

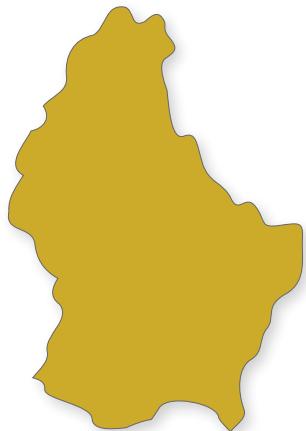
DEVELOPING LUXEMBOURG'S NATURE RESTORATION PLAN: A MID-TERM ASSESSMENT

The Nature Restoration Law (NRL) is a recent, significant piece of nature legislation that covers all terrestrial and marine ecosystems. For its implementation, Member States are required to develop a national Nature Restoration Plan (NRP) by September 2026. The quality of NRPs will determine the law's actual effect to restore ecosystems across Europe. The #RestoreNature coalition has developed a checklist to evaluate the preparation of restoration plans across EU Member States at mid-term, based on four criteria: science-based, inclusiveness, ambition and empowerment. This factsheet provides an assessment of the progress made by Luxembourg in developing its national NRP.

OVERALL PROGRESS

In Luxembourg, two-thirds of natural habitats are in an unfavorable or poor conservation status, with wetlands and species-rich meadows particularly affected. Despite ambitious national strategies and significant efforts by state and local actors, biodiversity continues to decline. Intensive agriculture, urbanisation, soil sealing, and pollution remain the main pressures limiting nature's recovery.

The Nature Restoration Plan (NRP) progress in Luxembourg remains low, as no NRP has yet been presented and the timeline for consultation appears very tight. While it is positive that the NRP is expected to build on the ambitious objectives of the 3rd National Plan for the Protection of Nature (PNPN3), concerns remain about the implementation of the restoration measures, since progress has been very slow so far. In addition, the gradual signs of a continuing deregulation trend both by the EU and by the national government raise concerns that the restoration goals as well as nature protection in general could be undermined.



EARLY STAGE

ASSESSMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Good practices and achievements

- Authorities have announced that the NRP will build on the objectives of PNPN3, which foresees ambitious restoration targets
- The integration of PNPN3 objectives could provide a coherent strategic basis for the NRP
- Initial stakeholder information sessions have taken place

To be improved

- Insufficient stakeholder and public participation
- Implementation measures and funding commitments linked to PNPN3 objectives need to be clarified
- Agricultural policies should be aligned with and integrated in nature conservation goals
- Existing legal safeguards should be protected from planned deregulation

Delays and inadequacies

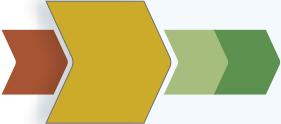
- No NRP draft has been presented yet, and only limited information is available
- The process is delayed, with the first draft expected only in early 2026
- The tight schedule may compromise the scientific quality and inclusiveness of the consultation phase

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

- Present the first draft of the NRP without further delay to allow sufficient time for meaningful public consultation.
- Ensure broad and effective stakeholder participation despite the tight timeline for the NRP development.
- Provide clarity on implementation measures, funding, and monitoring to translate PNPN3 objectives into concrete actions.
- Safeguard existing environmental and nature protection standards from weakening through deregulation initiatives.
- Maintain policy continuity by fully integrating the ambitious targets of PNPN3 into the forthcoming NRP.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT

Is the NRP development process...

	Key facts	Recommendations
Science-based? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NRP planning ongoing; only a few details available.• PNPN3 objectives confirmed as a basis for the NRP.• Draft expected early 2026, adoption in second trimester.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Publish draft without further delay to enable review.• Ensure scientific input in translating PNPN3 targets into NRP actions.
Inclusive? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• First stakeholder sessions held in October 2025, with a wide range of stakeholders.• Only 2-3 months foreseen for consultation.• Participation quality at risk due to tight schedule.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Extend consultation period to allow meaningful input• Ensure early, transparent and structured stakeholder involvement• Facilitating dialogue and sharing results between various stakeholder groups
Ambitious? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NRP not yet presented; PNPN3 should serve as reference. PNPN3 targets include 30% protected areas, 10% strict protection, and aims to improve conservation status of 30% of habitats and species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintain PNPN3 ambition levels in the NRP.• Define clear implementation and monitoring mechanisms.
Empowered? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Funding for environmental projects remains stable.• Legal changes risk weakening environmental protection.• Timeline constraints may limit stakeholder influence.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safeguard legal framework in conservation and agricultural policy from deregulation.• Secure adequate resources and institutional capacity for implementation.