

# Halting the loss of biodiversity by 2010 — Managing Europe's ecosystems and wild species

To meet Europe's 2010 biodiversity target we need more information and action on:

- protection and restoration of nature
- change in farmland, grasslands and forests
- eutrophication of water and soil
- fragmentation and isolation of habitats and species and loss of wild genetic resources
- pressures from economic activity, climate change and invasive species



Cold mountains



Invasive species



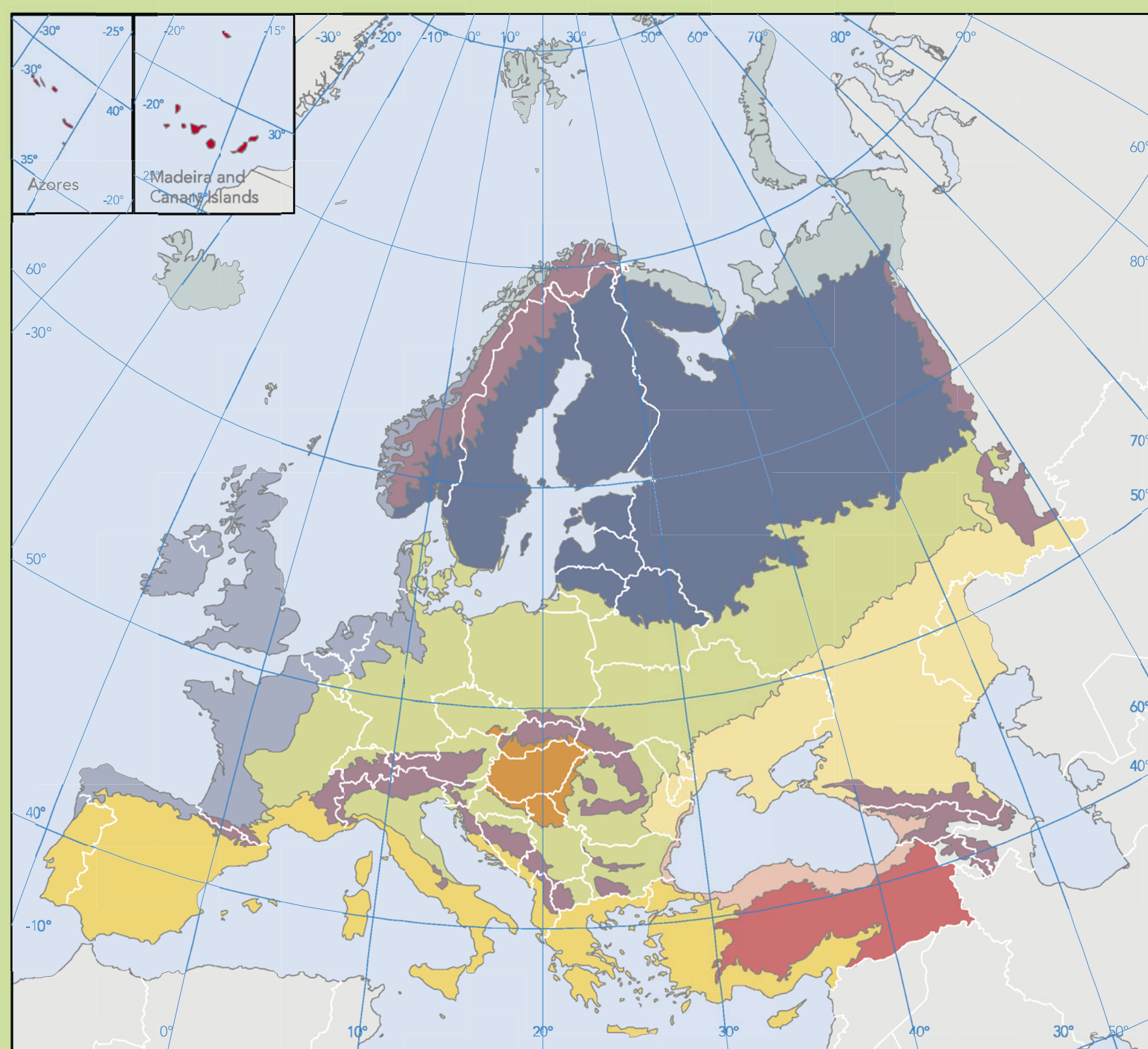
Grasslands and wetlands

Europe has 11 biogeographical regions and 7 regional seas with very different biodiversity and different pressures

## Species

Europe is not rich in species in global terms (only 5 % of all species), but nearly one third is unique to Europe

A very large part of our common species continue to decline and all too many others are threatened. We will lose them if we are not very careful

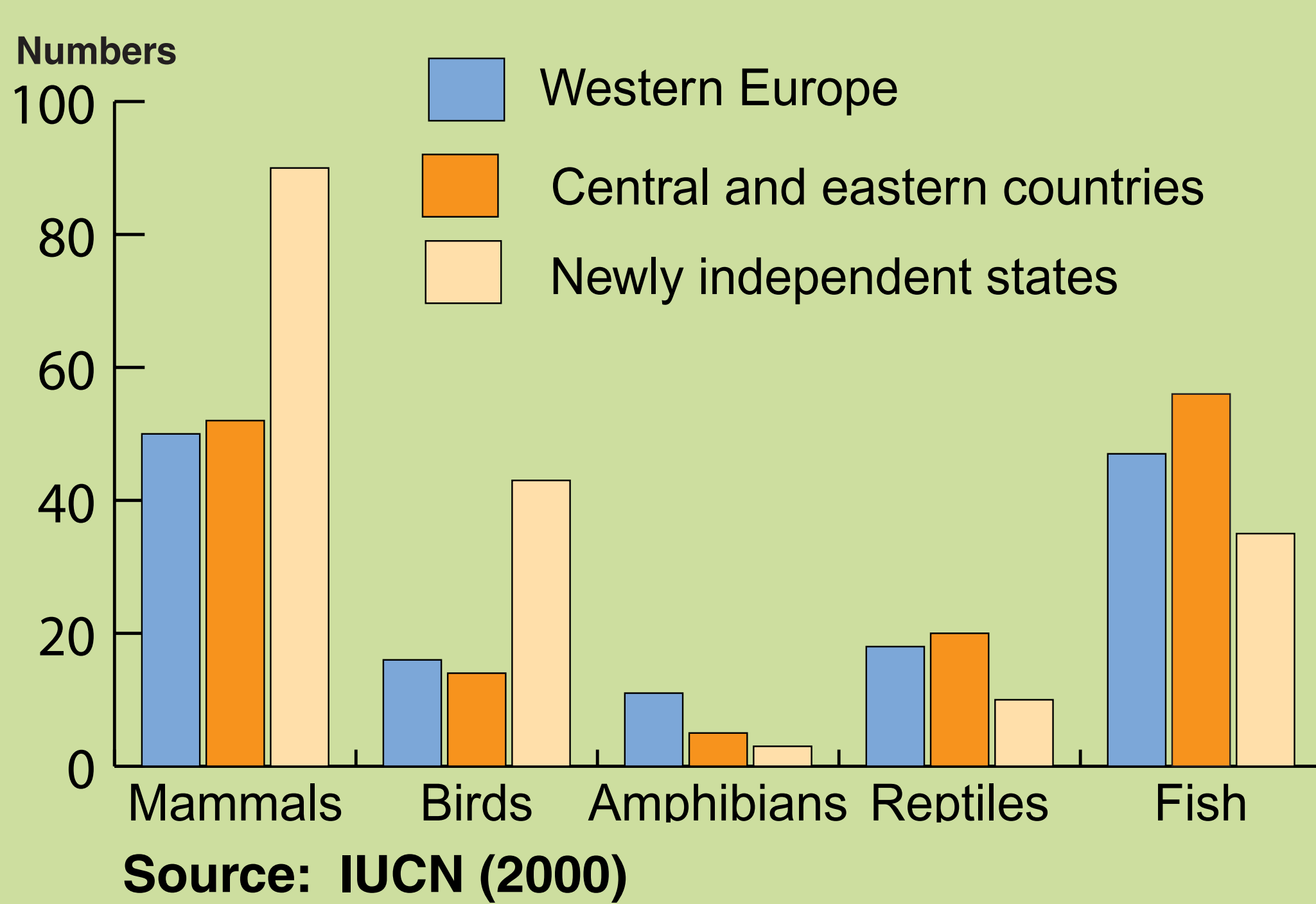


areas decrease, while dry lands are increasing

## Ecosystems

Europe is dominated by agriculture (44 %), forests (33 %) and by spreading urban, infrastructure and recreation areas. Semi-natural and natural grasslands, heathlands, wetlands, old forests and ice and snow

## Regional differences in numbers of threatened species



## Europe has many instruments for biodiversity protection

The EU Habitat directive is a very strong instrument: the fifteen older EU Member States have proposed sites for protection under the Directive to cover more than 17.5 % of the area (2003). Now they need active protection, management and reduction in the pressures on them

## Regional trends in otter populations in EU-15

- ↑ Populations reintroduced or increasing
- ? Widespread but trend status unknown
- ↓ Populations extirpated or declining
- ? Limited distribution but trend status unknown



Compiled by ETC/NPB



Dry mountains and forests



Coasts and seas



Glaciers and mountain meadows

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