



JASPERS Networking Platform
Final webinar on Habitats Directive
Site Specific Conservation Objectives and Project Preparation

Date: 3 December 2021, 9.30am

Location: Virtual meeting - WebEx Events

The JASPERS Networking Platform was created to complement JASPERS project advisory operations by implementing knowledge sharing and technical capacity building activities, as well as fostering dissemination of good practices and exchange of experiences among all EU Member States, pre-accession countries and other JASPERS Stakeholders.

More information is available at www.jaspersnetwork.org.

Description of the Webinar

This final webinar closes a series of trainings on the Habitats Directive and project preparation. The first training was delivered with the format of a workshop in December 2019, and three subsequent webinars were organised in [June](#) and [September](#) 2020 and in [March 2021](#). The webinar is organised in cooperation with DG REGIO and DG ENVIRONMENT whose representatives will make key contributions.

The purpose of this cycle of webinars is to raise awareness around key requirements of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC in the context of Major Projects preparation with a particular focus on the importance of Site-specific conservation objectives (SSCO) and topics such as: setting up of SSCO, undertaking Appropriate Assessment (AA) in view of the SSCO and last but not least the necessary completeness of the Major Project, Appendix 1 Declaration (aka Natura 2000 Declaration).

Speakers will address challenges frequently encountered in project preparation, lessons learned from the 2014-20 period, and possible ways forward.

The workshop will be held in English and participants will have the chance to join the Q&A discussions.

In this respects, participants are encouraged to indicate their questions on the topics that will be addressed in the workshop when filling the pre-event questionnaire included in the online registration form, as a proposal for debate during the Q&A sessions and final round table.

The deadline for the registration is Wednesday 1st December 2021

For the effective participation to this webinar, participants should have a basic knowledge of the main requirements of the Habitats Directive vis a vis projects (some recommended reading can be found at the end of this invitation).

TENTATIVE AGENDA

09:30 – 09:40	Welcome and introduction Massimo Marra, Capacity Building Coordinator, JASPERS
09:40 – 10:00	Opening remarks Sabine Bourdy, Head of Unit, DG ENVIRONMENT Sabine Vandermotten, Deputy Head of Unit F1, DG REGIO
10:00 – 10:30	Major Projects and application of the Directive 92/43/EEC (Habitats Directive): past versus present - assessment of effects on Natura 2000 sites Camelia Kovacs, DG REGIO, F1 Q&A
10:30 - 11:10	Importance of the site-specific conservation objectives for the application of Article 6(3)-(4) of the Habitats Directive <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Site-specific conservation objectives: legal basis, requirements for SSCOs (the Commission's note on setting conservation objectives for Natura 2000, letters to the Member States), legal enforcement (state of play with infringements) etc.;• Consideration of the SSCOs under Article 6(3)-(4) of the Habitats Directive: revised methodological guidelines adopted by the Commission;• Revised Commission guidelines on species protection. Przemyslaw Oginski, DG ENVIRONMENT Q&A
11:10 – 11:20	Coffee Break
11:20 – 11:40	Lessons learned and good practices from 2014-20 period Ioana Delia Gorgos and Rita Dévai, JASPERS
11:40 – 12:20	Overcoming challenges to meet the requirements of SSCO relevant for major Lithuanian Railway Electrification Project Juste Marcinkeviciute, JSC LTG Infra
12:20 – 12:50	Needs for advisory and technical capacity building support for 2021-27 Q&A and round table with the audience DG ENVIRONMENT, DG REGIO, JASPERS, PARTICIPANTS
12:50 – 13:00	Closing remarks DG REGIO, JASPERS



Recommended Reading

Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:31992L0043>

Article 6.3 & 6.4 of the Habitats Directive: a methodological guidance to Appropriate Assessments: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/management/guidance_en.htm#art6

Note on setting the conservation objectives:

https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/management/docs/commission_note/commission_note2_EN.pdf

Chapters 4-5 of the guidance on Art. 6 of the Habitats Directive:

https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/management/docs/art6/Provisions_Art_6_no_v_2018_en.pdf

Part F (environmental and climate change requirements) of a major project application form:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32015R0207&from=EN>

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2015/207 of 20 January 2015 laying down detailed rules implementing Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the models for the progress report, submission of the information on a major project, the joint action plan, the implementation reports for the Investment for growth and jobs goal, the management declaration, the audit strategy, the audit opinion and the annual control report and the methodology for carrying out the cost-benefit analysis and pursuant to Regulation (EU) No 1299/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the model for the implementation reports for the European territorial cooperation goal.