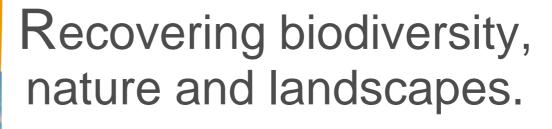
French project of law



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Introduction

- 1. Why a new law?
- 2. Content of the project of law;
- 3. Focus on:
 - New concepts
 - The French biodiversity Agency
 - Access and benefit sharing
 - Enlarged tool kit



1. Why a new law?

- 1976 Nature Law based on a « natural heritage » approach;
- Need to update the framework and integrate new society and scientific concerns;
- Maintain the level of environmental ambition;
- Take on board conclusions from the environment law modernisation process;
- Integrate new issues (marine environment, NBSAPs);
- => A more efficient framework with better linkages between different tools.



2. Content of the project of law

- 7 Chapters aiming at dealing with all legal issues related to biodiversity through:
- Stakeholders involvement : the State, Agencies, Local Authorities, general public;
- Work areas: protected areas and species, genetic resources, ordinary or remarkable nature
- Governance: Strategy, public participation, science policy interface



7 chapters

- 1. New concepts
- 2. National and Regional Governance
- 3. French Biodiversity Agency
- 4. Water Governance
- 5. Access to genetic resources and benefit sharing
- 6. Natural areas and species protection
- 7. Landscape



3. Focus on new concepts

The project of law includes new concepts:

- "Ecological process": aiming to make sure ecosystem and ecosystem services dynamics are maintained;
- "Ecological solidarity": aiming at taking into account ecosystem, living being and natural or built areas interactions, in decision making impacting the environment;
- « Prevent, Reduce, Compensate » as a guiding principle for implementing a precautionary approach;
- Regional biodiversity stratégies and National biodiversity strategy.



French Agency for biodiversity

- The Agency gathers several existing bodies;
- It is key in the implementation of the biodiversity recovering strategy
- Designed to assist all stakeholders involved in biodiversity with the following missions:
 - Knowledge development
 - Administrative and technical support;
 - Financial support;
 - Training and communication;
 - Protected areas management;
 - Research;
 - · Controls.



Une agence au service de tous les acteurs de la biodiversité



Access and benefit sharing

- With a very rich biodiversity and dynamic private sector using genetic resources;
- France is both a provider and user of genetic resources;
- The access and benefit sharing has a two-fold base :
- to strengthen biodiversity protection and enhance the benefits for conservation and sustainable use;
- to give legal security to the users: researchers and private sector from all sectors.



An enlarged tool kit

A choice to enlarge available tools from voluntary to binding approaches, ie:

- Facilitate membership to the regional natural parks action framework;
- Create a contractual process for environmental commitments transferable from owner to owner;
- Enlarge the scope of institutions acting for State and regional cooperation to the environment;
- Strengthen environment control by including penal measures;



An enlarged tool kit

- Extend the eligible areas to environmental constraint to take biodiversity into account (acting as a leverage tool in agricultural practices);
- Experiment the management of overlapping protected areas by one manager;
- Simplified framewok for fisheries acitivities in marine Natura 2000 sites;
- Create and improve the framework for economic activities in national seas;
- Create new "fisheries resources functional areas".



The project is being discussed in parliament and could be adopted by the end of the year.

Thank you for your attention.

