



The Natura 2000 Good Practice Exchange

www.natura2000exchange.eu

Introduction

Natura 2000 Good Practice Exchange is a new website providing a means for socio-economic stakeholders in and around Natura 2000 sites to exchange information and good practice in relation to the sustainable management of Natura 2000 sites. The website aims to:

- Enable stakeholders in Natura 2000 sites to exchange information and best practice so that they can find and share solutions to the problem of reconciling nature conservation with economic development;
- Help build network(s) of people involved in all aspects of Natura 2000 sites, including those involved in their designation and management, species and habitat conservation, and those that live, work or derive other benefits from the sites.



The Natura 2000 Good Practice Exchange is a single website with a series of nested 'mini-sites' serving different socio-economic sectors (such as tourism, forestry, angling). The site is free to use and open to anyone.

Sectors of interest

The website is potentially of benefit to a wide range of socio-economic sectors, including agriculture, conservation, energy, fisheries, forestry, hunting, tourism, water resource management and more. Useful websites already exist for some of these sectors, but Natura 2000 Good Practice Exchange can complement these and provides a solution to sectors without such a tool.

Main elements of the website

Introduction (top-level only) - Gives more information about the site and the concept of mini-sites, with an invitation to register on the site and/or create a mini-site.

About Natura 2000 - A brief overview of the Natura 2000 network and the importance of engagement from a range of socio-economic stakeholders. Links to key EC web pages.

Issue exchange - A tool enabling people to share issues they have encountered in relation to Natura 2000. Works rather like a forum. People with an account can add an issue and then other people with user accounts can respond.

Case studies - A place in which to build a library of examples illustrating certain Natura 2000 issues, and focussing on positive solutions, benefits, etc. People can comment on case studies.

Resources & Links - A library of relevant resources and links to websites. Resources do not necessarily have to be available online. Unlike most 'Links' sections commonly found on websites, registered users are able to post comments about resources and links listed here.



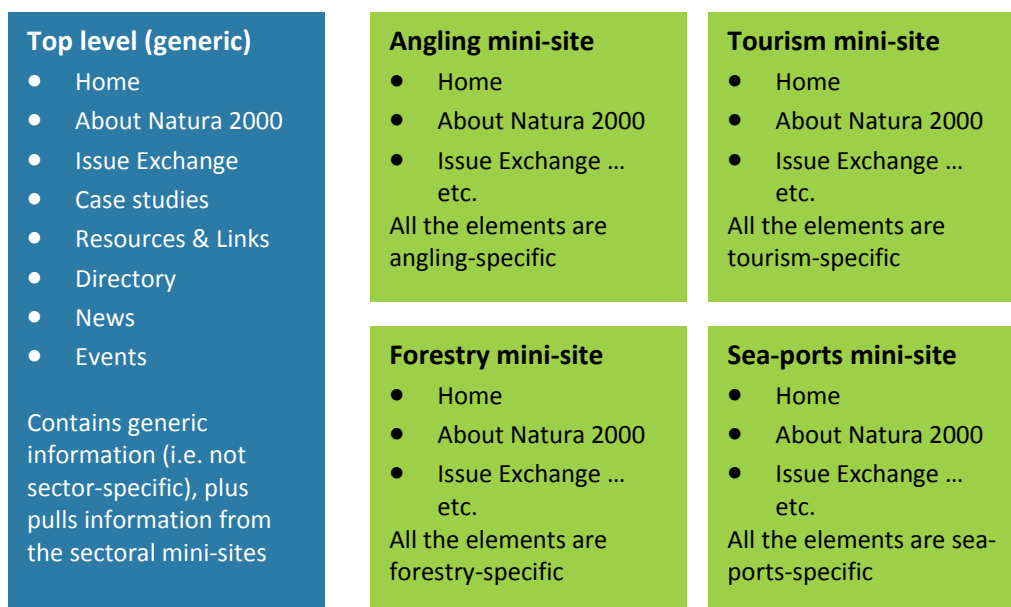
Directory – A database of people, organisations and groups who are working with Natura 2000 in some way. Provides brief information, contact information, links to websites, etc. Entries viewable as a list or on a pan-and-zoom map.

News and events – Sections where the *users* of the site can post news and event announcements. Not intended to duplicate other relevant news postings, e.g. on the EC Europa website.

Natura 2000 award – an area for explaining the new Natura 2000 partner award scheme, which is currently being developed as an incentive to encourage greater participation in Natura 2000.

The mini-site concept

Natura 2000 Good Practice Exchange is structured into a generic part and sector-specific parts. The sector-specific sections (called ‘mini-sites’) contain many of the same elements and features of the generic part, but are customised to the particular sector. Mini-sites could be managed by one or more people from within a sector, who could encourage participation, enrich the mini-site with content and develop extra features. The ‘main site + mini-sites’ structure is shown in this figure:



At the top level, all information is viewable (e.g. viewing the top-level Issue Exchange would display all issues, regardless of whether they had been added at the top level or to one of the mini-sites).



Mini-sites



Issues



Case studies



Resources & Links



Directory



News



Events

For further information, please contact Dr Andrew Sier (arjs@ceh.ac.uk)

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