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# Exploring priorities for biodiversity monitoring, data and analyses

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# Aims for this session

- To learn more about your unique biodiversity protection and restoration efforts, and how BMD can support these.
- To explore your biodiversity monitoring, data and analysis needs and priorities through the creation of “user stories”.

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# Session Overview

| | |
|---|---|
| 15:00 | Welcome, Consent Forms, About BMD |
| 15:15 | Workshop Part 1: Getting Started |
| 15:30 | Workshop Part 2: Creating User Stories |
| 15:50 | Workshop Part 3: Expanding your stories |
| 16:30 | Reflections |
| 16:45 | Feedback |
| 16:50 | Thank you & Final Comments |
| 17:00 | Close |

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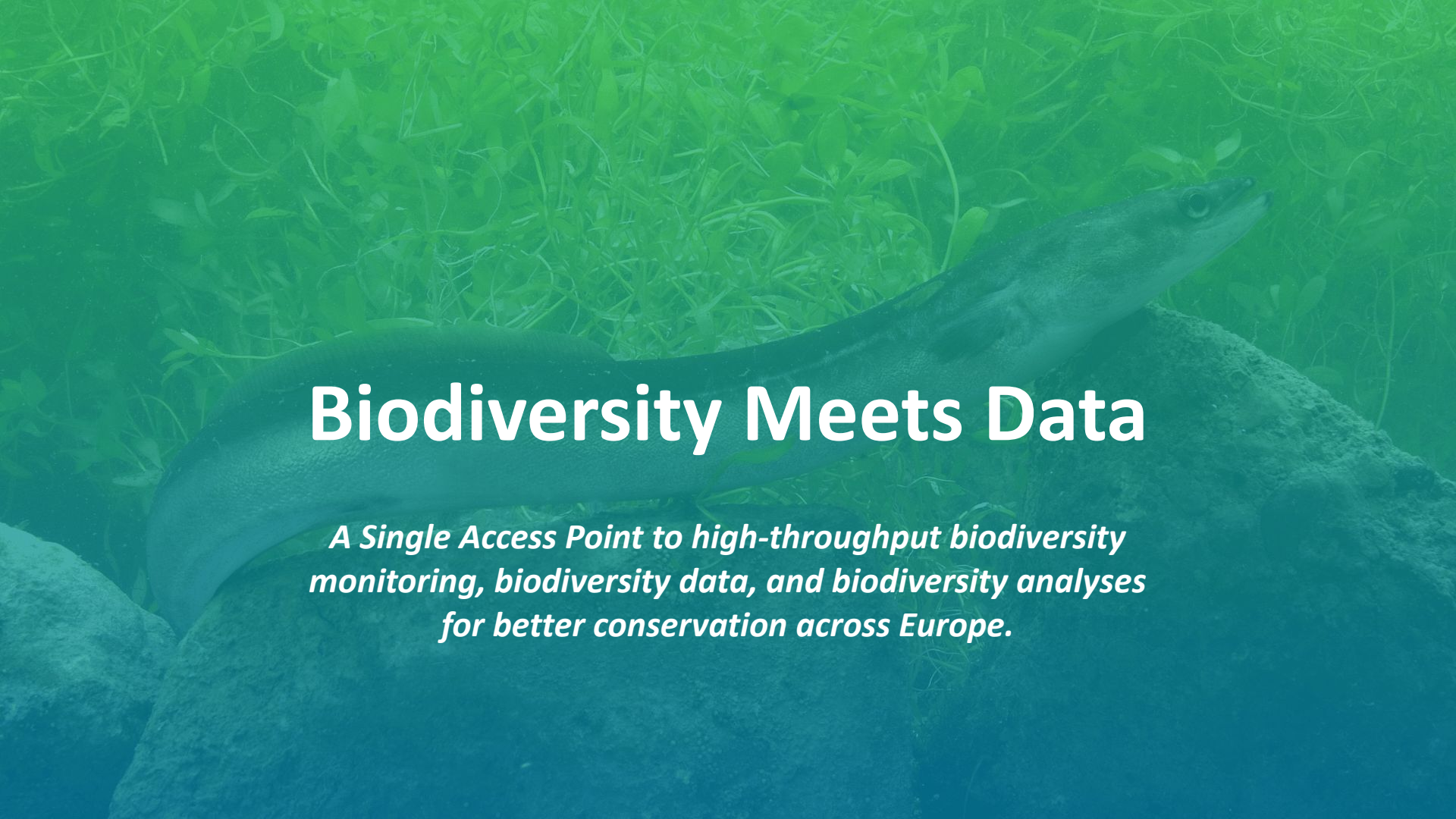

# Biodiversity Meets Data

***A Single Access Point to high-throughput biodiversity monitoring, biodiversity data, and biodiversity analyses for better conservation across Europe.***

# Partners

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# Represented RIs and Projects

# Contributions

## Supporting the EU biodiversity strategy for 2030:

- **Plan, manage and expand** protected areas and **improve the conservation status** of species and habitats based on up-to-date knowledge and solutions.
- **To understand and address drivers of biodiversity decline,** mainstream biodiversity, ecosystem services, including through the development of nature-based solutions.

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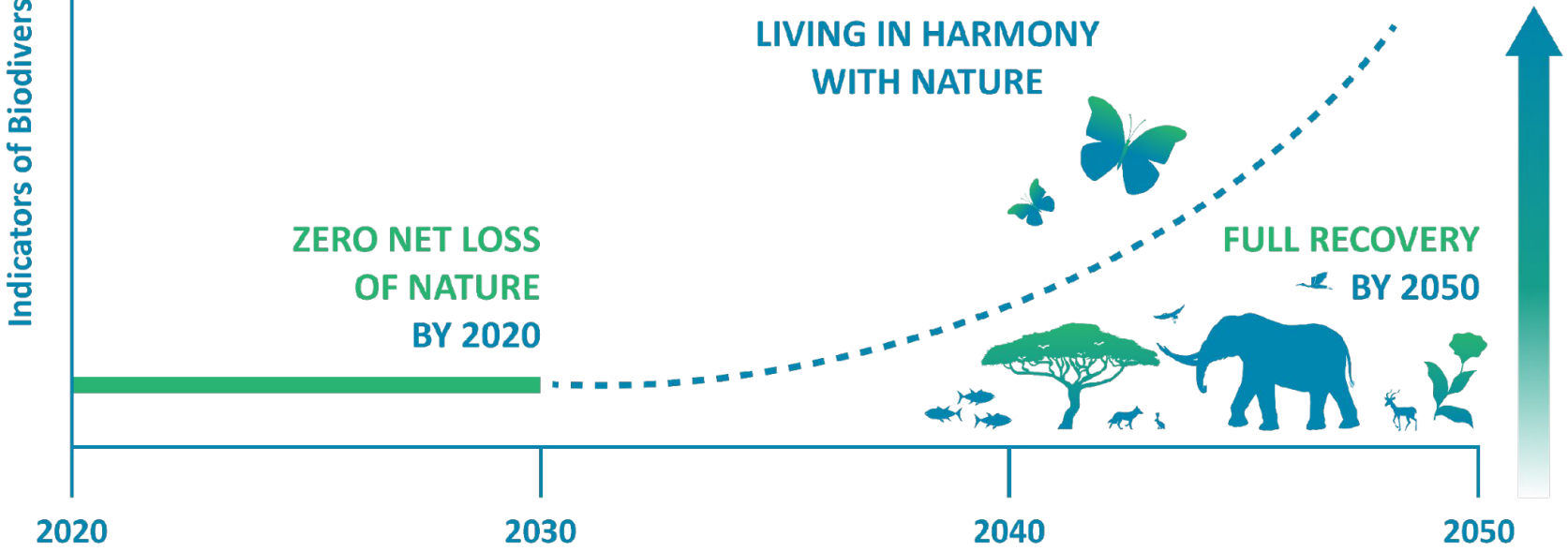
# Figure 23: Nature Positive by 2030

*A measurable global goal for nature.*
*Source: Locke et. al (2021).*

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# Expected outcomes

- A better monitoring of biodiversity in the EU by high-throughput methods leading to a better implementation of the Nature Directives.
- A better understanding of the state of nature and of the drivers of biodiversity loss, a better usage of existing data.
- A more complete view of the state of nature and its evolution.

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# Objectives

1. **Enable resource managers** with AI-driven biodiversity monitoring.
2. **Support FAIR sharing** of legacy biodiversity data.
3. **Create a data catalogue** for unified access to relevant datasets.
4. **Build a pipeline** to harmonise spatio-temporal and taxonomic data.
5. **Co-design Virtual Research Environments** with stakeholders.
6. **Co-design Single Access Point** with stakeholders.
7. **Develop extensive training** and capacity building material.

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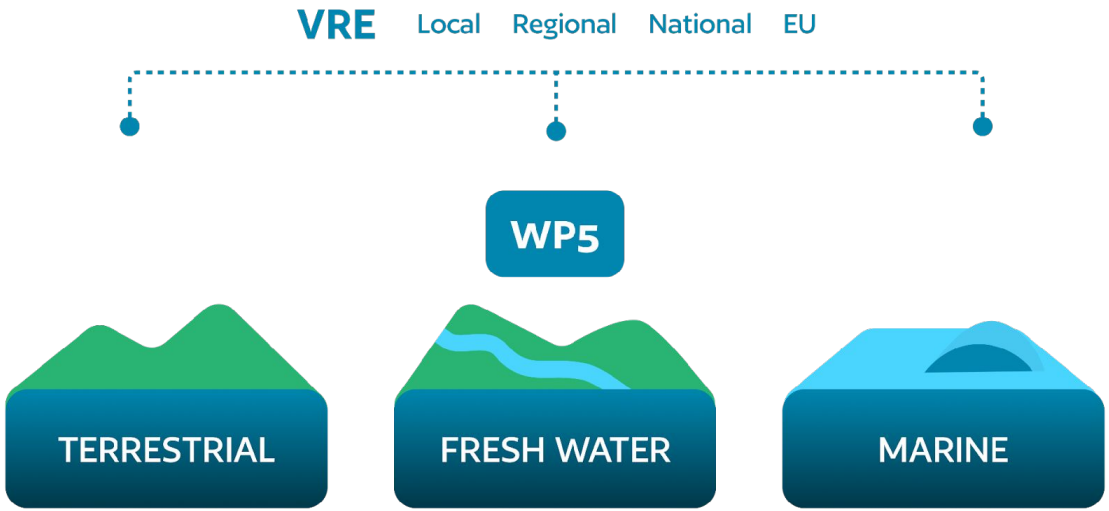
# Co-design for real-world analyses and implementation

# Virtual Research Environments

Co-designed with stakeholders, these on-demand tools enable analysis of biodiversity trends, drivers, and impacts across all realms to support targeted action and policy.




UFZ HELMHOLTZ Centre for Environmental Research

# Virtual Research Environments

Covers the three realms and all spatial scales

Users define their own analyses

Natura 2000 designation reports

National checklists

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# Communication, Dissemination & Training

**Stakeholder engagement** through ethical, inclusive collaboration to shape the Single Access Point for real-world needs.

**Trainings** for site managers, policymakers, and researchers to build skills in using the SAP and other tools.

# Consent Forms

# Before we get started…

Please take a few minutes to read and complete the consent form in front of you.

Information sheet here!

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# Workshop Part 1:
# Getting Started

# MentiMeter

Today we'll be using ***MentiMeter*** as a way to share your ideas, comments and feedback.

Please access Menti via the website.

If you do not have a personal device (mobile, laptop), please raise your hand and the BMD team can input your responses for you.

Join at **menti.com**

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# Workshop Part 2:
# Creating “User Stories”

# What is a “User Story”?

*User Stories are short narratives that describe a task or question relating to a specific need our outcome.*

Often formatted in a simple structure:

I am a (role)

I need to (task / question)

So that I can (purpose / outcome)

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# User Story Activity

1. Find a partner.
2. Swap activity sheets with your partner.
3. Find out about your partner's work and their biodiversity question, adding their responses to the activity sheet as you chat.
4. When you get to the final part, "User Story", work with your partner to format their biodiversity question into a short user story in the template provided.

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# Example User Stories

I am a Natura 2000 site manager. I need to know which protected areas of Annex 1 habitats are exceeding a critical load for nitrogen. So that I can meet the requirements under the Habitats Directive.

I am a policymaker. I need to know which areas of the Mediterranean Spanish coast will remain most suitable for restoration of the Annex 1 European native oyster beds, under climate change (by 2080). So that I can scope opportunities to contribute to Nature Restoration efforts and regulations.

I am a nature reserve manager. I need to know how the national population status of Annex 1 species have changed over the past three decades (1995-2025). So that I can meet the requirements under the Birds Directive.

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# Workshop Part 3:
# Expanding your stories

# Activity Details

- Split into two groups
- BMD facilitator and notetaker in each group
- Note any ideas you feel add important detail to your user story

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# Question 1

## How do you use biodiversity information (data, analyses) in your work?

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# Question 2

**Are there any areas in which biodiversity information could be improved to better support biodiversity monitoring and conservation practices?**

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# Question 3

## How would improved biodiversity information impact your work?

*What barriers would it overcome? What opportunities might it create? What would this mean for your specific site/role/context?*

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# Reflections

# Reflections Activity

- Find the person you paired up with earlier in the workshop for the user story activity.
- There's a space on the worksheet to fill in your reflections.
- Learn about how your partner's ideas/questions relating to biodiversity restoration and protection have been shaped by today's discussions.

*~5 minutes for each prompt*

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# Let’s reflect on today’s themes and ideas…

1. Thinking about the discussions today, what do you think should be the main priority when improving biodiversity information? Why?

2. Were there any challenges, opportunities or ideas discussed that you found particularly relevant to your work?

3. Is there anything that came up in the discussions that you would like to explore further (throughout this event, or future BMD activities)?

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# Feedback

# Closing Remarks

# Get involved in BMD

- Join the BMD Network!
- Visit our booth to see early designs of the Single Access Point and Virtual Research Environment
- Continue the conversation at:
  - Thursday's Plug and Play demonstration

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# Thank you!

**Please return your activity sheets & consent forms to the BMD team before leaving!**

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