

# Biodiversity and climate change forum

June 2008



# Kick-off meeting - Programme

- **Roundtable**
- **Presentation of the forum and the project**
- **Presentation of the work packages and discussions:**
  - WP1: Etienne Branquart
  - WP2: Hans Van Dyck
  - WP3: Hendrik Segers
- **General discussion:**
  - Discuss the content of the WP
  - Identify possible collaborations
- **Drink**

# Biodiversity and climate change forum: Why? (1)

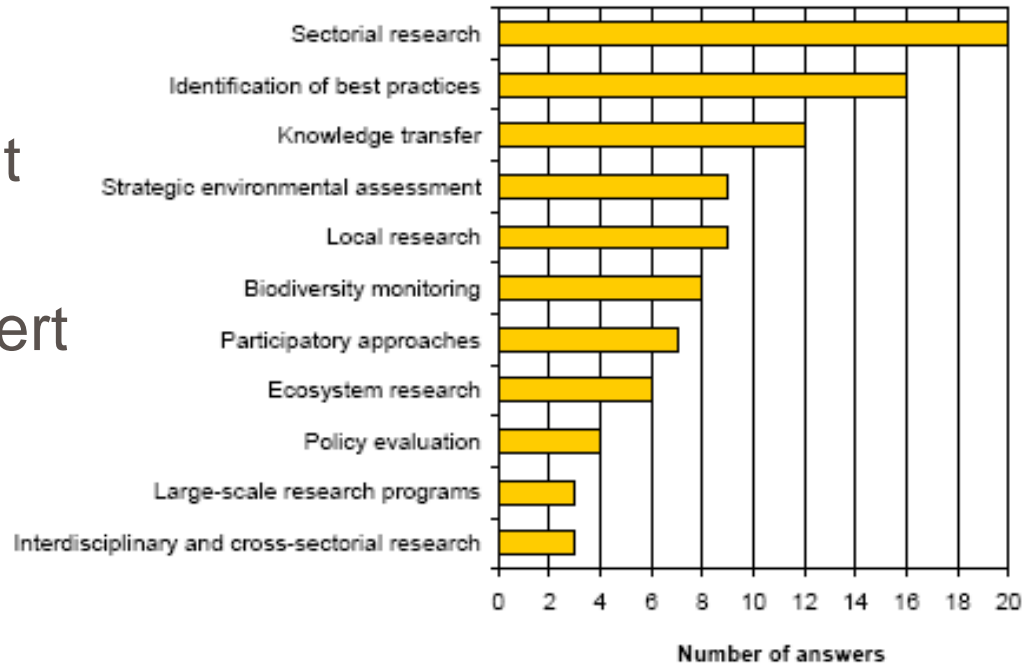
## Climate change is a real threat to biodiversity:

- It already has perceptible impacts on biodiversity (notably geographical range, phenology, behaviour, genetic diversity)
- It combines with and exacerbates other drivers of biodiversity loss (mainly habitat destruction/ fragmentation and invasive alien species)
- Interactions between climate change and biodiversity run both ways

# Biodiversity and climate change forum: Why? (2)

A consultation of Belgian sector representatives organized by the Platform in April 2007 identified the need for more:

- applied research
- best management practices
- knowledge transfert towards sectors
- participatory approaches



# Biodiversity and climate change forum: Why? (3)

**Recommendations drafted by Belgian scientists** during the conference organized by the Platform in May 2007, indicate that:

« Mitigation and adaptation can only be successfully achieved through interdisciplinarity and exchange of knowledge among a wide-range of stakeholders, following a cross-sectoral approach. Tools and mechanisms should be established to facilitate communication within and between sectors, scientific communities and institutions »

# **Biodiversity and climate change forum: General objective**

**To promote interactions between scientists, policy makers and stakeholders** in order to:

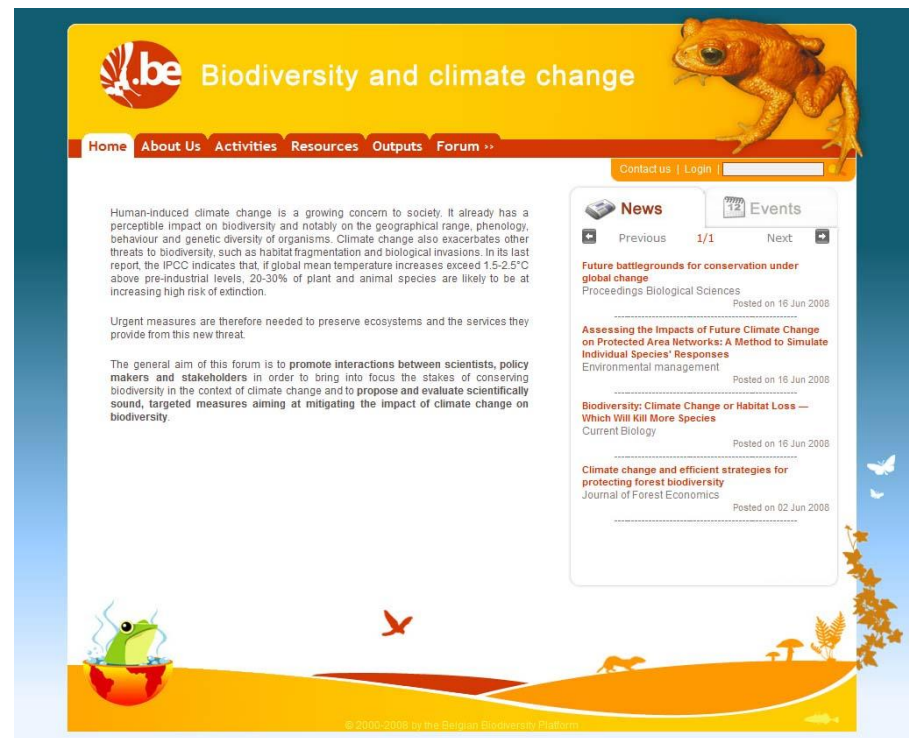
1. make decision makers aware of the stakes of conserving biodiversity in the context of climate change
2. make scientists aware of the needs and concerns raised by policy makers and stakeholders
3. propose scientifically sound, targeted measures and/or identify research needs aiming at reducing the impact of climate change on biodiversity

# Biodiversity and climate change forum: Website

<http://climate.biodiversity.be>

## More information on:

- News & events
- Context & objectives
- Activities
- Resources
- Outputs
- Forum



# Biodiversity and climate change forum: First project

## Integrate climate change into sectoral practices

**Aim:** Identify how to adapt sectoral practices in order to reduce the impact of climate change on biodiversity

**Participants:** Scientists and sector representatives

*Key sectors:* nature conservation, agriculture, forestry, freshwater management,...

**Deliverable:** Recommendations to sector managers and policy makers (and to science policy)

# **Integrate climate change into sectoral practices: Two-steps approach**

## **Step 1 - Integrate climate change into nature conservation and management strategies**

Identify how to make current nature conservation and management strategies climate-proof

## **Step 2 - Adapt sectoral practices to climate change**

Identify what concrete / technical adaptations to sectoral practices are needed in order to reach nature conservation goals under changing climate

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# Integrate climate change into nature conservation and management strategies

**Aim:** Set the scene and identify adaptations and research needed to make current nature conservation and management strategies climate-proof

## **Participants:**

- Scientists (biology, climatology, socio-economy),
- Policy makers and stakeholders involved in nature management (federal, regional & local administrations, NGOs)
- Science policy

**Deliverable:** Recommendations to natural resources policy makers & managers, science policy, scientists,...

# Integrate climate change into nature conservation and management strategies: Work Package 1

**Aim:** Identify the new threats and stakes the nature conservation sector will have to deal with in the future due to climate change and its interactions with others drivers of biodiversity loss.

**Leaders:** Etienne Branquart & Alain Hambuckers

# Integrate climate change into nature conservation and management strategies: Work Package 2

**Aim:** Propose general lines of adaptations to current nature management practices based on the current knowledge of the interactions between biodiversity and climate change (and other anthropogenic pressures).

**Leader:** Hans Van Dyck

# Integrate climate change into nature conservation and management strategies: Work Package 3

**Aim:** Identify research that will enable:

1. predicting the impact of climate change, in conjunction with other pressures, on species and ecosystems;
2. adapting biodiversity conservation and management strategies to climate change.

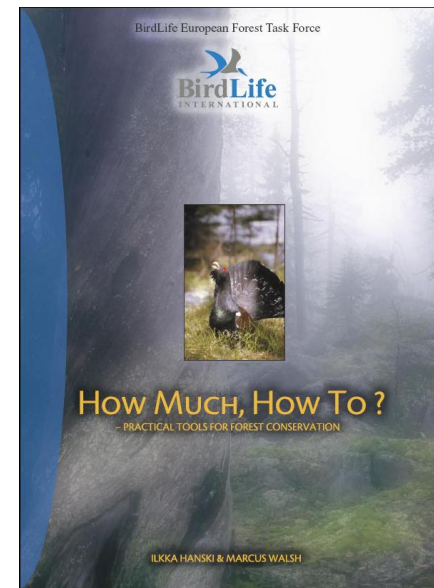
**Leader:** Hendrik Segers

# Integrate climate change into nature conservation and management strategies: Deliverables (1)

- Each WP leader coordinates the **drafting of a synthesis document**
  - Size: 5 pages
  - Working language: English
  - Interactions between WP
  - Exchanges through the forum website

# Integrate climate change into nature conservation and management strategies: Deliverables (2)

- Syntheses are integrated into a **final recommendation document**
  - Language: national
  - Target audience: natural resources managers and policy makers, science policy, scientists, public
  - Effort on pedagogy and layout



# Integrate climate change into nature conservation and management strategies: Timeline

- **25 June 2008:** kick-off meeting
- **September 2008:** mid-term evaluation meeting
- **November 2008:** release of the final document

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