

European
Commission

INVESTING for a greener future

EU Green Week > 30 May - 3 June 2016



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> Blue economy

The Blue Economy is a strategy that supports sustainable growth in the marine and maritime sectors as a whole. It includes the production of clean energy and protecting marine habitats to the development of new, sustainable industries in fields as diverse as bio-tech and aquaculture.

Bathing water report

The report assesses the bathing water quality in all 28 EU Member States and thereby gives an indication of the areas where the quality of bathing is expected to be good this year.

> Natura 2000

Natura 2000 is a network of habitats established to preserve biological diversity in the European Union, both on land and at sea. Through the [Birds Directive](#) and the [Habitats Directive](#), it aims to ensure the survival of threatened species and habitats.

> Natura 2000 Awards

This pan-European Award recognises excellence in the management of Natura 2000 sites and conservation achievements. It aims to raise awareness about how individual initiatives are helping protect Europe's unique nature and promote social and economic wellbeing.

Marine Protected Areas

Marine Protected Areas help protect marine habitats and species, whilst also enabling the sustainable use of these areas, ensuring it remains healthy and contributes to our society for generations to come.

> LIFE

LIFE is the EU's financial instrument supporting environmental, nature conservation and climate action projects throughout the EU. For the 2014-2020 funding period, LIFE will contribute approximately EUR 3.4 billion to the protection of the environment and climate.

> European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF)

The EMFF helps fishermen in the transition to sustainable fishing, supports coastal communities in diversifying their economies, finances projects that create new jobs and improves the quality of life along European coasts.

> European Social Fund (ESF)

The ESF provides funding for employment, education and skills. This includes funding for anticipating and managing economic and social change, with a number of opportunities for supporting SMEs.

> About Green Week

Green Week is the biggest annual occasion to debate and discuss European environment policy. The 2016 edition will focus on the theme 'Investing for a greener future' and will take place from Monday, 30 May to Friday, 3 June. Online debates, twitter chats and live webstreaming from events will take place during the week.