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WWF Europe Newsletter, September 2015, Issue 8

Time for action on SDGs Commissioner Timmermans - the EU needs to walk the talk

At the end of September, the world's governments will adopt the "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" at the UN Summit in New York. The Agenda is the result of three years of deliberations and negotiations and includes a set of 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs) and 169 associated targets that are the successors to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for the next 15 years.

But why are the SDGs different from their predecessors? The SDGs are a significant improvement on the Millennium Development Goals because they recognise that protecting the environment, eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity and well-being are all interlinked. [Read more](#)

THE GLOBAL GOALS For Sustainable Development



Public transport for less stress and less air pollution

Join our **September [ecoguide](#) challenge** and take everyday actions that can make a real difference for the environment.

LATEST NEWS

[UN climate negotiators under pressure](#)



4 September - Heads of State and Government must roll up their sleeves to get an ambitious climate deal before the next and final round of UN negotiations ahead of the COP 21.



Increasing humanity's demand on the planet

13 August - Ecological overspending is becoming more evident. Earth Overshoot Day, which marks the date when humanity's annual demand on nature exceeds what Earth can regenerate was marked in August while ten years ago it was in October.



WWF-France Director General sudden disappearance

11 August - WWF-France is deeply saddened by the loss of Philippe Germa. Philippe was passionate about oceans and the marine world, and was more than a leader for the environmental movement.



US ahead of EU to cap coal pollution before Paris climate talks

3 August - While welcoming US new rules to cap carbon pollution from new, modified and existing power plants, WWF calls on the EU to follow and seriously address the emissions of the coal sector.



UN readies plan for the well-being of people and the planet

2 August - The agreed draft document outlines 17 ambitious Sustainable Development Goals recognizing the interlinkages between sustainability of ecosystem services, poverty eradication, economic development and human well-being.



UN historic resolution on wildlife crime

30 July - For the first time, all UN member states acknowledged the seriousness of wildlife crime and the need to join forces to end the poaching crisis of species such as elephants and rhinos.



First-ever EU fishing transparency website

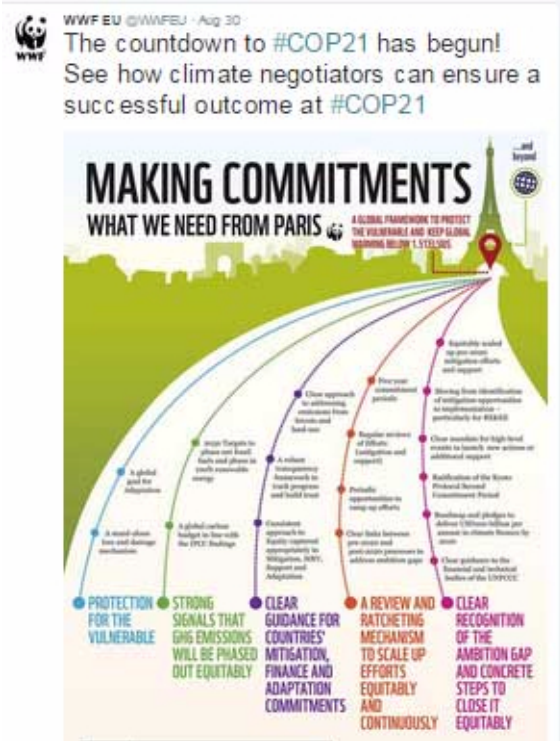
29 July - NGOs launched an online database showing the number of vessels authorised to fish outside EU waters. This is an important step but more needs to be done experts said.



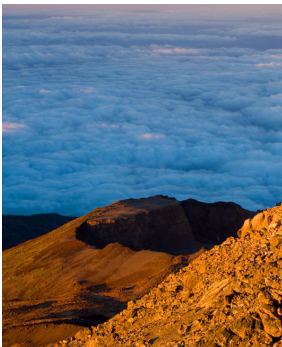
Record breaking number of EU citizens call to protect nature

24 July - 520,325 people sent a clear message to European decision makers to save Europe's nature laws in a public consultation. This is by far the highest number of responses ever reached in the history of the EU.

TOP TWEETS @WWFEU



MULTIMEDIA



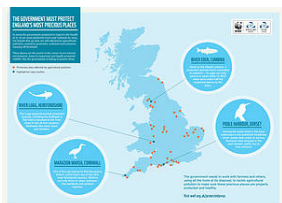
Over 26,000 natural areas in Europe waiting for you

Have you ever visited a Natura 2000 site?

One fifth of Europe is covered by unique forests, rivers, mountains, lakes and inhabited by millions of birds, fishes, bees, butterflies and other animals. We could say that every 5 steps you take, one is in a Natura 2000 area.

Explore the wonderful interactive map of Europe's nature and find the natural area close to you.

STORIES FROM AROUND EUROPE



England's most precious rivers

UK government is required by law to take all the necessary steps to ensure Natura 2000 sites such as Pool Harbour and the Rivers Avon are at good health by end 2015. This is not only vital for important species like the Atlantic salmon but also for recreational activities which provide a vital income for rural communities. Read more



A new generation of wild sturgeon discovered

WWF experts discovered two baby sturgeons in North-East Bulgaria where this stretch of the Danube still shelters naturally breeding populations. The obstruction of the river by the Iron Gates hydropower plant, overfishing and pollution of the Danube have put the species on the brink of extinction. [Read more](#)

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