

**Question for written answer E-010834/2015  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Ivan Jakovčić (ALDE)**

Subject: Promoting the development of adequate knowledge and governance approaches that better ensure the conservation of natural capital

Despite the environmental improvements of recent decades, Europe's natural capital is not yet being protected, conserved and enhanced in line with the ambitions of the 7th Environment Action Programme.

The EU has adopted the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020, which sets various targets and actions. However Europe is not yet on track to meet its overall target of halting biodiversity loss by 2020.

A high proportion of protected species (60 %) and habitat types (77 %) still fall under unfavourable conservation status. Loss of soil functions, land degradation and climate change remain major concerns, threatening the flows of environmental goods and services that underpin Europe's economic output and well-being.

At the same time, growing understanding of the nature of Europe's environmental challenges and their interdependence with economic and social systems in a globalised world has brought with it increasing recognition that existing knowledge and governance approaches are inadequate to deal with them.

The European Environment Agency's recent assessments show that an effective implementation of the strategy depends, in part, on the data and information available on biodiversity in Europe.

What actions are being undertaken to acquire adequate knowledge and information about biodiversity in order to guarantee better levels of natural capital conservation?