



Climate mitigation potential of large-scale nature restoration in Europe

This study and its accompanying analysis explore the climate mitigation potential of restoring the habitats protected under the EU Habitats Directive. As part of this, the feasibility of ranking these habitats based on the climate mitigation benefits of their restoration is evaluated.

The European Commission is expected to propose a set of legally binding nature restoration targets on 23 March 2022. Alongside their primary objective to restore degraded ecosystems for nature, the targets will address habitats with the greatest potential to capture and store carbon, thereby contributing to the achievement of both EU biodiversity and EU climate goals. This creates a great opportunity for Member States to design restoration plans which maximise synergies between climate adaptation and biodiversity conservation, including restoration of habitats protected under Annex I of the Habitats Directive.

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Building robust and coherent soil protection by 2050

The new EU Soil Strategy offers a policy framework to achieve good soil health in Europe by 2050. To reach this goal, there is a strong need to ensure an effective legal framework for soils coherent with other key EU policies such as the proposal for a nature restoration law, the CAP, and the LULUCF regulation. [Read the blog](#)



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The inclusion of nuclear and fossil gas into the EU's green taxonomy threatens sustainable finance and Europe's climate ambitions. [Read the blog by Dr. Ben Allen](#)



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Carbon farming offers significant but uncertain mitigation potential in the EU, can deliver co-benefits to farmers and society, but also carries risks that need to be managed. [Read the report](#)



Designing environmental regulation of agricultural imports

This Think Piece examines the potential for designing Core Environmental Standards (CES) to agri-food products and aims to offer some practical ideas for bringing environmental standards into UK trade policy. [Read the think piece](#)

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GREEN TRADE NETWORK

IEEP is pleased to announce the new bi-monthly Green Trade Network Newsletter which will be launched in March 2022. This newsletter aims to promote and inform wide-ranging and thoughtful discussions – without fear or favour – around policy options for aligning trade and environmental objectives. Against a backdrop of European political momentum, it also aims to build bridges between two communities of readers – trade wonks and environmentalists – as well as engage specialist media on the topic. The newsletter is produced by the Institute for European Environmental Policy, on behalf of the Green Trade Network, a diverse and largely European-based group of policy experts from 20 research organisations (think tanks, University research centres and NGOs) working towards the aim of developing a positive agenda for the greening of trade policies in the EU and beyond.

In the first edition of the newsletter, we will look back at some of the most crucial moments of the past few months, including the European Parliament's discussions on the design of the EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), as well as on the Commission's initiative on imported deforestation, and the release of the sustainable corporate governance initiative (due diligence) on 23 February. The editorial will also examine the key issues and challenges for the year ahead. We will guide our readers through the trade priorities of the French Presidency of the Council, as well as the conclusions of the EU-Africa summit, the preparation of the postponed WTO Ministerial Conference and many more issues at stake in 2022!

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Think Sustainable Europe

The idea generator behind the Think2030 platform, [Think Sustainable Europe](#) (TSE) is a pan-European network of sustainability think tanks, led by IEEP, and including BC3, the Ecologic Institute, the Green Tank, IDDRI, IISD, SEI, WiseEuropa and TMG. The network aims to provide policymakers across the continent with sound, science-based analysis and recommendations.

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