



Nature
Conservation Agency
Republic of Latvia

Existing nature conservation systems in Latvia and link to landscape and green infrastructure planning

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The **green infrastructure** is a network of natural and semi-natural areas with environmental features that is designed and managed to deliver a wide range of ecosystem services.



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Legislation

- Law on Specially Protected Nature Areas
- Law on the Conservation of Species and Biotopes
- Law on Protection Zones

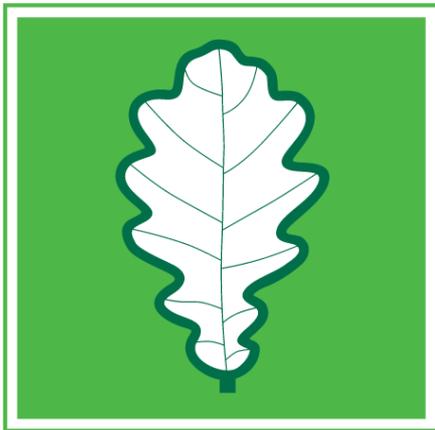




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Protected Nature Areas of Latvia

Specially protected nature areas are **geographical territories, that are under special state-level protection**, in order to safeguard and maintain biodiversity of nature – rare and typical ecosystems, habitats for rare species, landscapes, that are peculiar, beautiful and characteristic for Latvia, geological and geomorphological formations, as well as territories, significant for recreational and educational purposes.



Altogether in Latvia there are 683 specially protected nature areas certified by law or regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers.



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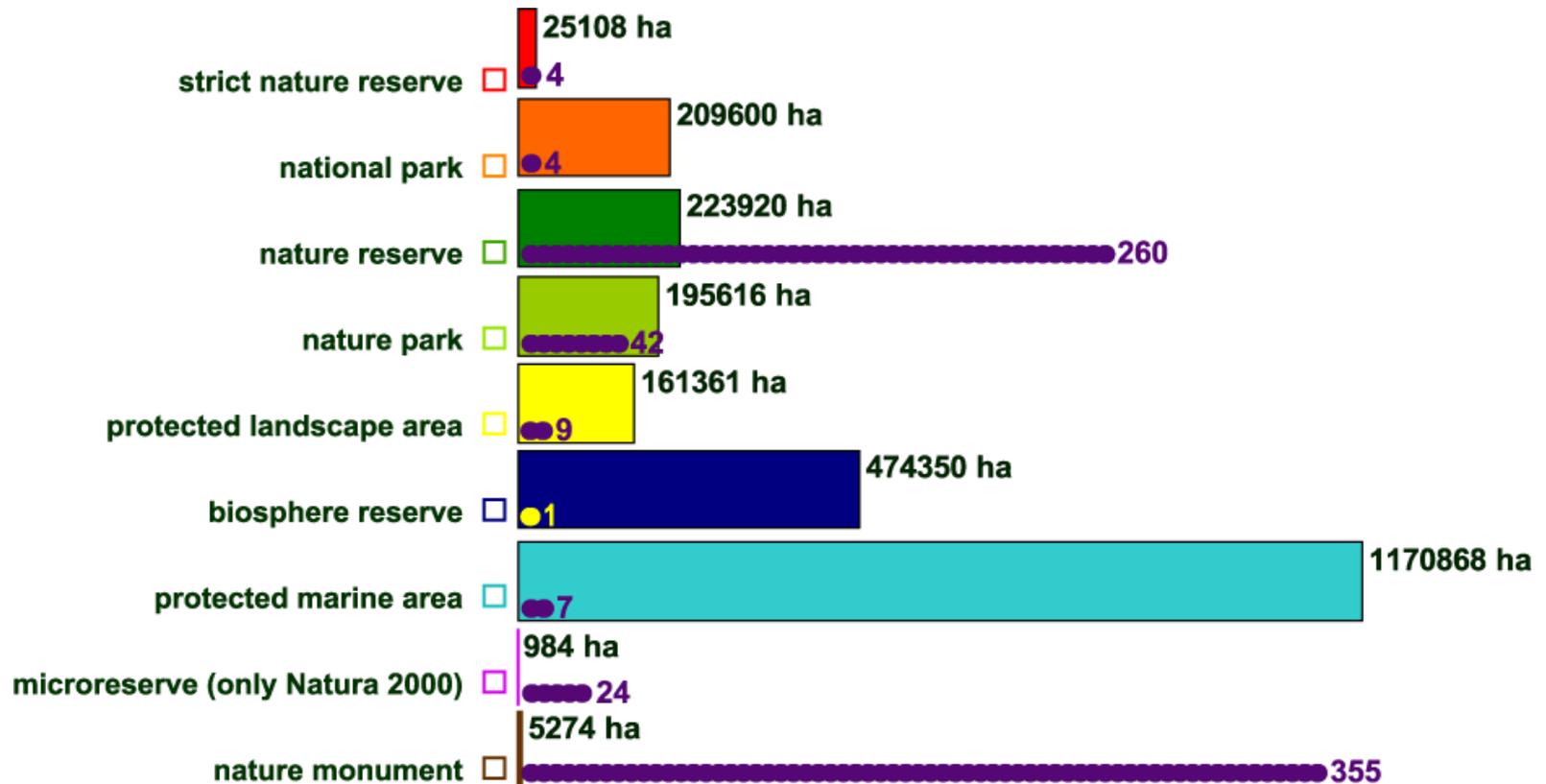
Specially Protected Nature Territories of Latvia - Categories





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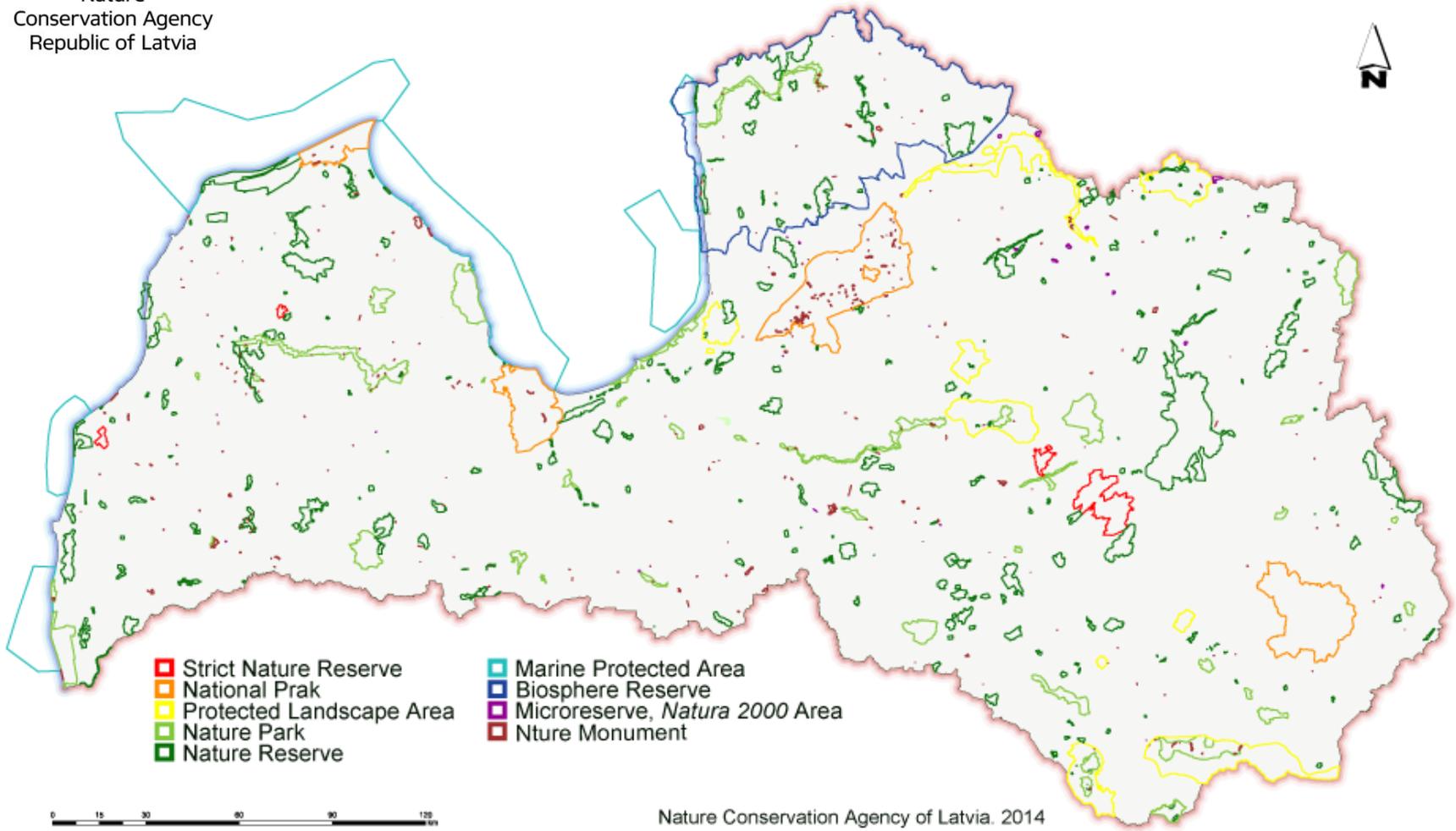
Specially Protected Nature Territories of Latvia - Amount





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Specially Protected Nature Territories of Latvia





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Natura 2000 Areas



333 Areas



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***IBA* Sites**

IBA

71 Areas



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RAMSAR Sites



6 Areas



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Nature Conservation Agency – governmental institution

The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development

Supervised Institutions

State Environmental Service

Administration of Latvian Environmental Protection Fund

Environment State Bureau

Nature Conservation Agency

Natural History Museum of Latvia

National Botanic Garden of Latvia

Latvian Institute of Aquatic Ecology

State Regional Development Agency

Companies

Latvian Environment, Geology and Meteorology Centre

Latvian Environmental Investment Fund

Electronic Communications Office



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The Nature Conservation Agency

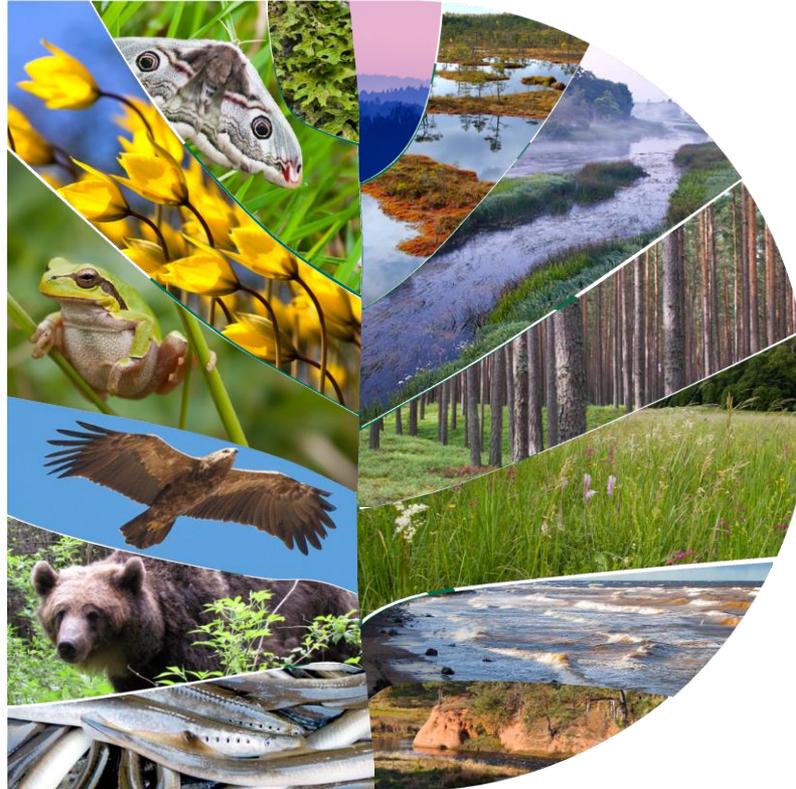


The Nature Conservation Agency ensures implementation of unified nature protection policy in Latvia



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MISION



species habitats

Maintaining nature diversity and promoting the harmonious co-existence of man and nature, so that natural values would exist in the future and could be enjoyed by the next generation.



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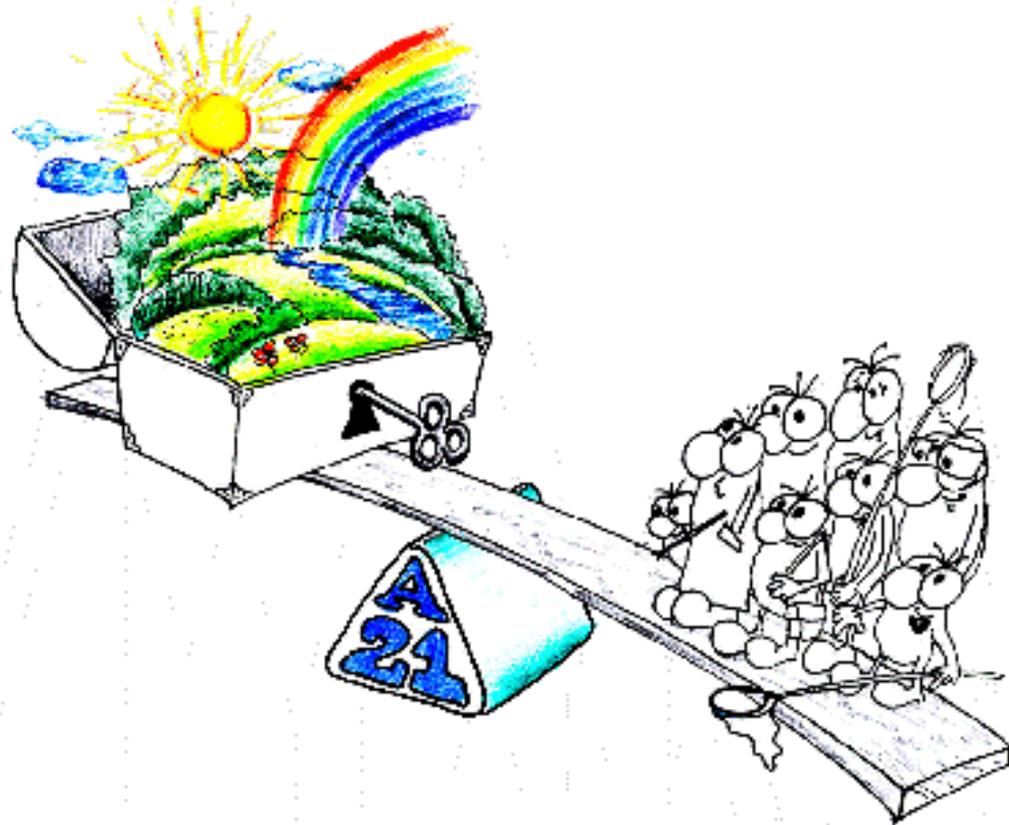


Maintaining nature diversity and promoting the harmonious co-existence of man and nature, so that natural values would exist in the future and could be enjoyed by the next generation.



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Nature tourism infrastructure

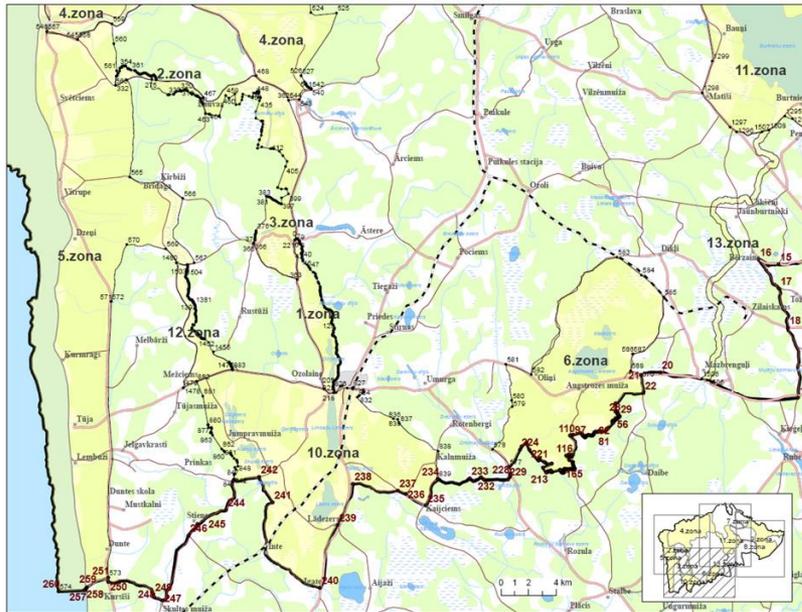
-  ➤ observation towers and platforms over 3m – 26
-  ➤ viewing platforms on trail level – 17
-  ➤ trails - 102/>150 No/km
-  ➤ parking lots – 52
-  ➤ various shelters – 40
-  ➤ camp sites – 28
-  ➤ toilets – 51
-  ➤ information boards – 532
-  ➤ border signes/landmarks > 2000



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North Vidzeme Biosphere Reserve

◆ **Landscape Ecological Plan**
(2007) where biotic, abiotic,
socio-economic factors and
cultural heritage values were
taken into consideration

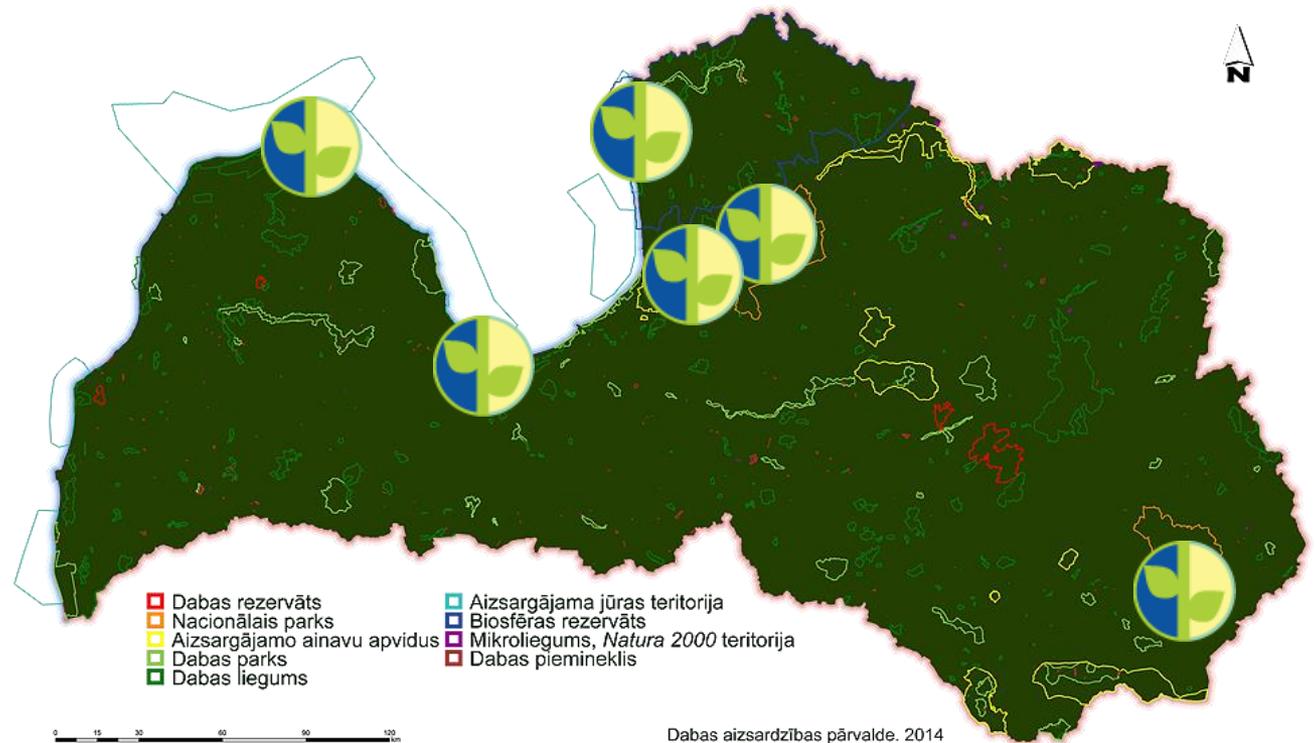




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Promoting nature education as efficient mean of awareness raising



The Nature Education Centres



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Mobile application “Nature Tourism” free download.



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[Apple Store App](#)



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The Nature Concerthall



- 12 years,
- 6000 – 10000 visitors yearly,
- The Ministers and parliamentarians visited regularly,
- The President of Latvia became a patron of the Nature Concerthall since 2015.

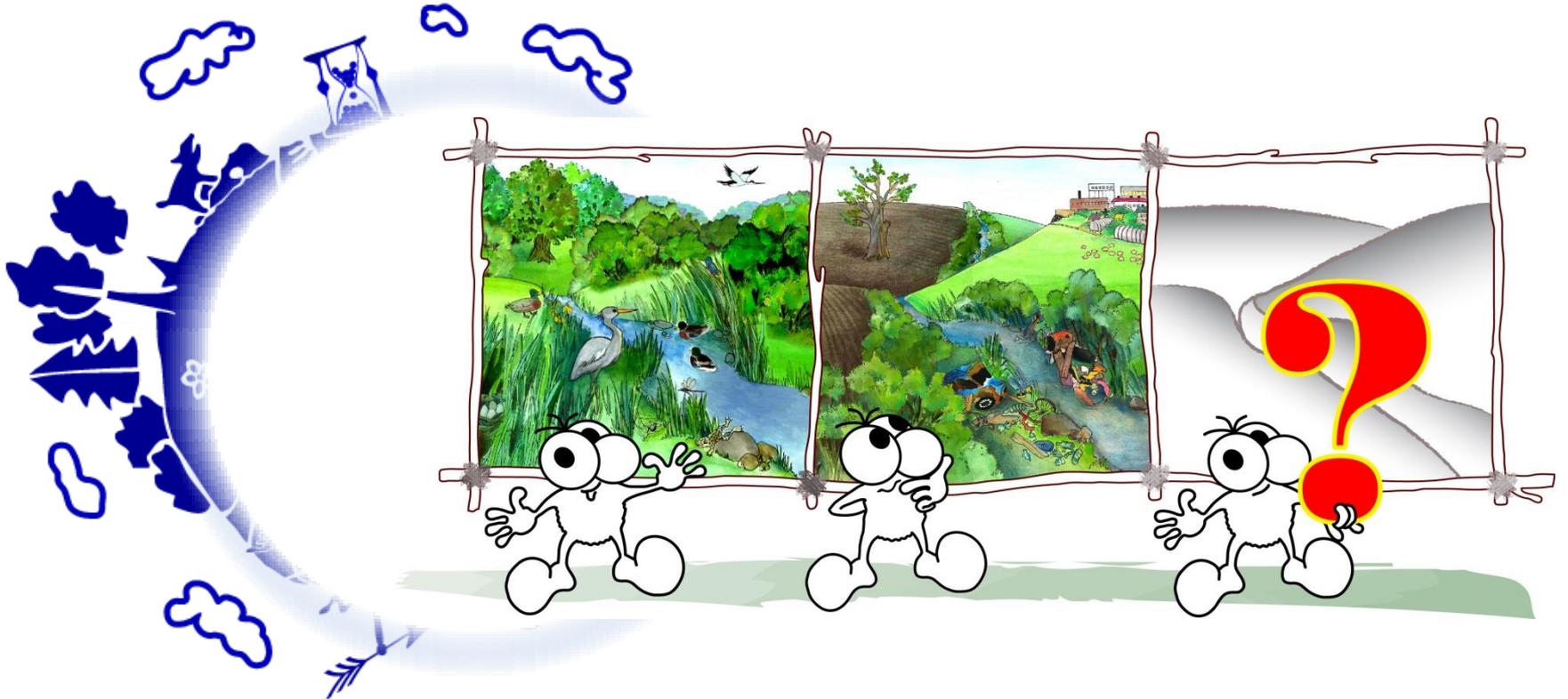
The concept and the event “Nature as Concert Hall” is awarded by European Commission as the best project of the year 2016 for Nature education and interpretation in EU.





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Yesterday. Today. Tomorrow?





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