



Leonardo da Vinci

A training package for local biodiversity planning

# How to plan for Nature

Local governments are increasingly responsible for planning and implementing national biodiversity policies. Biodiversity provides many opportunities for enhancing local sustainable livelihoods. A green, natural environment with a variety of plants, animals and landscapes contributes to healthy and attractive living and working conditions. It also provides “services” such as natural flood protection, erosion control, pollination and pest control with considerable economic value to society. All the more reason to invest in local biodiversity.

Spatial planners play a key role in this process. By integrating biodiversity into the design phase of development plans and projects, opportunities are maximized. However, many still lack the required knowledge and skills, because until recently, planning of biodiversity was not part of their core tasks.

**This training package brings spatial planners the basic expertise and understanding and provides tools to incorporate biodiversity into their work.**

## Target audience:

HOW TO PLAN FOR NATURE is a practical training for employees of local governments, especially spatial planners and policymakers. Other stakeholders in local planning can also benefit from the training.



## Objective

After participating in the training, the trainee will be able to:

- recognize opportunities for biodiversity in local plans and projects
- transform these opportunities into concrete ideas and proposals
- explain clearly the importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services to a variety audiences.

## Structure

The training consists of the following elements:

- **Self-study:** an attractive handbook on “How to plan for Nature” illustrated with many cases of good practice.
- **Lectures:** instructions for the trainer, lecture notes and PowerPoint presentations to be used in the classroom.
- **Excursion:** instructions on how to organize an excursion which naturally links to the lectures and planning exercise.
- **Planning exercise:** clear instructions for the trainers are given as well as the materials to run a successful workshop.
- **Website:** offers all the material for downloading and more detailed information and resources.

## Application

The material can be used for self-study. However, because of the excursions and workshops, it is more efficient to offer the training to a department or a group of interested employees. Any organization can select a trainer from its own ranks or hire one externally, using the materials and instructions provided.



The training package can be downloaded free of charge from [www.biodiversityskills.eu](http://www.biodiversityskills.eu)

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