

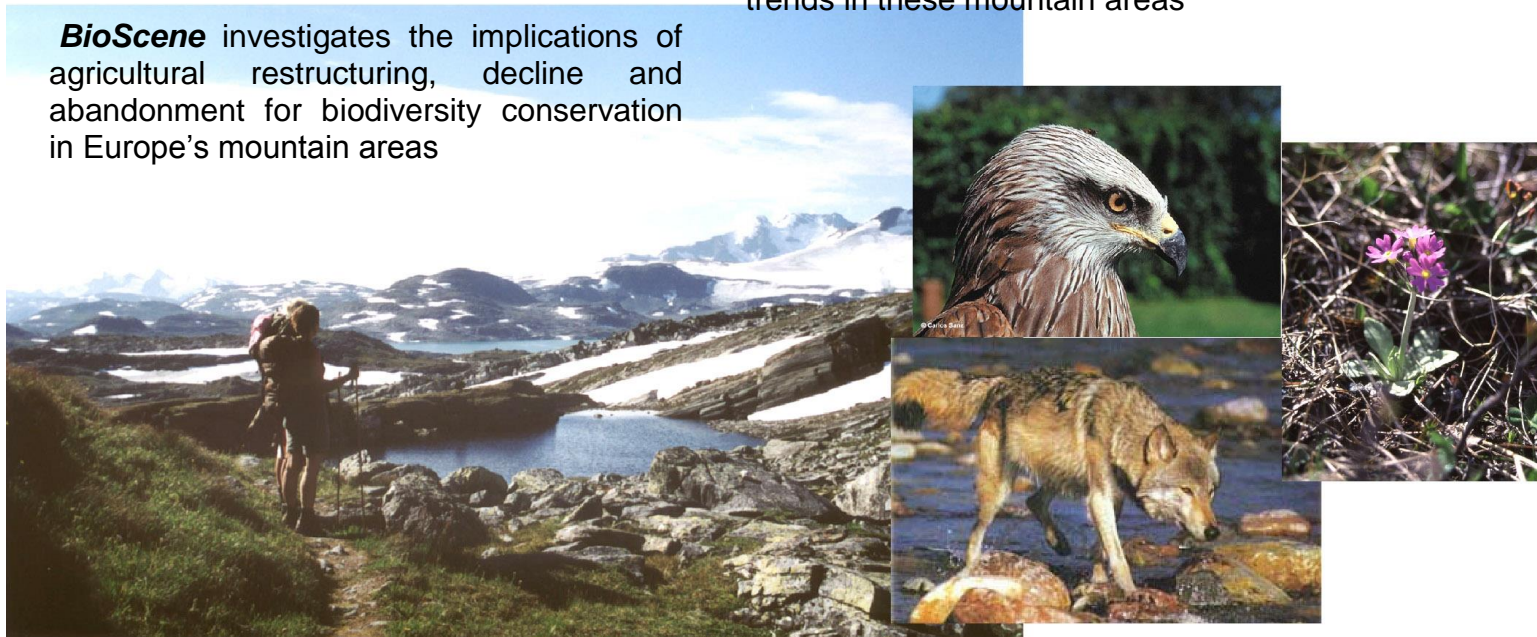
BioScene

Scenarios for reconciling biodiversity conservation with declining agricultural use in the mountains of Europe

BioScene is a 3-year project funded under the EU 5th Framework Energy, Environment and Sustainable Development Co-ordinated from Imperial College London

BioScene investigates the implications of agricultural restructuring, decline and abandonment for biodiversity conservation in Europe's mountain areas

BioScene takes six case study areas across Europe: Norway, Scotland, Switzerland, Slovakia, France and Greece and combines ecological modelling with social survey to identify and analyse the relationship between biodiversity and farming trends in these mountain areas



Project outputs will detail the threats (e.g. loss of species and habitats) and the opportunities (e.g. reintroduction of locally extinct species) arising from further agricultural decline and will evaluate the ecological, social, economic and political sustainability of different regional management scenarios and the predicted biodiversity consequences - the '**BioScenes**'

Recommendations for the development of the European Biodiversity Strategy and agri-environmental and rural policy will be generated by regular interaction with regional stakeholder groups throughout the lifetime of the project

Co-ordinator:

UK: Imperial College London, Departments of Agricultural Sciences (Wye Campus) and Environmental Science and Technology (South Kensington)

Partners:

Greece: Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and University of Macedonia

France: CEFE, Montpellier

Portugal: New University of Lisbon

Slovakia: Slovak Academy of Sciences

Switzerland: Swiss Federal Research Institute,

Norway: Norwegian Univ. of Science and Technology and Centre for Rural Research

UK: Centre for Ecology and Hydrology

BioScene commenced in December 2002, coinciding with the UN International Year of Mountains and will run concurrent with the mountain biodiversity discussions of SBSTTA and COP7 for the Convention on Biological Diversity in 2003 and 2004

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