EU Parliament calls for better nature financing

Today the European Parliament, in a plenary vote, called for a stronger commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG’s) and nature conservation in the next EU budget. BirdLife applauds the move.

Specifically, they called for a dedicated funding for the Natura 2000 network of protected sites and a doubling of the highly effective LIFE program to help stop the crippling loss of biodiversity across our land.

Joining Luxembourg and Germany’s already stated commitments to these positions, BirdLife Europe and its European partners call for a concrete 15 billion euros reserved in the EU budget to finance better nature directives implementation and nature protection.

Additionally, MEP’s called for a CAP (Common Agricultural Policy) that is focussed on the delivery of public goods and a transition to environmentally friendly farming.

Ariel Brunner, Senior Head of EU Policy, BirdLife Europe: “It is great to see the Parliament support nature and biodiversity in today’s vote. EU Heads of State must now pick up the ball and make sure we tackle together the crisis in nature we face across Europe. The absence of nature conservation in the budget debates to date is a shocking abdication of EU leaders’ obligations to deliver a better and sustainable planet to future generations, and, indeed, ourselves.”

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BirdLife Europe and Central Asia is a partnership of 48 national conservation organisations and a leader in bird conservation. Our unique local to global approach enables us to deliver high impact and long term conservation for the benefit of nature and people. BirdLife Europe and Central Asia is one of the six regional secretariats that compose BirdLife International. Based in Brussels, it supports the European and Central Asian Partnership and is present in 47 countries including all EU Member States. With more than 4100 staff in Europe, two million members and tens of thousands of skilled volunteers, BirdLife Europe and Central Asia, together with its national partners, owns or manages more than 6000 nature sites totalling 320,000 hectares.