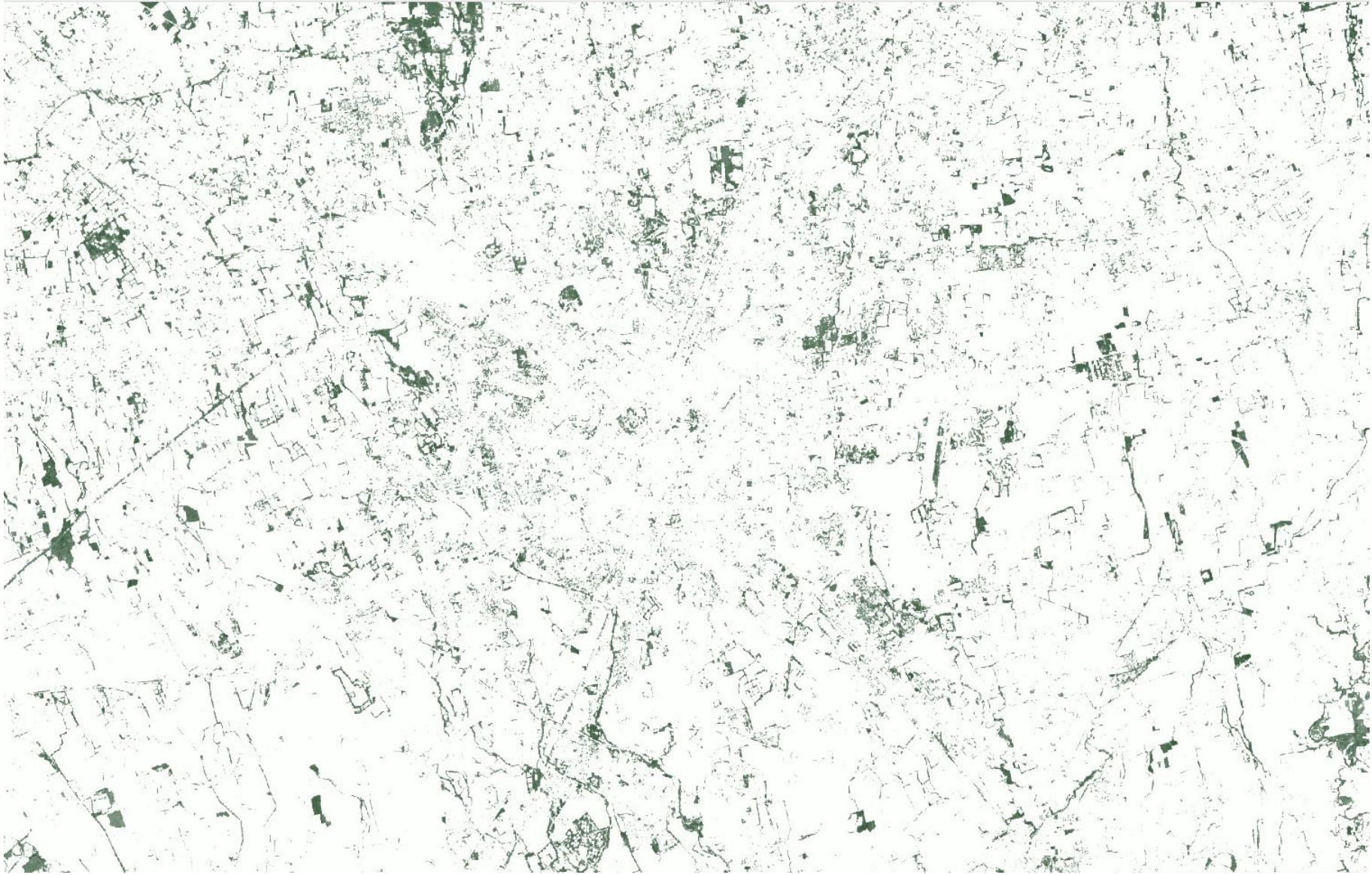
# CORINE (CLC) (100m) – land use



CLC+ Backbone (10 m) – land cover





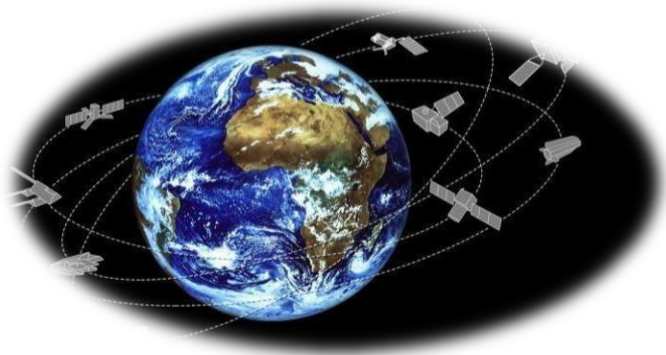


# Nature Restoration Regulation

## Implementation framework – Monitoring and Reporting



- Member States to monitor and report on implementation of restoration measures and results achieved
- Commission and European Environment Agency
  - assess progress in implementation and achievement of targets and obligations



# Nature Restoration Regulation: financing

## How will restoration be financed?



Under current MFF → **€100 billion** available for biodiversity spending

- More than **€20 billion** to be 'unlocked' for biodiversity **every year**, as part of the European Green Deal
- EU Multiannual Financial Framework for 2021-2027, biodiversity financing target:
  - **7.5%** of the EU budget dedicated to biodiversity from 2024,
  - **10%** for 2026 and 2027.

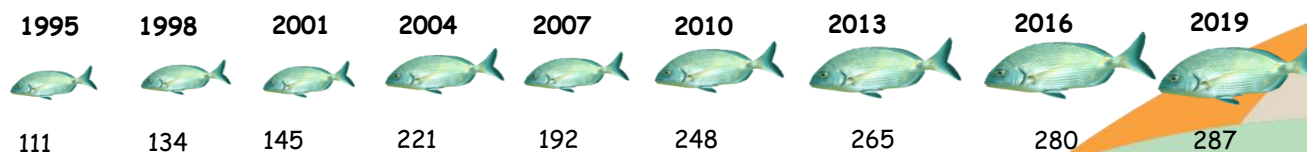
## Who will benefit?



**Benefits far outweigh the costs** - every euro spent on restoration delivers a return on investment of at least €8

*Examples:*

- *Reversing the decline in pollinators → **boost agriculture***
- *Biodiverse forests → **more resilient to climate change***
- *Restoring marine ecosystems → **fish stocks recover...***



[French marine restoration project Cote Bleue → Mean weight x 2,6 – Size x 1,4](#)



| Thank you for your attention!

