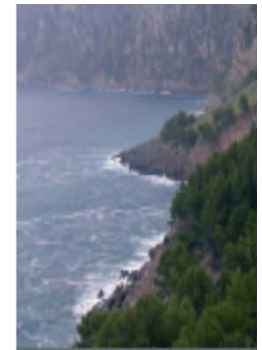


HABITATS DIRECTIVE: IMPLEMENTATION IN CYPRUS

Elena Stylianopoulou
Department of Environment
June, 2017



Habitats Directive-92/43/EEC

- It entered into force in 1992.
- Together with the Birds Directive are the main legislative tools for the protection of nature
- Its main goal is to maintain, protect and enhance natural habitats and wild species throughout their natural distribution range in Europe
- Biodiversity Conservation (taking into account economic, social, cultural and regional requirements)
- The measures are necessary because:
 - a) they degrade the natural habitats and
 - b) they increase the endangered species

Obligations of MS in the framework of 92/43/EOK

- **Define Special Areas of Conservation-NATURA 2000 Network**
- **Conduction of management plans**
- **Take measures to halt the decrease in the conservation status of habitats and species**
- **Monitoring and surveillance**
- **Appropriate Assessment**

92/43/EEC-153(I)/2003

- The directive in Cyprus came into force in 2003 as well as the Birds Directive (152)I)/2003).
- Through this law the Natura 2000 network in Cyprus was established

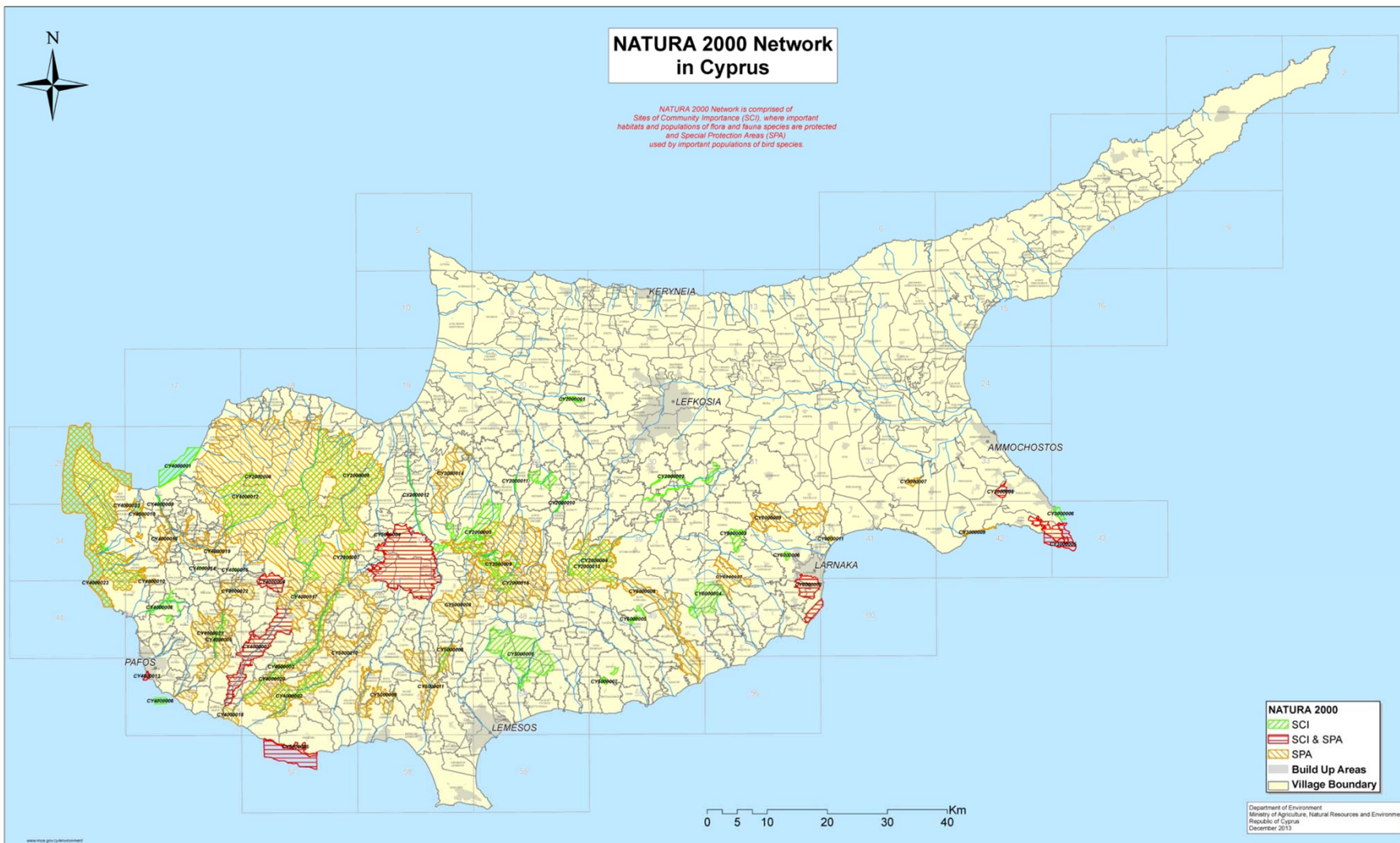
The Natura 2000 Network in Cyprus

- **40 Sites of Community Importance (92/43/EOK, 153(I)/2003). These areas were defined mainly through a LIFE/TCY program taking place between 1999-2002.**
- **23 SCIs have been declared as SACs**
- **30 Special Protection Areas (2009/147/EE, 152(I)/2003)**



NATURA 2000 Network in Cyprus

NATURA 2000 Network is comprised of
Sites of Community Importance (SCI), where important
habitats and populations of flora and fauna species are protected
and Special Protection Areas (SPA)
used by important populations of bird species.



NATURA 2000
SCI
SCI & SPA
SPA
Build Up Areas
Village Boundary

Department of Environment
Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment
Republic of Cyprus
December 2013

Priority Habitats Protected

1120*	*Posidonia beds (<i>Posidonion oceanicae</i>)
1150*	*Coastal lagoons
1520*	*Iberian gypsum steppes (<i>Gypsophiletalia</i>)
2250*	*Coastal dunes with <i>Juniperus</i> spp.
3170*	*Mediterranean temporary ponds
5220*	*Arborescent matorral with <i>Zyziphus</i>
5230*	*Arborescent matorral with <i>Laurus nobilis</i>
6220*	*Pseudo-steppe with grasses and annuals of the <i>Thero-Brachypodietea</i>
62B0*	*Serpentinophilous grasslands of Cyprus
9390*	*Scrub & low forest vegetation with <i>Quercus alniflora</i>
9530*	(Sub-)Mediterranean pine forests with endemic black pines (9536* Pallas's pine forests)
9560*	*Endemic forests with <i>Juniperus</i> spp. [9563*Stinking juniper (<i>Juniperus foetidissima</i>) woods] (<i>Juniperus phoenicea</i> formations)
9590*	* <i>Cedrus brevifolia</i> forests (<i>Cedrosetum brevifoliae</i>)

Priority Species Protected

Arabis kennedyae*
Astragalus macrocarpus ssp. lefkarensis*
Centaurea akamantis*
Chionodoxa lochiaie*
Delphinium caseyi*
Ophrys kotschyi*
Pinguicula crystallina*
Scilla morrisii*
Caretta caretta*
Chelonia mydas*
Natrix natrix cypriaca*
Callimorpha (Euplagia, Panaxia) quadripunctaria*

Current management of the network

Four departments responsible:

Department of Environment: SCIs and SACs outside forests

Department of Forests: SCIs and SACs in forests

Game and Fauna Service: All SPAs

Dept. of Fisheries and Marine Research: Marine SCIs

Conduction of Management Plans

- 40 Management Plans have been conducted so far.
- Management Plans for SPA have been completed in 2016.
- The management bodies/structure for the SACs and SCIs outside forests have not been defined yet.

Contribution of the LIFE Programme to the NATURA 2000 Network

- LIFE98 TCY/CY/172 for the designation of SCIs according to 92/43/EC
- COMANACY for habitats and species conservation



PLANT-NET CY
LIFE 08 NAT/CY/000453

**Establishment of a Plant Micro-reserve Network in Cyprus for the Conservation of
Priority Species and Habitats**

Project Budget:

Total budget: € 1.547.297,00

EC Contribution.: 69,17 %

Duration: 01/01/10 - 30/06/13

Beneficiaries:

Coordinating: Department of Environment
Frederick University

National University of Athens

Forestry Department

Federation of Environmental and Ecological

Program UNDP-ACT (United Nations Development Programme – Action
for Cooperation and Trust)



ICOSTACY LIFE09 NAT/CY/000247

Project Budget:

Total budget: € 1.241.007,00

EC Contribution: 50%

Duration: : 01/10/2010 - 31/03/2014

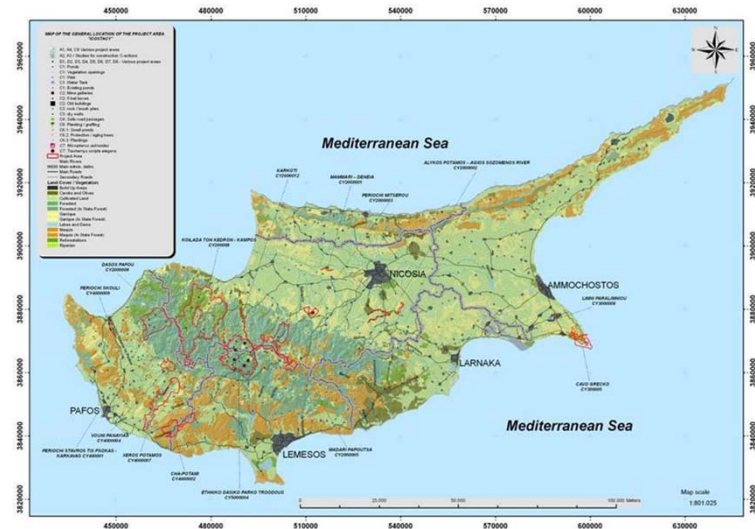
Beneficiaries :

Coordinating: Department of Environment
Forestry Department

Department of Fisheries and Marine Research

Natural History Museum of Crete

ΟΙΚΟΣ Ε.Π.Ε



OROKLINI

LIFE10 NAT/CY/000716

Project Budget:

Total budget : € 797.070

EC Contribution: 50%

Duration: 01/01/2012 - 31/12/2014

Beneficiaries:

Coordinating: Game and Fauna Service
Birdlife Cyprus, Dept Of Environment,
Forestry Department,
Voroklini Community Council



JUNIPERCY

LIFE10 NAT/CY/000717

Improving the conservation status of the priority habitat type 9560* (Endemic forests with Juniperus spp.) in Cyprus

Project Budget

Total budget: €1.180.000

EC Contribution: €886.338 (74,99%)

Duration: 01/01/2012 - 30/06/2015

Beneficiaries:

Coordinating: Forestry Department

Department of Environment

Cyprus Open University

Frederick University

AKTI-Center of Study and Research

Sites of implementation:

Nicosia, Limassol, Paphos– Akamas Forest, Troodos and Adelphi



LIFE-RIZOELIA

LIFE12 NAT/CY/000758

Improving the conservation status of the priority habitat types *1520 and *5220 at the Rizoelia National Forest Park



LIFE-RIZOELIA

Improving the conservation status of the priority habitat types *1520 and *5220 at the Rizoelia National Forest Park
LIFE12 NAT/CY/000758



Overall Budget: 766.746,00 €

EC Contribution: 574.703,00 €

Duration: 1/9/13 – 28/2/17

Beneficiaries:

Coordinating: Department of Forests

Department of Environment, Cyprus Open University, Frederick University.

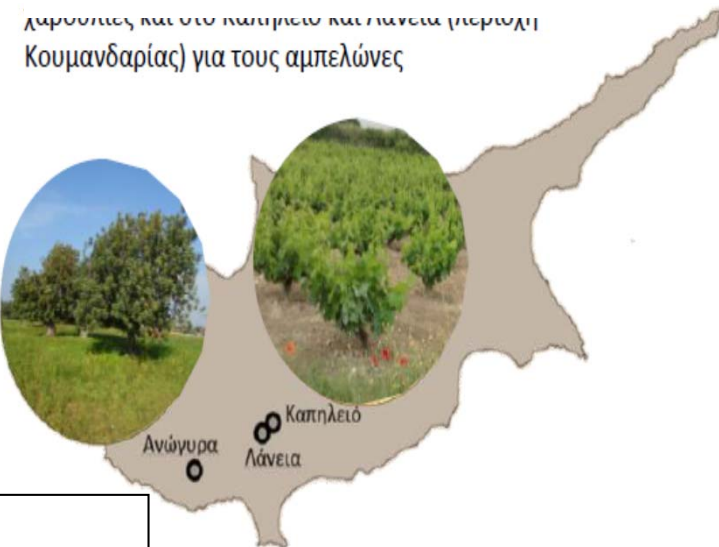




Promoting and enabling the long term conservation of High Nature Value Farmlands in Cyprus (LIFE 13 BIO/CY/001114)



- Three-year project that put into practice, tested, evaluated and disseminated actions and methodologies for the conservation of HNVF in Cyprus
- Project Areas: **traditional vineyards in the area of Koumandaria** and **traditional carob groves in the area of Anogyra**
- Project purpose: To allow the long term conservation of HNVF in Cyprus through the promotion of sustainable agricultural practices that support and enhance biodiversity and ecosystem services



Project duration: 06/2014- 06/2017

Total budget: €575,309

EU contribution: €275,635 (LIFE+ Program of the E.C.)

Website:

www.agrolife.eu

Project partners



OPEN
UNIVERSITY OF
CYPRUS



**LIFE- FOR BIRDS 'Improving lowland forest habitats for Birds in Cyprus' (LIFE13
NAT/CY/000176)' 1st October 2014 -31th December 2017.**

LIFE+ program with total budget 978,718 €, of which 489,359 € (50% of its total eligible budget) are co-funded by EU.

Project objectives: (a) to implement conservation / management measures that will substantially improve ecological conditions for selected bird species listed in Annex I of the Birds Directive occurring in the Natura 2000 (SPA) sites Kavo Gkreko (CY3000005), Koshi – Pallourokamos (CY6000009) and Stavrovouni – Potamos Panagias Stazousas (CY6000007),
(b) implementation of stakeholders, for a holistic forest management approach that will address the needs of birds dwelling in or visiting the forest, and
(c) To contribute towards, enhancement of public awareness on the need to conserve wild birds and combating bird crime within the broader project area.



Integrated conservation management of priority habitat type 9590* in the Natura 2000 site Koilada Kedron – Kampos



(LIFE-KEDROS, LIFE15 NAT/CY/000850)

- The objective of the project is to ensure the medium and long-term preservation of the priority habitat type 9590* *Cedrus brevifolia* forests in good conservation status, at the only Natura 2000 site (CY2000008) that the habitat is found.
- The project's objective will be achieved through the adoption of specific conservation actions, both within (*in situ*) and outside (*ex situ*) its natural range.

Duration of the Project: 1/9/2016 – 31/8/2020

Total budget: €1.413.304

Co-funded by EU: €968.330 (68,6%)

Website: <http://www.life-kedros.eu>

Facebook: [@LIFE-KEDROS](https://www.facebook.com/LIFE-KEDROS)

Partners of the
Project



FREDERICK UNIVERSITY



natureconservationunit



Obligations under 92/43/EC

- **Define Conservation Objectives and declare SCIs as SAC**

For 30 SCIs SACs have to be declared by the end of 2014

- **Appropriate Assessment**

Ad-hoc Expert Group: The four departments involved in N2K management, experts from academic institutions and NGOs

What are the main challenges we have to face today?

PRESSING PRIORITY:

Timely and efficient implementation of the provisions of the Habitats Directive:

Completion of the NATURA 2000 network (this is currently being conducted in cooperation with the Forest Department)

Exhaustive mapping of habitats and species

Management of the network:

- **Decrees for characterizing the SCIs into SACs for N2000 meaning that the conservation framework needs to be in place –by end 2014. (12 only forest N2000 and 28 mixed or non forest N2000 areas)**
- **Establishment of management structures**

What are the main challenges we have to face today?

-Monitoring and surveillance N2000

SPAs- Game and Fauna Service, N2000 forest-Forestry dept, N2000 marine Dept of Fisheries and Marine Protection, Dept of Env. for the 28 N2000 where there is privately owned land and a variety of activities. Monitoring of the 28 N2000 outsourced. Inspections are conducted from the nature related departments. **Monitoring and Surveillance needs to be intensified to control illegal actions**

What are the main challenges we have to face today?

APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT: Need for a more collective approach to development pressures

LOW ACCEPTANCE OF N2000 NETWORK from local authorities and citizens particularly for the sites outside forests

Way forward

- **Appropriate management planning.**
- **Increase N2K public awareness.**
- **Intensify dialogue with local communities.**
- **Need for additional resources.**
- **Effective coordination between involved parties and**
- **New EU Action Plan for the Implementation of Directives after the Refit process**



Thank you for your attention

