

Invitation

Divergence in EU/UK Biodiversity Targets



22 September 2022



14.00–15.30 BST (15.00-16.30 CET)

This event is part of an IEEP UK project which aims to contribute to knowledge, engagement and exchange on post-Brexit divergence in the environmental field, particularly in respect of EU/UK differences but also taking account of the changing dynamics of intra-UK policy and legislation on the environment. So far, the project has identified the general drivers and forms of divergence ([see report](#)) and is now examining a number of areas of particular interest, including in relation to nature conservation targets, policies and legislation.

This webinar will discuss the results of a report (*) produced by IEEP UK on post Brexit divergence in the emerging biodiversity targets within the EU and UK. To date, the EU has agreed a set of non-binding biodiversity objectives and actions in its *Biodiversity Strategy for 2030*. Central to this is a new nature restoration Regulation (Restoration Law) proposed by the European Commission with legally binding restoration targets for ecosystems/habitats and species. Within the UK, consultations have been conducted on proposed legally binding biodiversity targets in England, and non-binding targets in Northern Ireland. Targets are being developed in Scotland and Wales, which are to be legally binding in Scotland, and have been recommended to be in Wales. The report (*) summarises the currently agreed and proposed key biodiversity targets for habitats and species and compares them in terms of their relevance to biodiversity conservation challenges, ambition and overall coherence. It provides an indication of the main areas of divergence, focusing on ambition, not least because the UK has committed to world leading environmental standards.

After a summary of the main findings of the report, representatives of nature conservation NGOs will give their views on the proposed targets in England and Northern Ireland, and on plans in Scotland and Wales. This will be followed by invitations for government and agency representatives to respond and an open audience discussion.

** The report will be sent to attendees prior to the event for background reading.*

Agenda

Time	Session	Speakers
14.00	Welcome, housekeeping rules, and introduction	David Baldock IEEP Senior Fellow
14.10	Presentation of Report	Graham Tucker IEEP Associate
14.20	Proposed targets in Northern Ireland	Jane Clarke Nature Protection Policy Officer, RSPB Northern Ireland
	Proposed targets in England	Richard Benwell Chief Executive, Wildlife and Countryside Link
	Plans for targets in Scotland	Isobel Mercer Senior Policy Officer, RSPB Scotland
	Plans for targets in Wales	Meriel Harrison Nature Policy Officer, RSPB Cymru
14.50	Responses and open discussion with audience	
15.25	Closing & next steps	David Baldock IEEP Senior Fellow

Practical Information

Please click on the button below to register:

[Register here](#)

Once you have registered, you will receive a confirmation email with the web link to join the event.

This event is intended for civil society, academia, government, the media and others with knowledge of, and an interest in biodiversity and related environmental policy, UK / EU relations post Brexit and political relations between the four nations of the UK.

For more information about the event, please contact: Nicolas Woo-Canal nwoo-canal@ieep.eu

Key documents

- [Divergence in environmental policy post Brexit: Some initial reflections](#)
- [UK/EU divergence in environmental regulation: The case of the EU Industrial Emissions Directive](#)

This event is part of an IEEP UK project, funded by the [John Ellerman Foundation](#)

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