

# Biodiversity in Business

Multifunctional business premises  
- Information Toolkit

Ekopolis Foundation

Empowerment of European Citizens for Action through Education on Biodiversity  
Project ID: 2019-1-DE02-KA204-006510

## Basic idea

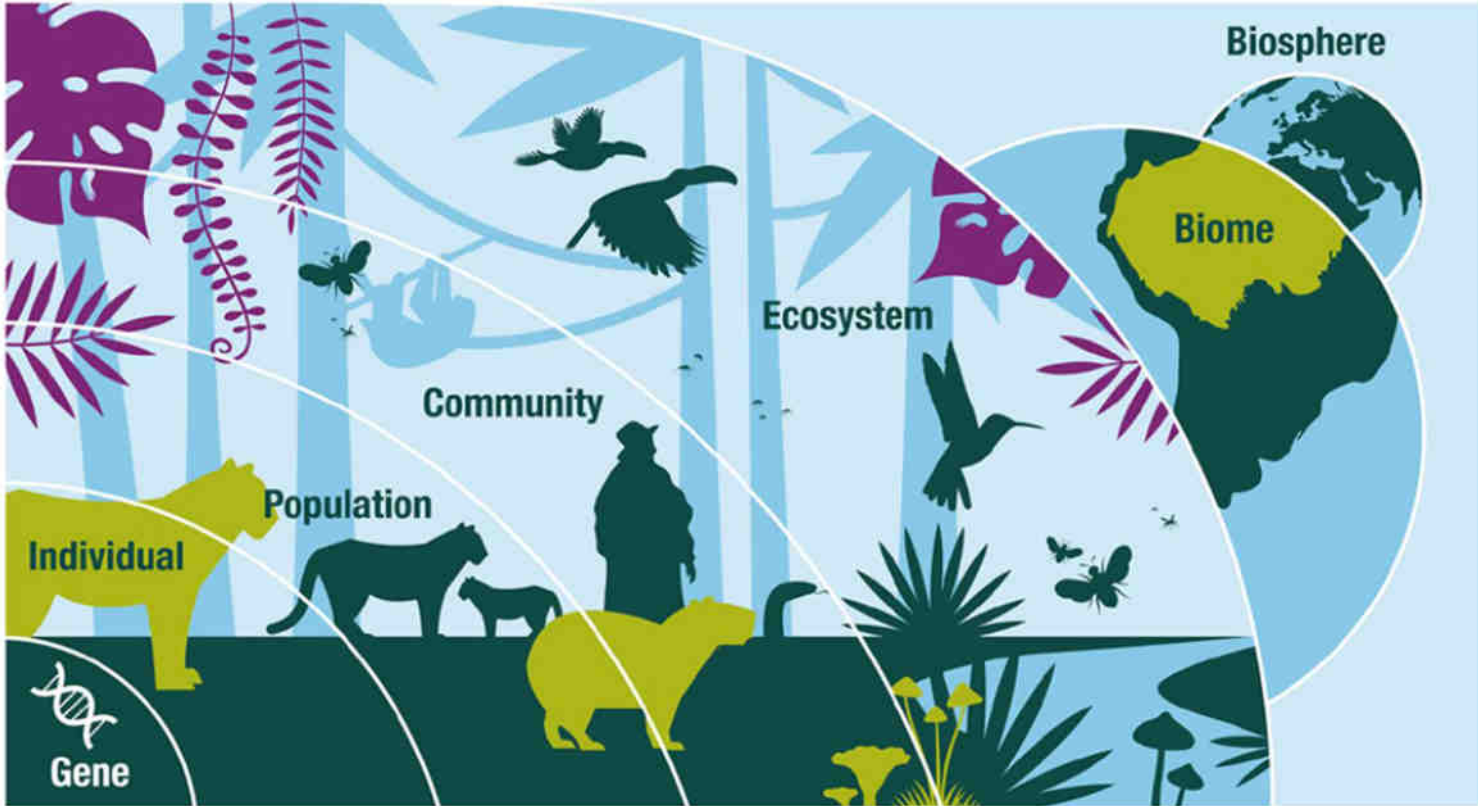


enhancing biodiversity-boosting potentials on business premises  
– as far as **compatible with economic activity**

- multifunctional business premises for people and nature

# Content

1. **Biodiversity – why it matters**
2. Biodiversity in business – basic principles and potentials
3. What you can do – small and big things
4. Good examples
5. Interested? Where to start...



- Estimates assume 5 – 15 milion of species (eucaryotic cells)
- About 2 million species scientifically recorded
- Until now 142,500 species assessed for The IUCN Red List

## More than 40,000 species are threatened with extinction

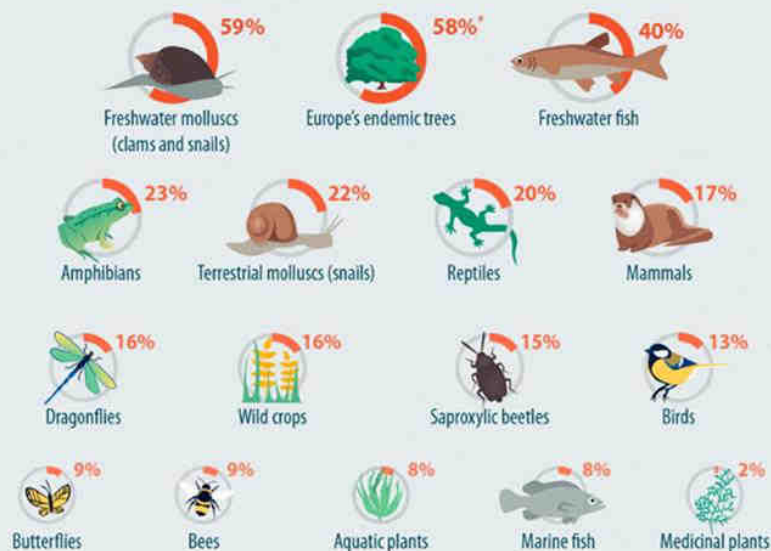
That is still 28% of all assessed species.



# BIODIVERSITY IN EUROPE

What are the most endangered species in Europe?

(% at risk)



\*data from 2019

## Reasons for the loss of biological diversity

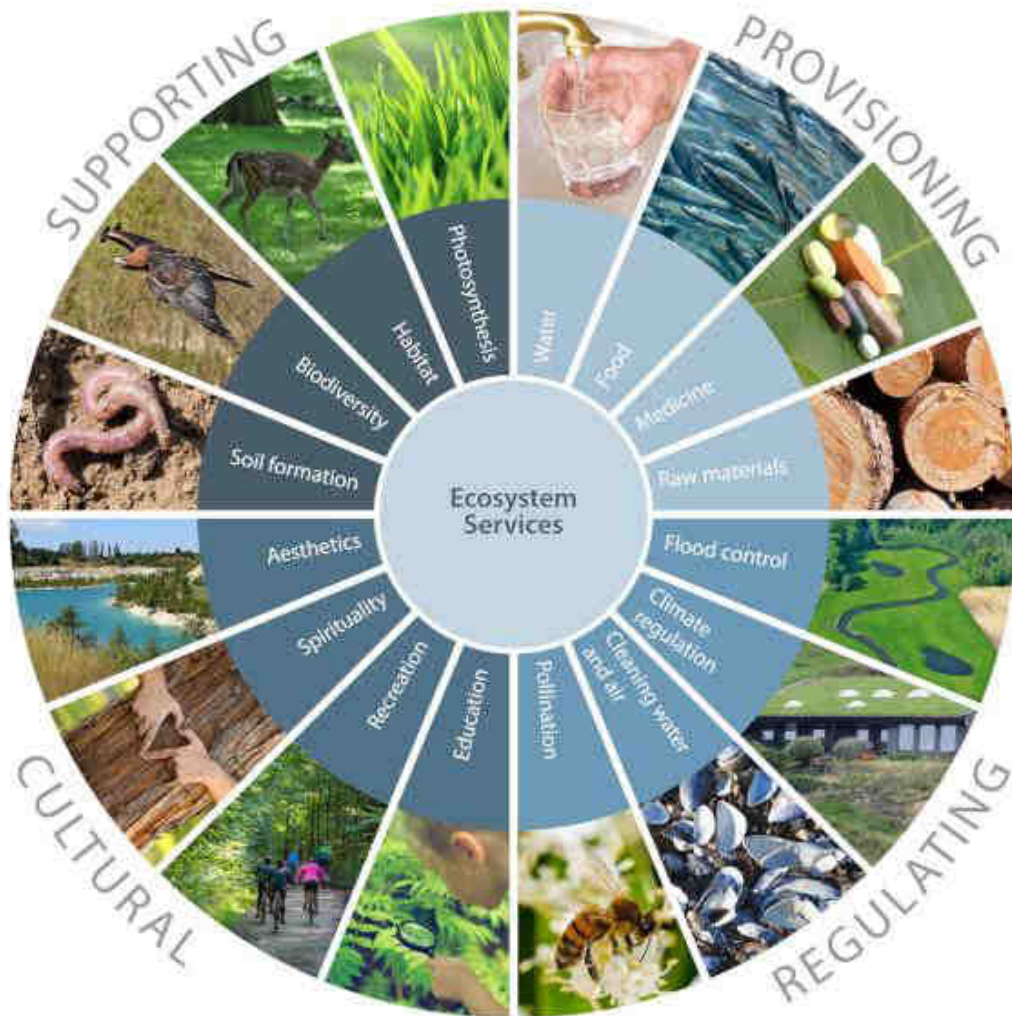
- Loss and destruction of habitats
- Over-exploitation
- Climate change
- Pollution
- Invasive species





## Ecosystem services

- Provisioning
- Regulating
- Cultural
- Supporting





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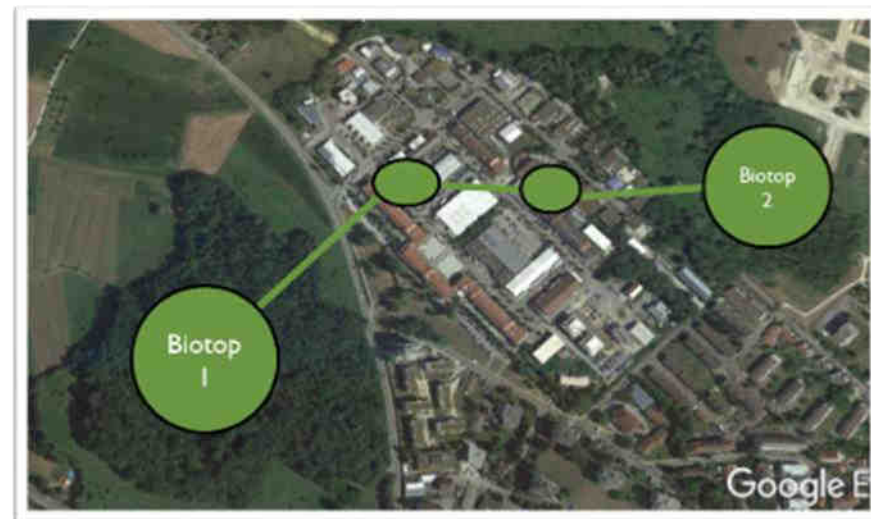
## Main principles of BOP design

- Diversity in structures / habitats and species
- Use of native plants
- Minimize sealing of surfaces
- Retaining runoff-water for flood prevention and groundwater recharge
- Creating nutrient-poor sites
- No use of chemical fertilizers, pesticides
- Allow wildlife in some areas
- Provide differentiated maintenance



## Contribution to protection of the nature / environment

- Positive effects on biodiversity:
  - new habitats
  - connecting biotopes
- Positive effects on the environment:
  - improvement of the micro-climate
  - water retention
- Indirectly:
  - raising awareness (employees and customers)



## Economic reasons

- Reduction of maintenance costs
- Reduction of energy costs (e.g. green roofs and facades)
- Increased efficiency of solar power systems
- Reduction of sewage water fees
- When planning from scratch, largely cost neutral compared to conventional planning



## Social and entrepreneurial factors

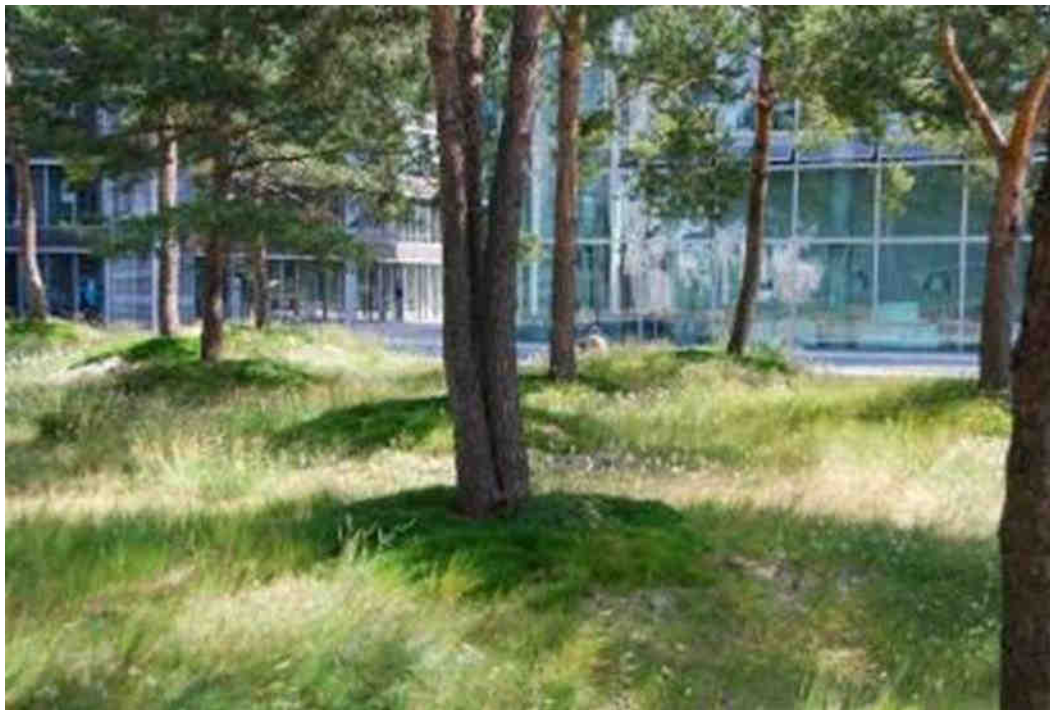
- Increased functionality of the site
- Attractive and healthy workplace
- Improving the image of the company
- Networking – regional, cross-sector;  
with authorities, associations, schools...

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## Trees and hedges



## Water retention





## Green roofs and facades



Dead wood, stones and gravel



## Natural / flowering meadows





## Nesting aids





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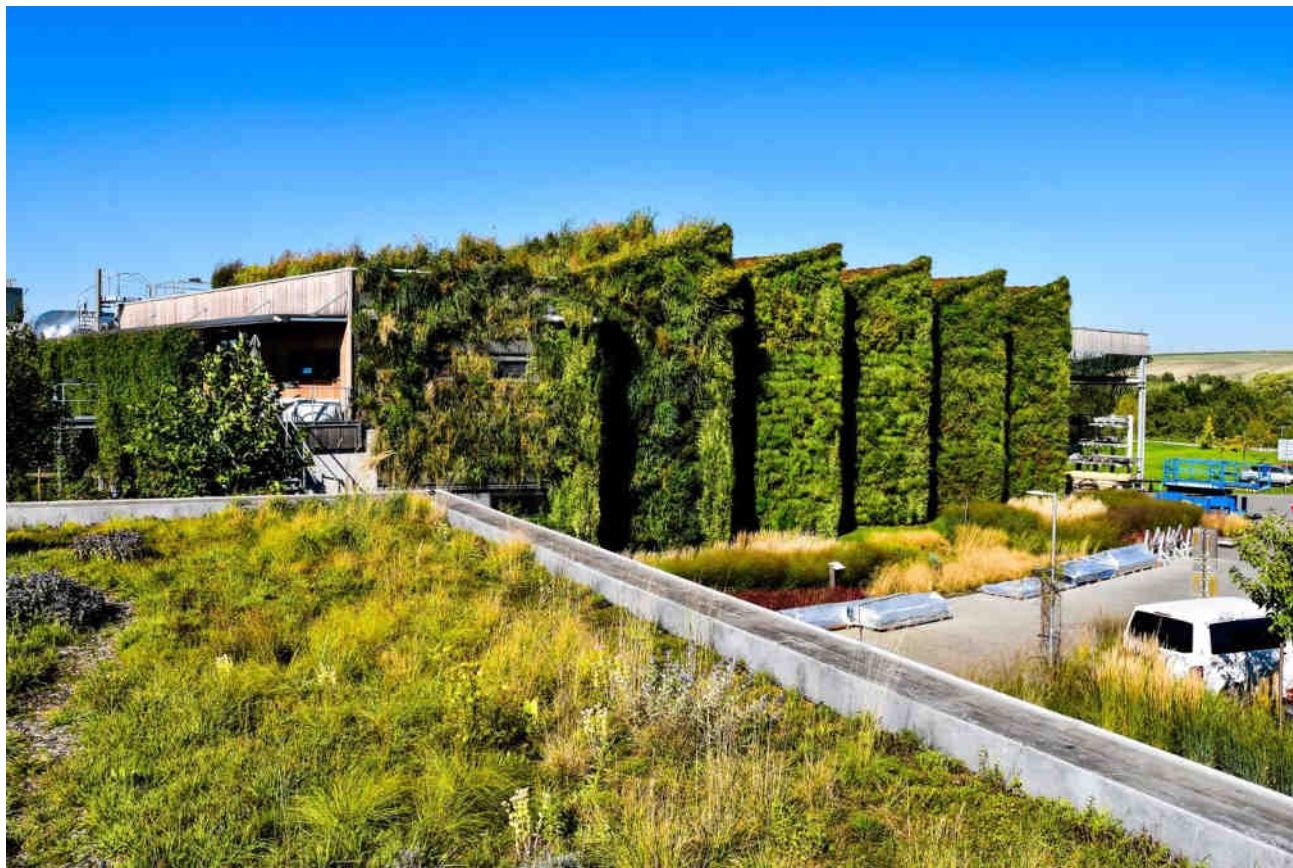
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## Green roofs





## Green roofs and facades



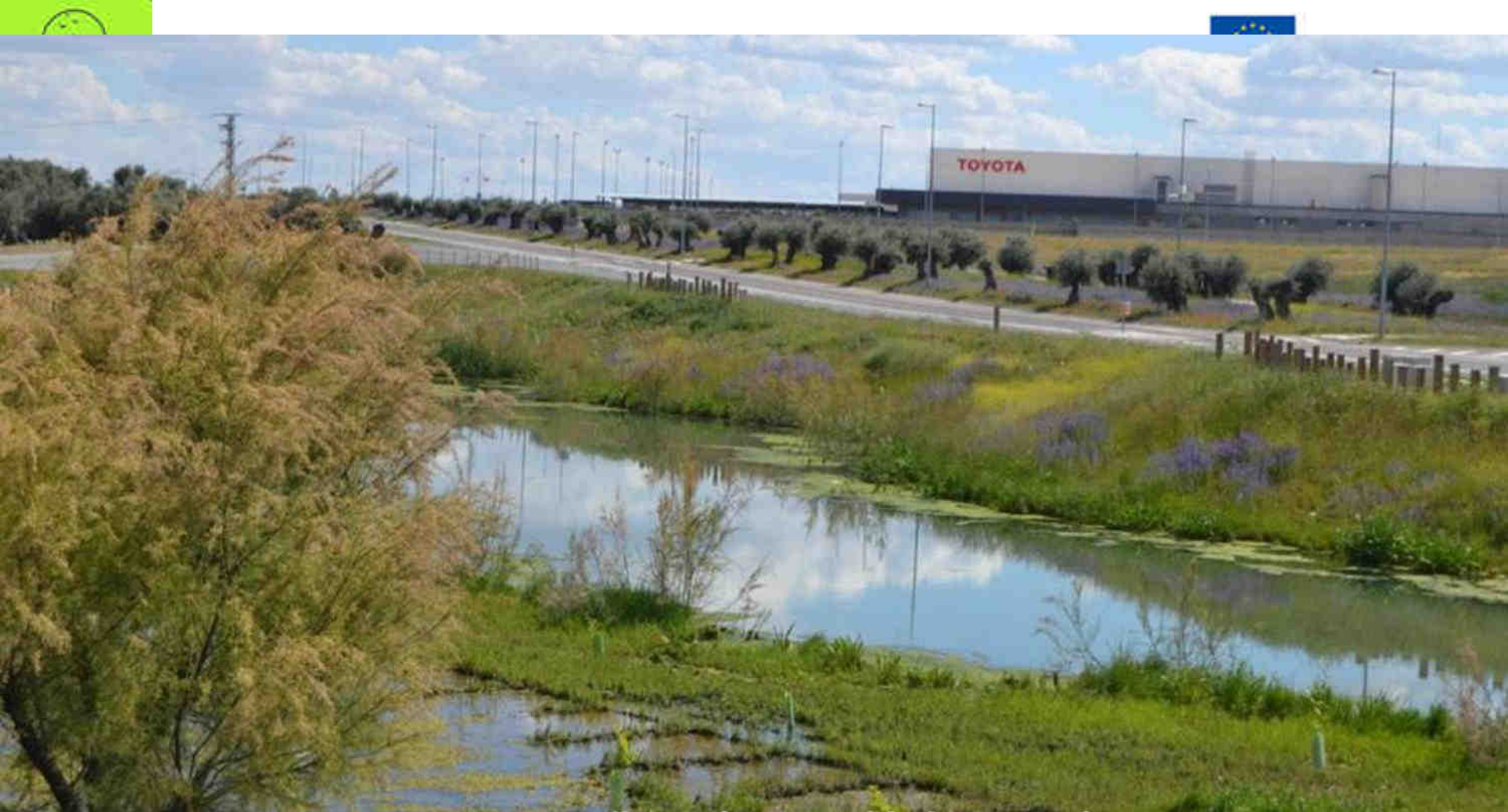
## Ponds / water retention





## Ponds / water retention









# Discussion

**!?!?!?**