

# Different perceptions of Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services and values

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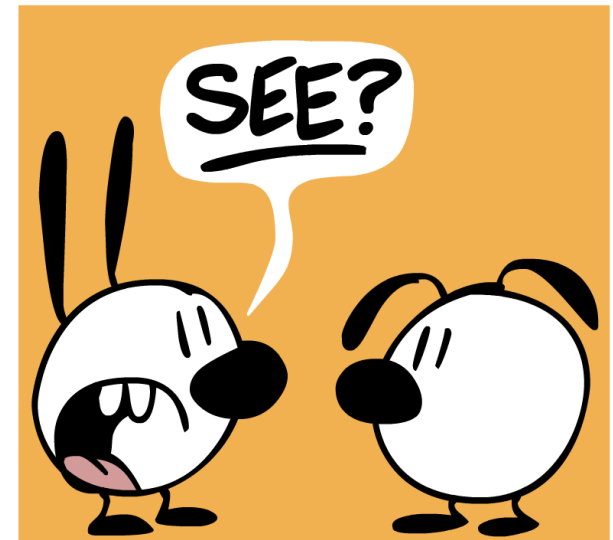
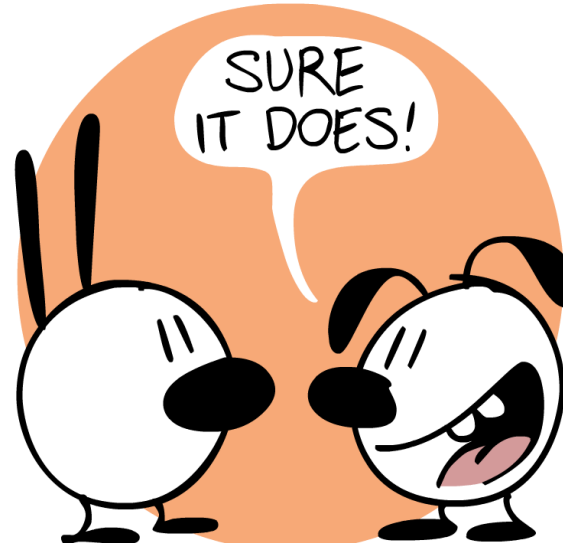
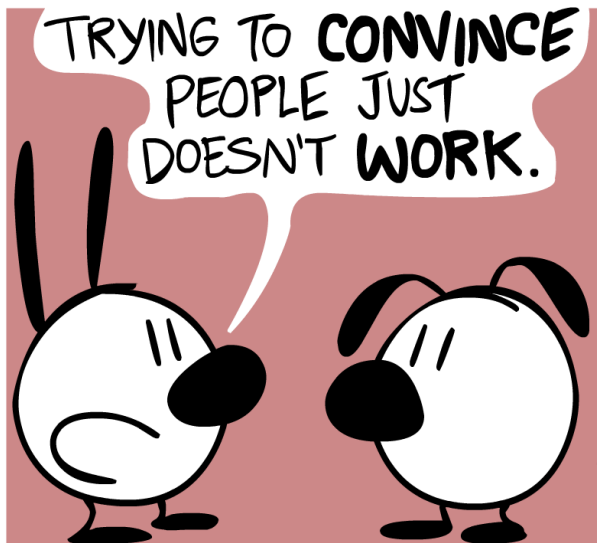


14 november 2016

# Our brief

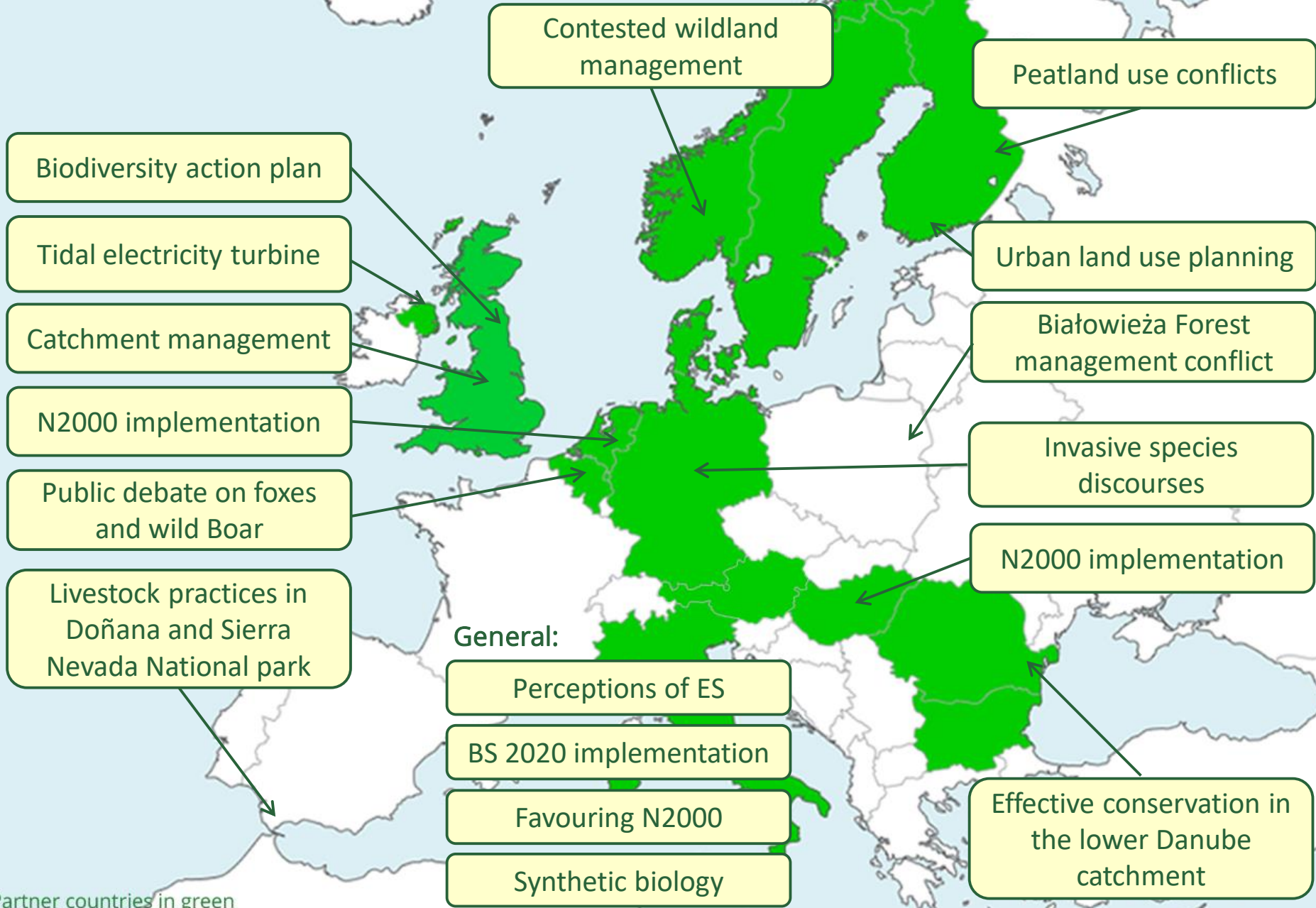
To find out which type of argumentation is most effective in a given situation, or:

.. to describe the relationship between the effectiveness of argument(ation) types and the context in which they are used: **what works where and when**

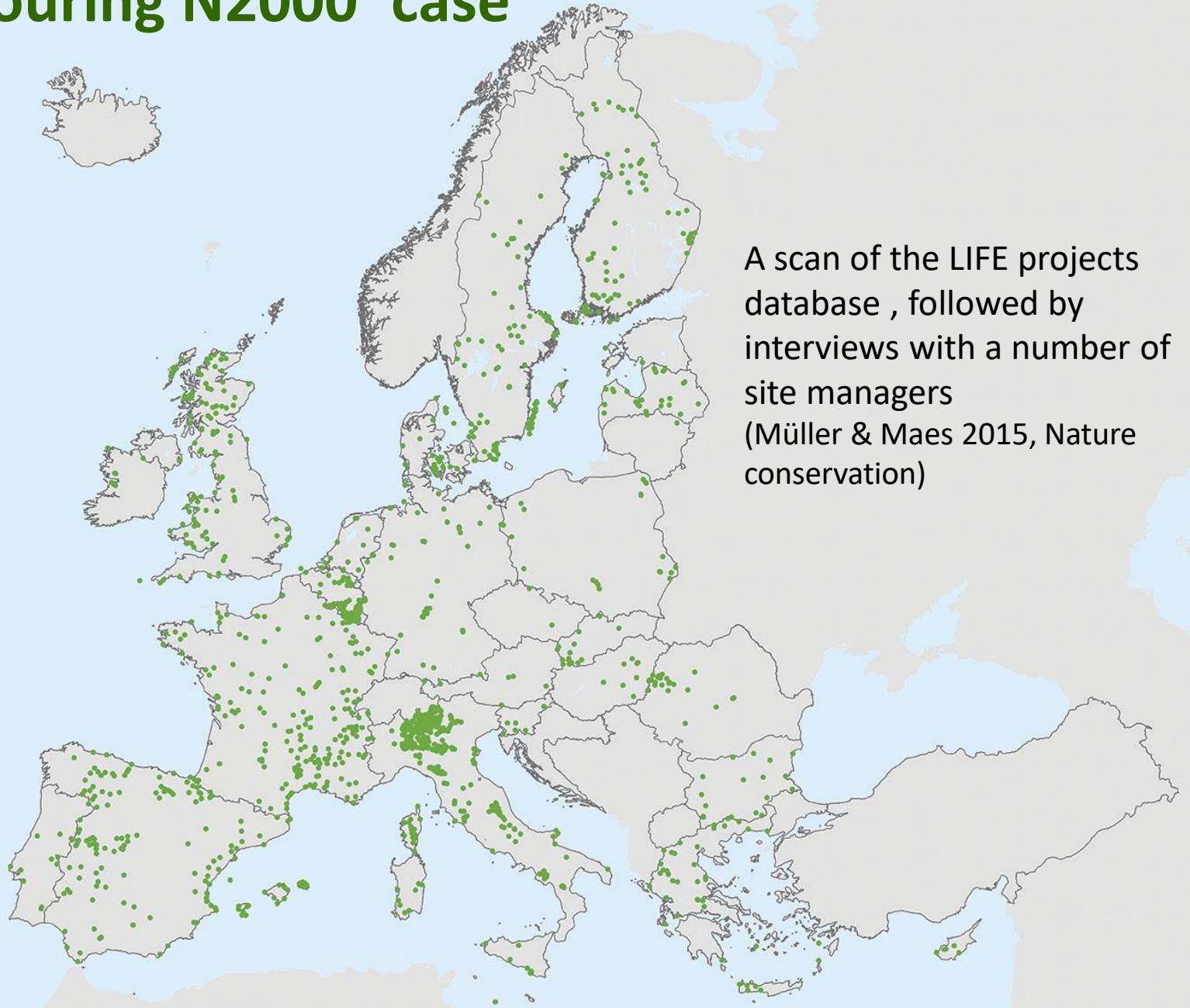




# BESAFE case studies



# The 'favouring N2000' case



A scan of the LIFE projects database , followed by interviews with a number of site managers (Müller & Maes 2015, Nature conservation)



# Arguments in N2000 LIFE projects

|                      | Instrumental |        | Non-instrumental |                 | Conservation matters |
|----------------------|--------------|--------|------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
|                      | Economic     | Social | Inherent         | Human happiness |                      |
| Commercial Users     | ●            | ●      | ●                |                 | ●                    |
| Non commercial users | ●            | ●      | ●                | ●               | ●                    |
| NGOs                 |              |        | ●                | ●               | ●                    |
| Public authorities   | ●            | ●      | ●                | ●               | ●                    |

- Highly effective
- Effective
- Variable effectiveness
- Ineffective



From: [www.tool.besafe-project.net](http://www.tool.besafe-project.net)



# Crowding out

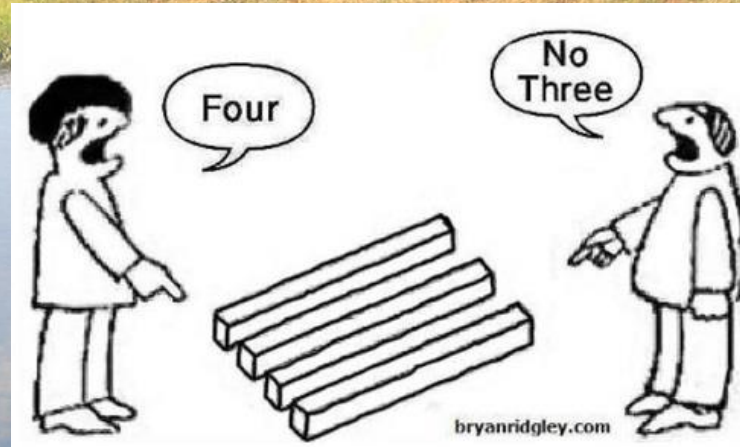
- Site managers expressed fear of crowding out intrinsically motivated people when subsidising conservation actions based on short term economic motives
- But: no project manager saw a risk of crowding out intrinsic motivations by economic arguments, as long as the intrinsic arguments continued to be used.

(Müller & Maes 2015, *Arguments for biodiversity conservation in Natura 2000 sites: An analysis based on LIFE projects*. Nature conservation)





# Perspectives



What do different stakeholders value?





# Q-study

- Participants sort a number of statements by placing them in 'completely agree', 'agree', 'neutral', 'disagree' and 'completely disagree' categories.
- In this case, they sorted 42 statements varying in meaning from intrinsic value is all important to economic value is all important (and everything in between)
- Special software detects clusters of respondents with the same perspectives.





# Stakeholders Q-study

| Country                        | Researchers | Decision-makers | NGOs      | Total      |
|--------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------|------------|
| Denmark                        | 9           | 1               | 2         | 12         |
| Finland                        | 7           | 4               | 0         | 11         |
| Hungary                        | 6           | 4               | 3         | 13         |
| Norway                         | 6           | 3               | 4         | 13         |
| Poland                         | 6           | 4               | 5         | 15         |
| Romania                        | 4           | 11              | 2         | 17         |
| Salzburg, Austria <sup>a</sup> | 6           | 2               | 3         | 11         |
| Spain                          | 5           | 5               | 4         | 14         |
| UK                             | 4           | 9               | 2         | 15         |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>53</b>   | <b>43</b>       | <b>25</b> | <b>121</b> |

| Perspective                           | Stakeholder group |       |                 |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------|-----------------|
|                                       | Researchers       | NGO's | Decision makers |
| Intrinsic                             | ●                 | ●     | ●               |
| Mixed intrinsic and spiritual value   |                   |       | ●               |
| Mixed intrinsic and utilitarian value |                   | ●     |                 |
| Utilitarian (focus on ES)             | ●                 |       | ●               |

Adapted from Berry et al. 2015, Biodiversity and Conservation

# Decision makers perspectives

|                 | Personal | Required |
|-----------------|----------|----------|
| Intrinsic value | ●        |          |
| Human benefits  | ●        |          |
| Conservation    | ●        |          |
| Connection      | ●        |          |
| Utilitarian     |          | ●        |
| Insurance       |          | ●        |
| Knowledge       |          | ●        |

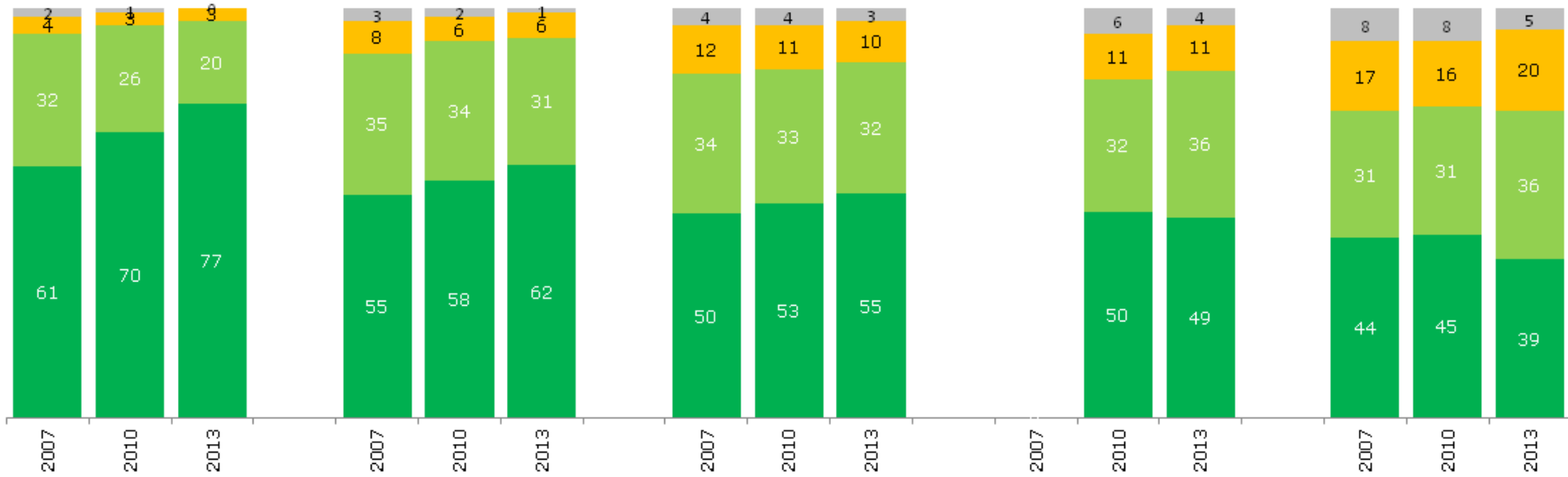
Adapted from Primmer et al. 2017, accepted Environmental Policy and Governance



# Reasons to halt loss of biodiversity



Very much agree    Rather agree    Total 'Disagree'    Don't know



**It is a moral obligation – because we have a responsibility to look after nature**

**Our well-being and quality of life is based upon nature and biodiversity**

**Biodiversity is indispensable for the production of goods such as food, fuel and medicines**

**Biodiversity is essential in tackling climate change**

**Europe will get poorer economically as a consequence of the loss of biodiversity**

Q4. I will read some statements to you about why it might be important to halt the loss of biodiversity. Please tell me how much you agree or disagree with them:

Base: all respondents, % EU27

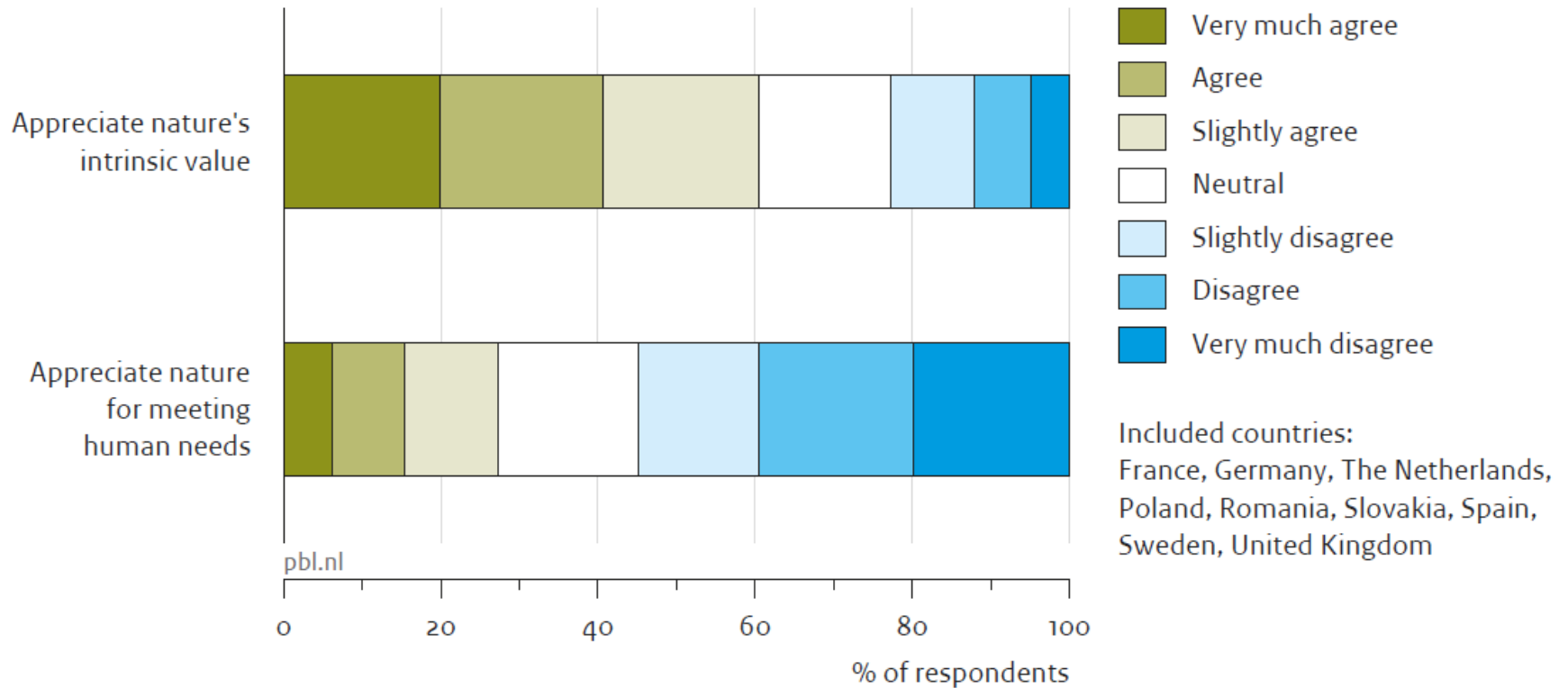




# PBL: citizens' images and values of Nature in Europa

Figure 2

Opinions about the values of nature, 2014



Source: GfK; analysis by Wageningen UR





# General conclusions

The non-instrumental, intrinsic, emotional, arguments are currently neglected and undervalued

Which presents a **risk** and an **opportunity**

Message: respect, rehabilitate and use them







# Concern: crowding out

- It happened before, with N2000 implementation  
(Beunen et al 2013, *Performing failure in conservation policy: The implementation of European Union directives in the Netherlands. Land use policy*)
- When the mistake of concentrating on just one interest is made again, it may happen again the other way around





## Further info

- <http://www.besafe-project.net/>
- <http://tool.besafe-project.net/>

Biodiversity and Conservation Special Issue, will appear 2017. 13-14 papers, 9 already online.





Thank you