



Biodiversity governance mechanisms

<http://www.hutton.ac.uk/research/projects/rd-134-biodiversity-management>

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Rationale

- National & international agenda

Scotland's Biodiversity a Route Map to 2020

[Scotland's Economic Strategy \(2015\)](#) states that *'Protecting and enhancing this stock of natural capital, which includes our air, land, water, soil and biodiversity and geological resources is fundamental to a healthy and resilient economy'*.



- RD 1.3.4 (Biodiversity management). O1.1 Synthesis and assessment of current biodiversity management measures'
 - What are the different governance mechanisms that can be used to meet biodiversity and prosperity goals?
 - How do they operate & are perceived by stakeholders?



Biodiversity governance: general concepts

- Governance is the process through which the rules and procedures that apply to members of a defined group are made, implemented, interpreted, and changed (McGinnis, 2016)
- Governance encompasses both processes and structures
- Policy instruments (Vatn, 2015)
 - Establishment of / changes in property rights and interaction rules
 - Legal regulations and economic incentives

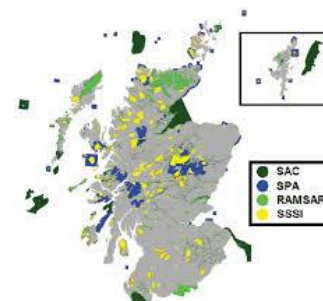


Policy instruments: general categories



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- Non-monetary regulations & moral suasion
 - Regulations
 - Voluntary efforts
- Economic instruments (not traded)
 - Taxes, subsidies, and user fees
 - 'Pigouvian-type PES' (compensation for ES)
 - Certification schemes & labels
- Economic instruments (voluntary market traded)
 - Tradable permits
 - 'Coasean-type PES' (markets for ES)
- Hybrids?





Information recorded in the database

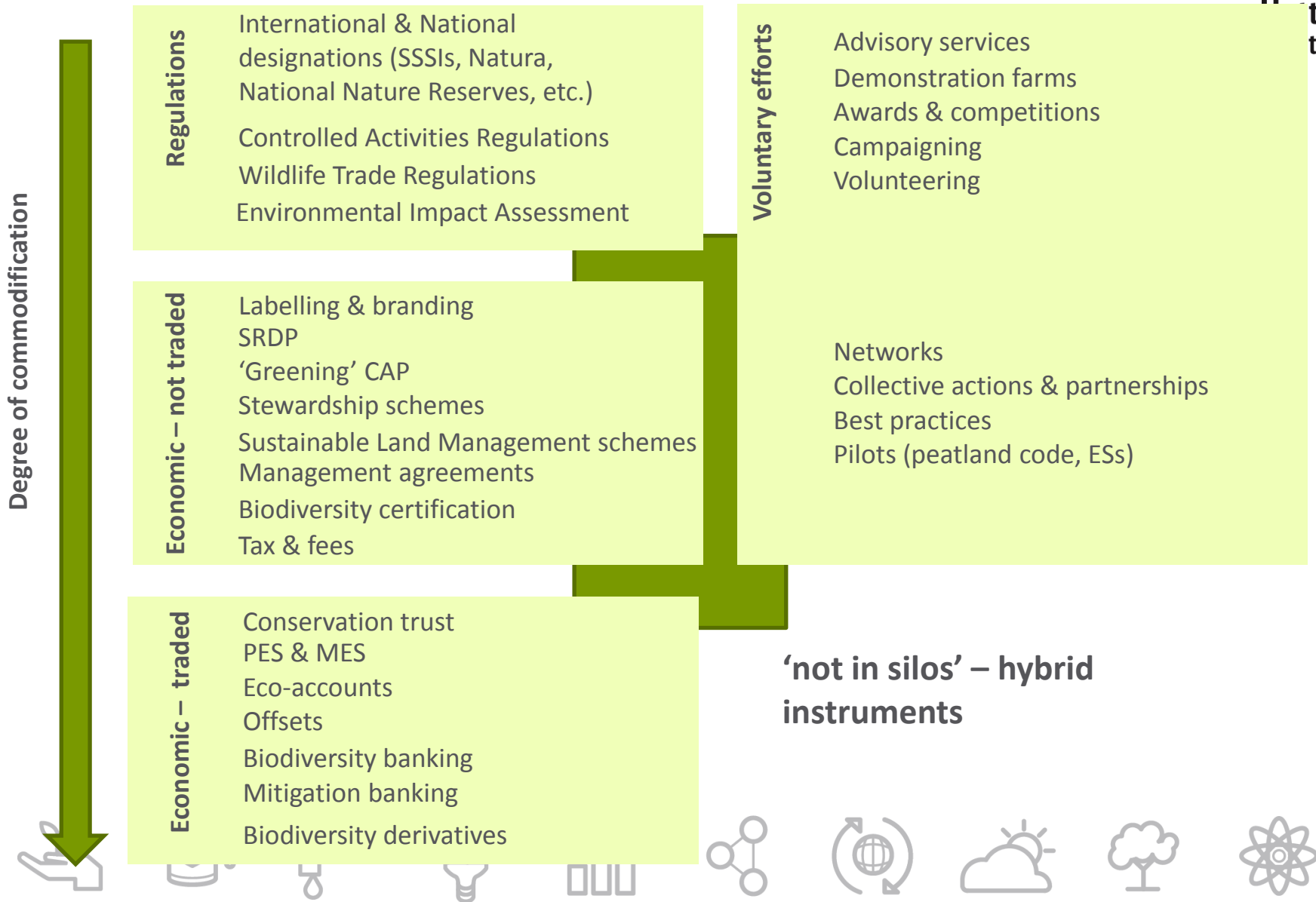
- Motivations for the design/implementation
- Definitions – how is biodiversity understood?
- Advantages and disadvantages
- Performance / evaluations (*in general, lack of information for this*)
- Other public goods produced
- Role of stakeholders
- Funding, payments
- Related policies



Policy instruments map (*never ending...*)



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Key results

- Approx. 100 examples, in Scotland most of them under ‘regulations’ and ‘voluntary efforts’
- ‘Co-constructed’ with stakeholders – what knowledges to include?
- Hybrid nature of most policy instruments – co-existence of internal & external motivations? Opt-out vs. opt-in?

Policy instrument	Advantages	Disadvantages	Challenges
Regulations	Protected by law	Controversial Integrate priorities	Must retain status Subject to external pressures Poor understanding of performance & networks
Voluntary efforts	Intrinsic motivation Low cost (for public) Social capital	Biodiversity not (necessarily) an explicit aim	Low participation Hard to manage Collective action problems
Economic instruments (not traded & traded)	Financial incentives Increased efficiency	Difficult to link actions to outputs Higher transaction costs Cultural & ethical concerns	Investment risks & uncertainties Develop & monitor indicators Contract allocation



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Next steps

- Interviews focusing on
 - current experiences with different instruments
 - how could existing mechanisms be improved
 - what other mechanisms could be used
- Report due in Sept' 17





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