

ALTERNe



www.alter-net.info
ALTERNet





ALTER-Net

..... at a glance

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ALTER-Net

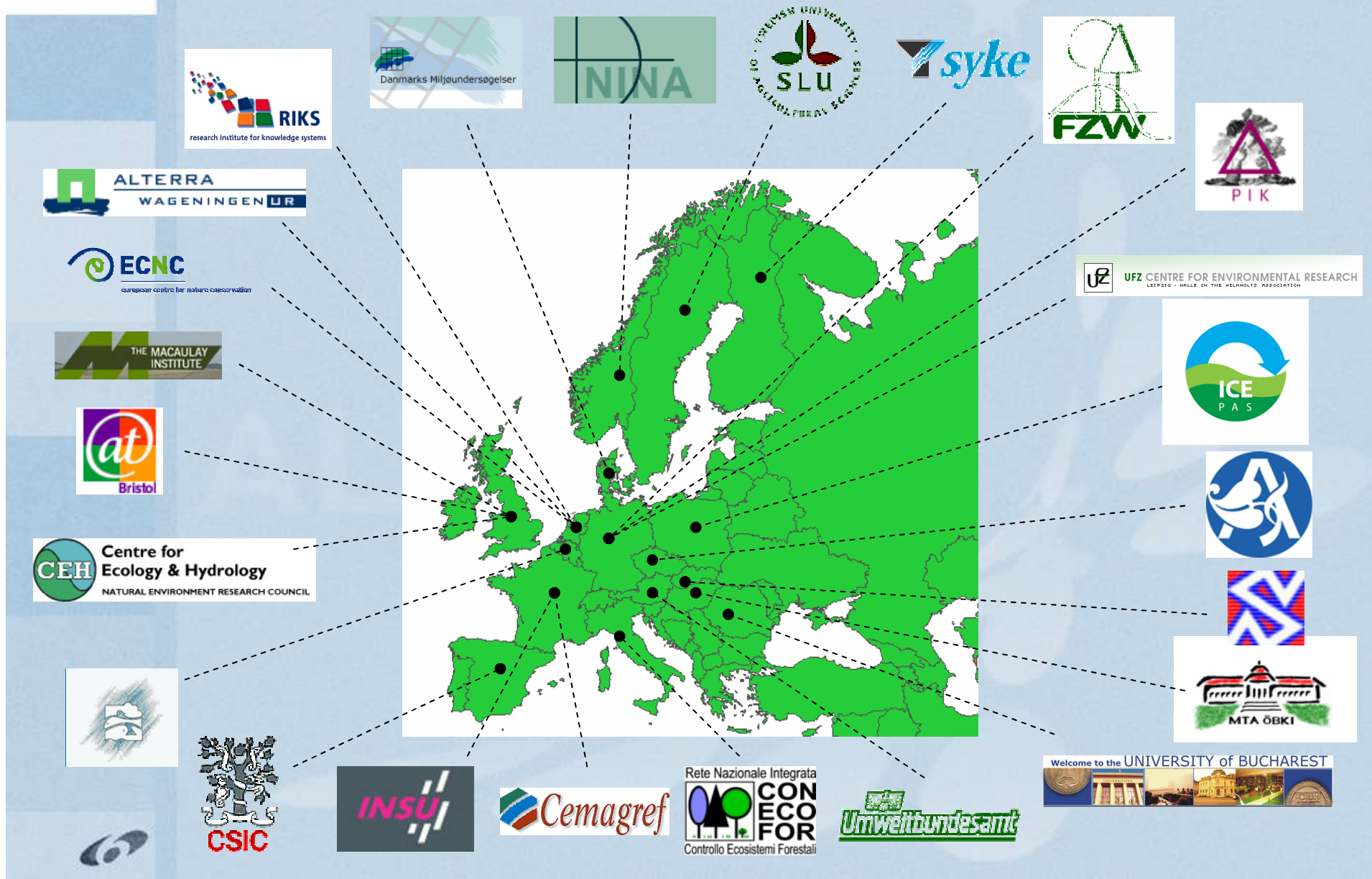
“A long-term biodiversity, ecosystem and awareness research network”

- A Network of Excellence in EU's FP6
- 24 organisations in 17 countries
- Project Period: 2004- 2009
- Budget: 10 mill



The ALTER-Net Partnership

24 organisations in 17 European countries



ALTER-Net's Mission

to achieve durable integration of European terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity and ecosystem research



to integrate research capability to address European-scale Biodiversity issues, also promoting interdisciplinary research

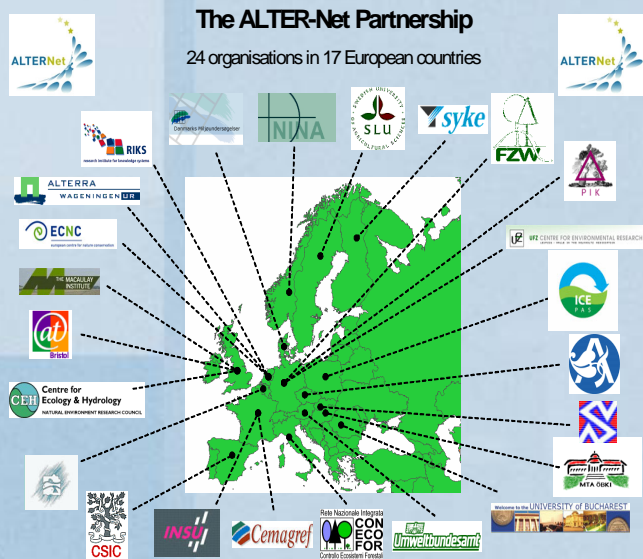


to help to assess and develop relevant EU and national policies



ALTER-Net

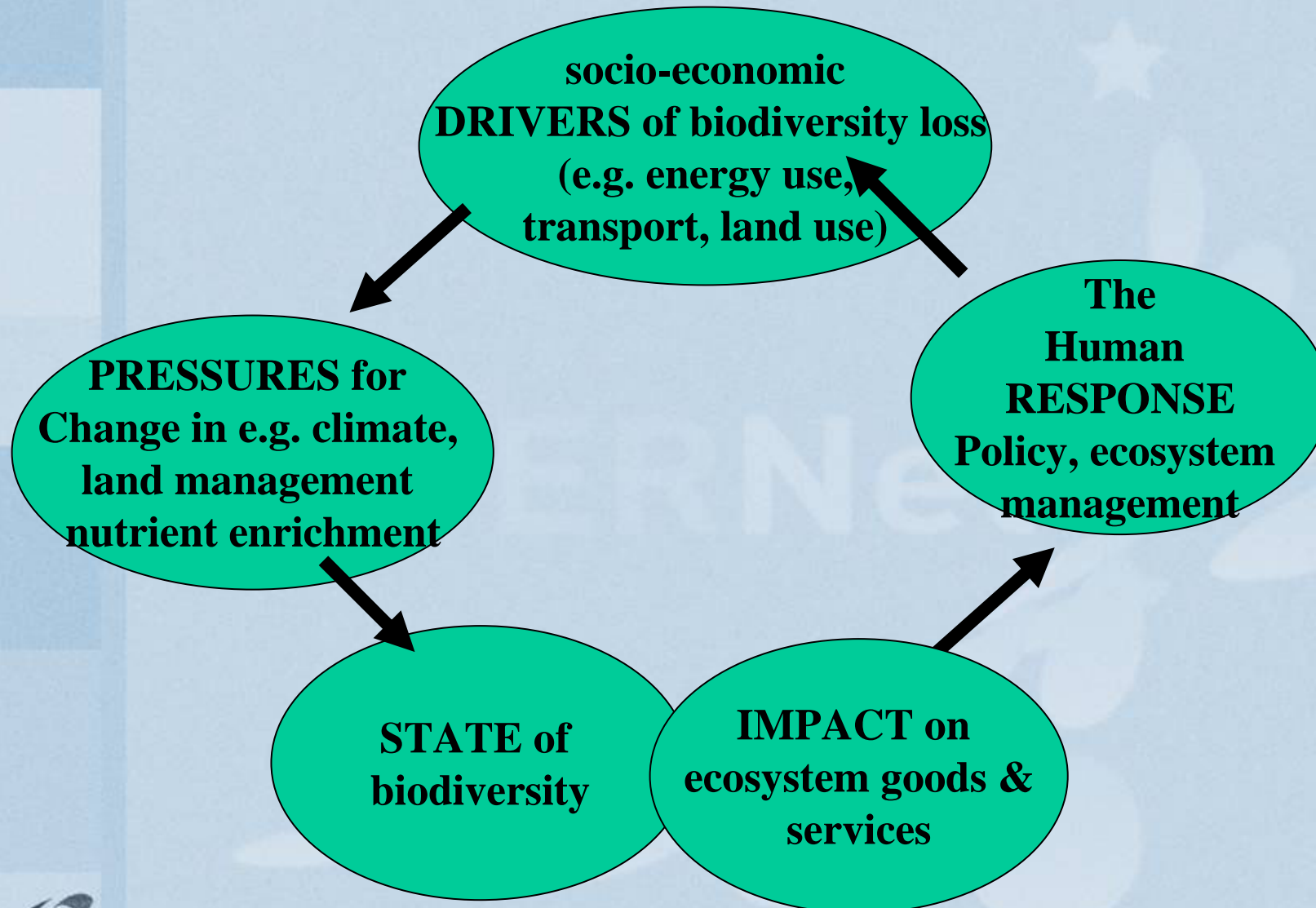
What is integration about?



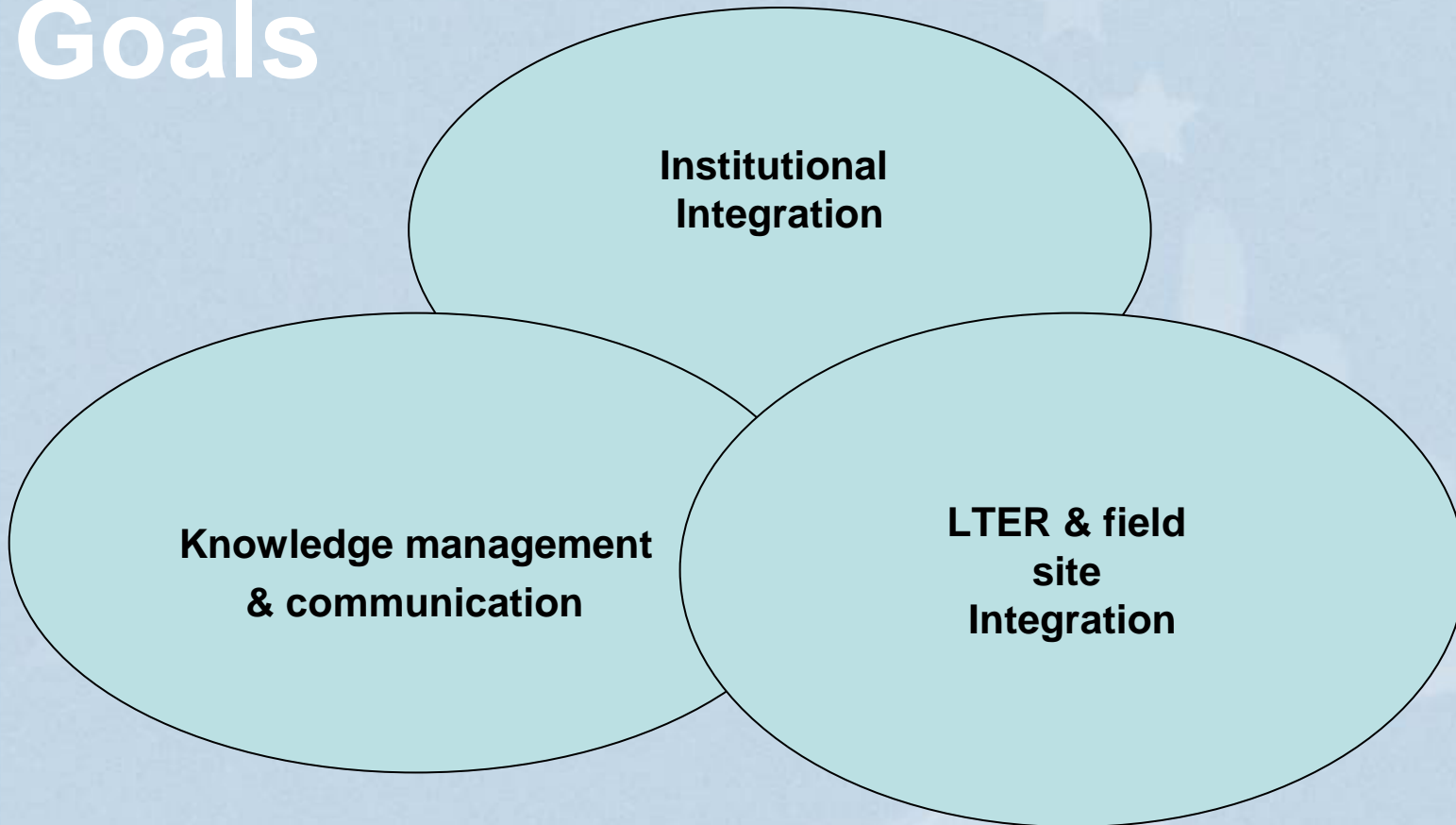
- **Institutional integration**
- **Common research agenda**
- **Sharing of facilities/sites**
- **Shared protocols and methods**
- **Promoting interdisciplinary research**
- **Shared data and data structures**
- **Joint systems for transferring information and knowledge**
- **Joint schemes for mobility and training**



The Research Framework for ALTER-Net: The DPSIR Concept

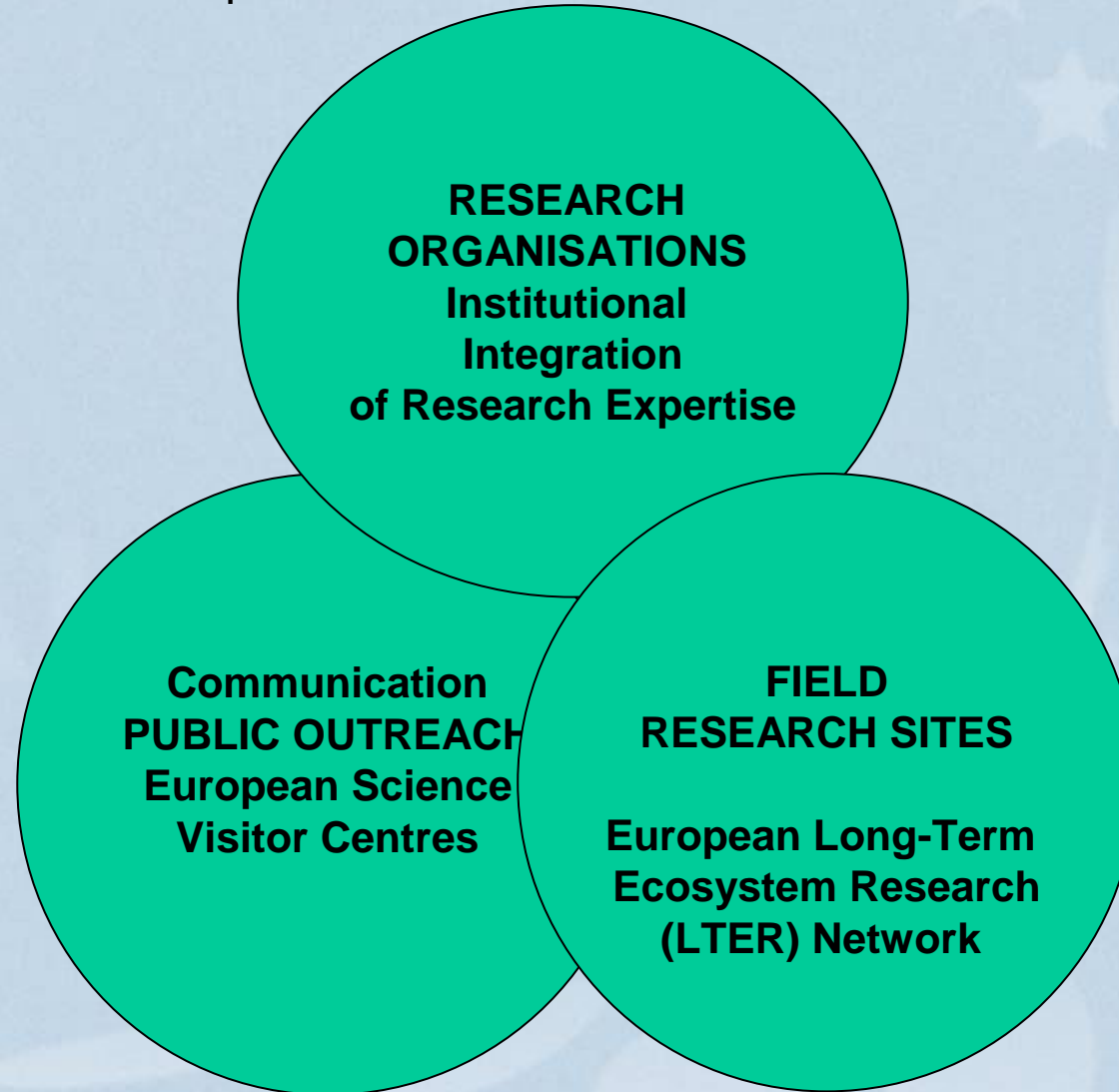


Over-arching Integration Goals



INTEGRATION IN ALTER-Net

Infrastructure bringing together biodiversity research expertise around a network of European LTER Sites with links to Science Visitor Centres



Overarching research goals

To create pan-European frameworks for

1. Monitoring schemes and indicators of biodiversity,
2. Understanding and quantifying the main drivers and pressures for biodiversity change,
3. Methods, tools and policies for improvement of public awareness and management of biodiversity.

How do we cope with this?

15 Work packages comprising:

- 6 research WP's
- 6 integration WP's
- 3 overarching WP's

ALTER-Net's over-arching activities

- **Training and Mobility**
 - **Training scheme**
 - **Mobility scheme**
 - **Summer school**
- **Communication and dissemination**



ALTER-Net's International Press Centre for Biodiversity (IPCB)



IPCB
An initiative of ALTERNet

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Last update
Friday
02 december 2005
17h29

Latest news
launch of "The European environment - State and outlook 2005" in Brussels
"Environment policy works", EEA

International Press Centre Biodiversity Research (IPCB) launched
Your gateway to biodiversity related research news
www.biodiversityresearch.net
latest news on biodiversity related research press releases
background documents on important biodiversity research issues
links to important information sources on biodiversity
[>>More](#)

Events
December 2005

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Upcoming events
BIOFUSE 2nd Workshop
[>>More](#)
Conference on Management of

www.biodiversityresearch.net





ALTER-Net website

The screenshot shows the ALTER-Net website in a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window. The browser's address bar displays the URL <http://www.alter-net.info/default.asp>. The website header includes the ALTERNet logo and the text "A Long-Term Biodiversity, Ecosystem and Awareness Research Network". A navigation menu on the left lists: Home, About ALTER-Net, News, Events, Outputs, Long-term programmes, Issues, Links, Join, Lynx, Manage my account, and Login. The main content area features a large photo of a rabbit with the caption "Photo: © Andrew Sier". Below this is a "Welcome to ALTER-Net" section with text explaining the network's mission and activities. On the right side, there is a search box, quick links to the newsletter and research reports, and logos for the International Press Centre for Biodiversity (IPCB), LTER Europe, and the ALTER-Net Summer School (27 Aug - 8 Sep 2006). At the bottom right, there is a logo for the EU FP6 Network of Excellence with project number G0CE-CT-2003-005298. The browser's status bar at the bottom shows "Done" and "Internet".

www.alter-net.info





ALTER-Net website

What's on the site?

- **Biodiversity research news**
- **Job vacancies**
- **Listing of events**
- **Training opportunities**
- **Mobility opportunities**
- **Funding and research opportunities**
- **Details of people and organisations**
- **Information about ALTER-Net and project progress**
- **Outputs from ALTER-Net**
- **Web links**





ALTER-Net website

Why join as user?

- **ALTER-Net aims to build lasting integration**
- **Website - a tool to help build a community of people with common interests in biodiversity research**
- **Registered users can ...**
 - **Access organisation and individual profiles**
 - **Receive emailed newsletter every 14 days**
 - **Receive ad-hoc communications from ALTER-Net**
 - **Take part in future activities, e.g. e-conferences**

Registering is the best way to stay in touch with ALTER-Net after the Summer School!





The ALTER-Net website

How to join?

- **Provide basic details to Summer School organisers (Sabine!)**
- **Doing so confirms you allow your details to be added to the database**
- **An account will be created for you after the School**
- **You will receive a welcome email with login details**





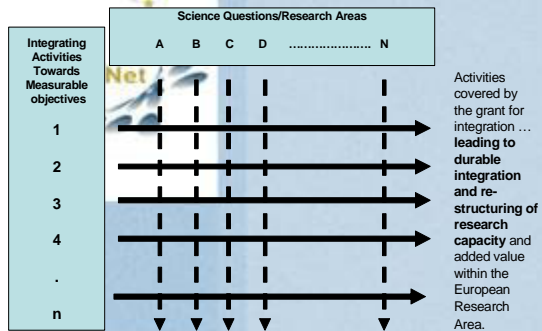
ALTER-Net website

How can we support Summer School students?

- **Let us have your ideas on ways in which the website can help support YOU after the school. e.g. ...**
- **Online discussion**
- **Get specific info emailed to you – training, funding, jobs, etc.**

Please let us have any other ideas. Thank you.





... core activities of research partners leading to the advances in knowledge where required to assist integration and contribute to the programme topic area. Added value will be realised through closer integration of existing institutional expertise in relevant areas of science.

ALTER-Net RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

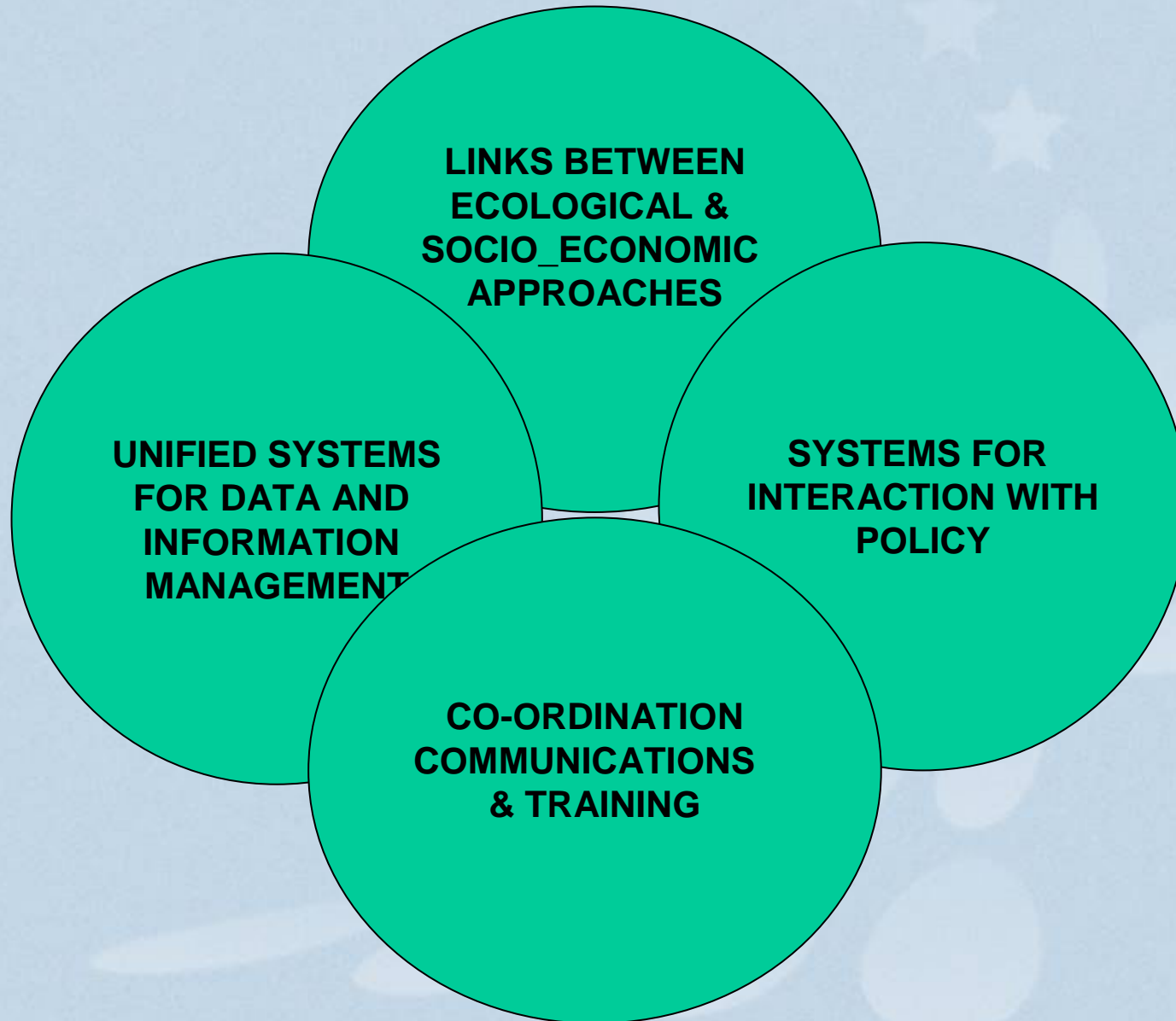
- **1 – Socio-economic drivers of biodiversity.**
 - Purpose: To improve further the conditions for, and the quality of, the research on the environment to allow the European Union to make well-founded decisions about its own sustainable development.
- **2 – Biodiversity assessment and change.**
 - Purpose: To develop standard methodologies to monitor and analyse trends in biodiversity in terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems, taking into account the different levels (genetic, species etc.) and components of biodiversity (taxonomic and functional) and the services they provide.
- **3 – Impacts of the main drivers of biodiversity.**
 - Purpose: Establishment of a scientific framework for quantifying the integrated impact of natural and anthropogenic drivers and pressures on the structure and function of biodiversity and ecosystems.
- **4 – Biodiversity conservation options.**
 - Purpose: To provide, through inter-disciplinary teams, science based decision support systems and management tools for the practical implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the European Biodiversity Strategy and associated policies actions.
- **5. Public attitudes to biodiversity and its conservation.**
 - Purpose: To establish communication mechanisms and processes to engage the public in dialogue with scientists, policy makers and other stakeholders about the issues of biodiversity and its conservation.
- **6. – Forecasting change in biodiversity.**
 - Purpose: To develop tools to forecast change in biodiversity, the integrated impact of the main natural and socio-economic drivers and their associated anthropogenic pressures, and the impact of policy objectives and their associated responses; to exploit the ability of models as a unifying tool in interdisciplinary research networks.



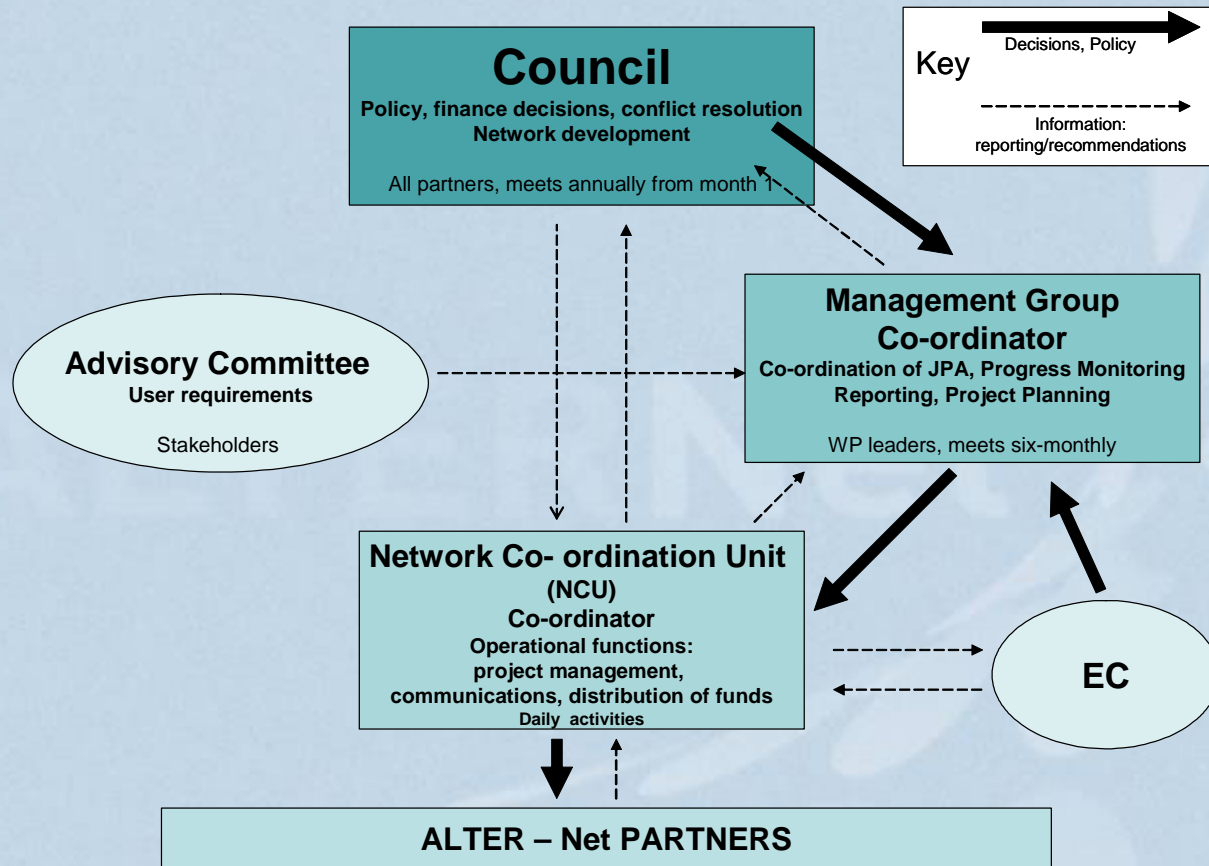
Communication and Spread of Excellence

- **ALTER-Net Web site**
- **International Press Centre for Biodiversity (IPCB)**
- **Partnership with Alpha Galileo (EU Science Press Agency)**
- **Training and mobility scheme launched**
- **Annual Summer School from 2006**
- **International Conference – 2008**
- **Contribution to the Convention on Biological Diversity COP 8 (Brazil, March 2006)- EC side-event on research**

UNDERPINNING COMPONENTS ENABLING INTEGRATION IN ALTER-Net



The ALTER-Net Structure



Integrate research capability by creating:

- A **distributed research institute** with common research agendas and infrastructures.
- A formal **European LT(S)ER Network** producing pan Pan-European data.
- An LT(S)ER Network with **social scientists and ecologists working on common projects.**
- A system for delivering science outputs to **science visitor centres.**
- Formal **mechanisms to transfer knowledge to and from policy communities.**
- **Systems for sharing data**, applications and information.
- **Shared training and development** schemes supporting skills development required for the common research agendas.
- Shared **system for communicating scientific knowledge to different user groups.**