MTK'S AND SLC'S BIODIVERSITY ROAD MAP: MISSION, GOALS AND MEASURES

INTRODUCTION

MTK's and SLC's Biodiversity Road Map consists of various goals and measures. The overall aim is to protect and promote biodiversity in a way that is compatible with profitable and sustainable food and timber production. The Road Map steers activities so that measures contributing to biodiversity are carried out at all levels of the organisations. The implementation of the Road Map will proceed step by step over the coming years in a way that ensures overall and long-term sustainability. MTK and SLC aim for a transition that is predictable, controlled and acceptable in terms of the changes taking place in the organizations and in practical agriculture and forestry.

The mission, goals and measures are based on research information gathered during the creation of the Road Map. The data shows that more needs to be done for the sake of biodiversity. Efforts have been made to balance ecological needs on one hand and practical implementation on the other in the organisations' statements. The scenario

analyses included in the agricultural and forest researcher reports give indications of the effects of different actions not only on biodiversity, but also on society. However, none of the scenarios form a Road Map as such.

There are many forests in Finland, but only few agricultural environments. Commercial forests offer us many benefits from timber production to recreation at the same time, while fields are mainly for human food production. These differences are also reflected in the goals and measures of the Road Map. In commercial forests, the aim is to maintain and improve biodiversity on a large scale across the landscape, while in agricultural environments biodiversity and related activities are especially aimed at field margins and forest-field transition zones, traditional rural biotopes and natural pastures. In fields, biodiversity is taken into account alongside food production.

The most important task of agriculture is to ensure sufficient domestic food production. Although
only seven percent of Finland's area is agricultural land, the arable resource is still significant. The coverage of fields will no longer increase as there will be very little new fields cleared in the future due to policy guidance. This is good for biodiversity. It is possible to transfer parcels that are weaker production-wise to support more efficient biodiversity measures without jeopardizing our food production. These measures

must be voluntary, and the loss of income due to these measures must be fairly compensated, and they must enable market-based earnings. A prerequisite for successful food production that is sustainable in the long-term is profitability. The costs must be covered by additional income from the market.

Family forestry can combine profitable timber production, safeguarding of nature values and the importance of forests for our well-being. Economically profitable forestry gives an opportunity to invest in biodiversity as well. Forest owners must get their fair share of the benefits of actions taken for biodiversity also financially. In the future, the funding obtained on the market must play a bigger role so that activities can be developed, and the costs related to securing the benefits produced by forests are distributed fairly. Forest owners' rights and opportunities to be engaged in sustainable forest management according to their personal objectives must be supported and respected. In addition, it

need to be remembered that changes take place slowly in forests, and the results of biodiversity measures are not seen immediately.

The goals and measures of the Road Map are divided into eight themes that cover organisations' functions, the operating environment and the core aspects of agricultural and forest biodiversity. In the text, organisations refer to different organisational levels of MTK and SLC, i.e. central unions, regional and local associations of agricultural producers, and forest management associations. The individual farmers and forest owners who form the basis of the organisations make independent decisions regarding their agriculture and forestry and thus, the goals and measures are not aimed at individual members. The development of the services and other activities in forest management associations will be carried out according to what has previously been agreed on regarding the roles and responsibilities of the different organizational levels. . Since reaching most of the goals does not depend only on the organizations themselves the statements include the viewpoints of organizations concerning the role of other stakeholders and the collaboration between stakeholders

MISSION

MTK and SLC together with their members work to protect and promote biodiversity in a way that halts the loss of biodiversity linked to agriculture and forestry and puts it on a path to recovery.

Together with other actors, the organisations will build a stable, predictable and enabling environment, where promoting biodiversity is an inseparable part of sustainable, responsible and profitable rural livelihoods.

1. BIODIVERSITY IN A STRONGER ROLE IN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ORGANISATIONS

GOALS

- **The importance of biodiversity as the foundation of life and well-being as well as members' livelihood is understood at different levels of the organisations and**

among members. Protecting and promoting biodiversity is seen as something positive.

- The goals and measures set by the organisations to protect and promote biodiversity are familiar at different levels of the organisations and among members.
- The representatives of the organisations promote the achievement of the goals in their own activities.
- The implementation of the Road Map is followed up. The Road Map will be updated if necessary.
- The organisations know how their members feel about matters concerning biodiversity and what kind of activities members expect from the organisations in terms of biodiversity. The organisations respond to these expectations through advocacy work and membership services.
- The different objectives of the members regarding land use and forests and in their economic activities are respected. Maintaining and producing nature values is seen as important alongside food and timber production.
- Biodiversity is one of the priorities in communication, both in the organisations' internal and external communication. Members see communication on biodiversity as something useful. Positive media coverage of the organisations in matters concerning nature increases.
- Forest management associations have high level of basic expertise as well as specialised competence in biodiversity matters linked to forestry and forest management.
- Forest owners receive all the necessary services linked to biodiversity from forest management associations. Forest management associations offer well-productised nature management services in a economically profitable manner.

TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS, THE ORGANISATIONS WILL

- take the Road Map and the goals and measures as part of the strategy, sustainability goals and operational planning at different levels of the organisations
- increase the understanding of the representatives of the organisations and members on the importance of biodiversity and strengthen competence to safeguard biodiversity e.g. by sharing information about best practices and operating models and by offering training

- select the indicators for monitoring the implementation of the Road Map
- map the views of members and representatives regularly with the help of surveys
- make a plan for organisational communication on biodiversity with the aim of increasing positive publicity and sharing research-based information on the overall sustainability of agriculture and forestry
- develop membership services from the point of view of biodiversity
- develop forest management associations' nature management and environmental services by commercialising them and creating service packages that enable profitable business
- strengthen the skills and activities of the environmental expert network in forest management associations.

2. AN ENABLING OPERATING ENVIRONMENT AND COOPERATION AS A BASIS

GOALS

- The organisations cooperate constructively with other actors and stakeholders both in their own sectors and across sectors nationally, regionally and locally.
- The operating environment contributes to the achievement of the goals set in the Road Map and to the implementation of the measures.
- Policy instruments used to protect and promote biodiversity are enabling, encouraging and fair.
- High-quality and verified nature information helps to set biodiversity targets and make effective and cost-efficient planning and implementation of measures easier. Landowners have access to nature information in their area and can review it.
- The market economy is the most significant source of funding when maintaining and improving biodiversity. Acts benefitting nature, ecological compensation and ecosystem services have a well-functioning market system for selling and buying nature values.
- Activities promoting biodiversity are carried out in a way that simultaneously supports various ecosystem services are, property rights, the economic viability of agriculture and forestry as well as good forest management and food production.

TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS, THE ORGANISATIONS WILL

- invest in the further development of the Luontoarvot.fi service and increase its visibility
- encourage agricultural producers and forest owners to produce nature values as part of their production, and promote earnings based on biodiversity and ecosystem services, e.g. in connection with timber trade and through nature value markets
- anticipate and promote new business opportunities related to biodiversity and ecosystem services and learn to use them in a profitable manner
- use a wide range of funding sources in the development and production of organisational activities and services
- strengthen cooperation between different actors, administration, research and stakeholders in order to create more projects, best practices and competence that support biodiversity
- support biodiversity-related research linked to agriculture and forestry.

TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS, COOPERATION BETWEEN ACTORS AND CONTRIBUTION OF OTHER ACTORS IS NEEDED TO

- develop the measurement and monitoring of nature impacts to create a system that is reliable and transparent
- improve the coverage, quality, availability and usability of nature information and develop information systems through which it is easier to ensure the availability of information related to biodiversity in the everyday life of forest professionals, landowners and agricultural producers
- ensure a uniform interpretation and decision-making by different authorities and the flow of information between authorities
- organize adequate and long-term state funding for the implementation of the METSO and Helmi Programmes, the implementation of the EU Nature Restoration Regulation, and nature management included in the forestry incentive scheme
- ensure sufficient resources to biodiversity-related research linked to agriculture and forestry, to the comprehensive monitoring of the development of biodiversity , and to the monitoring of the quality of nature management
- create a common and shared target for a determined development of the nature value market

- develop decision-support services and learning environments for both professionals and landowners to better understand and consider biodiversity
- improve cooperation and the flow of information between different actors in the forest sector
- develop common operating models for a better flow of information regarding valuable habitats, structural features, and the implementation of measures through the implementation chain
- focus on encouraging communication.

3. SAFEGUARDING VALUABLE HABITATS IN COMMERCIAL FORESTS

Valuable habitats in commercial forests are habitats and species habitats that are protected by law, saved based on forest certification, and safeguarded on a voluntary basis by the landowner and for which there is no legal obligation to protect them.

GOALS

- Forest owners are aware of the valuable habitats on their land. Forest owners have defined their objectives for safeguarding them. These objectives are passed on in the chain consisting of different actors and implemented.
- Valuable habitats in commercial forests are safeguarded by excluding them from forest management or treating them with special measures.
- Effectiveness and cost-efficiency are strengthened by allocating actions, in particular, on sites of high biodiversity value and key importance for the protection of threatened species.

TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVES, THE ORGANISATIONS WILL

- increase forest management associations' and landowners' knowledge about the identification of valuable habitats and methods of safeguarding them in commercial forests
- introduce procedures following the guidelines on safeguarding threatened species in forest management in forest management associations

- find out the development needs of forest management associations' services and operating methods concerning valuable habitats and their management, and draw up a plan for implementing development activities
- communicate to landowners about various financing and support systems and about the possibilities of the nature value market to get funding for protection of valuable habitats and nature management projects.

TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS, COOPERATION BETWEEN ACTORS AND CONTRIBUTION OF OTHER ACTORS IS NEEDED TO

- improve the flow of information between different actors so that information about valuable habitats and the forest owner's goals related to these sites is conveyed to all parts involved in the measures
- launch a joint herb-rich forest programme for different actors where e.g. herb-rich forests used for timber production are identified and marked with spatial information when forestry operations and forest planning are carried out, and the management models of herb-rich forests are specified to protect the natural values of the sites
- develop operating models that can be used in the immediate vicinity of valuable habitats in a way that supports the site's biodiversity values and thus elevates the site's effective area
- develop spatial information and the usage of it to support the identification of valuable habitats and advance planning
- ensure that the definitions, area delineations and instructions regarding the management of valuable habitats are clear and that the guidance from different administrative sectors is not contradictory
- renew compensation schemes so that they also support safeguarding broader sites.

4. STRENGTHENING STRUCTURAL FEATURES VALUABLE FOR BIODIVERSITY IN COMMERCIAL FORESTS

GOALS

- Forest owners have defined their objectives for maintaining and strengthening structural features as well as the use of different forest management practices

These objectives are passed on in the chain consisting of different actors and implemented.

- Structural features valuable for the biodiversity of commercial forests are safeguarded and strengthened by better integrating them into the planning and implementation of forest management as well as into the quality monitoring
- Effectiveness and cost-efficiency are strengthened by allocating actions, in particular, on sites of high biodiversity value and key importance for the protection of threatened species.

TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS, THE ORGANISATIONS WILL

- offer forest owners an information package regarding the valuable structural features and the biodiversity of commercial forests focusing on the importance of biodiversity in commercial forests and practical measures of nature management in commercial forests
- develop and implement procedures in forest management associations (e.g. Monimetsä operational model) to ensure that forest owners define objectives for nature management and that those objectives are fulfilled in planning and execution of forestry operations
- identify the development needs concerning forest management associations' services and operating methods related to structural features and draw up a plan for development activities
- develop and implement an operating model in forest management associations that facilitate reporting after the completion of assisted timber trade and other services on how the forest owner's objectives related to biodiversity have been reached.

RETENTION TREES

GOALS

- At all stages of forest management, large retention trees are left permanently in forests so that the amount of retention trees increases, thus ensuring the continuity of deadwood. In particular, the amount of large and old deciduous retention trees as well as groups and stands of retention trees increases.

TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS, THE ORGANISATIONS WILL

- record information on groups of retention trees in forest management associations' spatial data
- use spatial data and the retention tree tool in forest management associations to select and allocate retention trees and groups of retention trees (e.g. concentrating and targeting in buffer zones or in conjunction with valuable habitats)
- develop procedures and cooperation between forest owners to establish groups of retention trees that support valuable habitats by cross-border planning
- develop the possibilities to obtain economic benefits from retention trees as part of timber trade and through nature value market.

DEADWOOD

GOALS

- Large deadwood is preserved and produced so that there is a development towards a situation where an average of 10 m^3/ha of diverse deadwood is present in commercial forests. Sites with higher deadwood volume are created especially in the vicinity of valuable habitats while minimising the risk of forest damages.

TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS, THE ORGANISATIONS WILL

- communicate the importance of deadwood, correct misconceptions about the forest damage risks of deadwood and provide guidance on how to make artificial snags (high stumps)
- develop and implement quality monitoring in forest management associations for preserving standing and lying deadwood during harvesting and soil preparation
- refrain from removing large deadwood from forests.

MIXED STANDS, ESPECIALLY DECIDUOUS MIXED STANDS

GOALS

- Forest biodiversity and resilience is strengthened by increasing tree species diversity, mixed stands and the proportion of deciduous trees so that an average of

10 % share of deciduous trees is maintained in commercial forests. the share of deciduous trees is increased especially in habitats where deciduous trees naturally thrive.

- Deciduous trees are left to grow at all stages of the forest rotation period, starting with tending of seedling stands, so that trees of high biodiversity value can be left as retention trees during regeneration felling.
- Ungulate populations are at a level that supports an increase in deciduous tree cover and the establishment of deciduous stands. Landowners can effectively contribute to determining the target density of ungulate populations.

TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS, THE ORGANISATIONS WILL

- develop working guidelines for the planning and implementation of forest management in a way that they take into account the promotion of mixed species and the potential for the establishment of deciduous forests
- communicate on safeguarding deciduous trees of low economic value
- increase the knowhow in identifying potential sites for growing mixed forests and using fforest management practices that favour mixed species.

BUFFER ZONES FOR WATER COURSES AND SMALL WATER BODIES

GOALS

- On a site-by-site basis, buffer zones of varying width around water courses and small water bodies are left to protect the water quality as well as the biodiversity aquatic habitats and riparian forests.

TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS, THE ORGANISATIONS WILL

- ensure, at minimum, the implementation of buffer zones defined in the forest certification schemes
- allocate groups of retention trees in buffer zones where reasonable
- use spatial data to determine the width of buffer zones, and record information on zone width in the forest management associations' spatial data.

BURNT WOOD AND FIRE CONTINUITY SITES

GOALS

- Controlled burning and the burning of large retention trees as well as other use of fire for the benefit of biodiversity in a planned way is increased, so that the amount of controlled burning and burnt areas increases and controlled burning contributes to creating fire continuity sites.

TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS, THE ORGANISATIONS WILL

- develop and implement a procedure in forest management associations to identify suitable sites for controlled burning when planning forestry operations, to plan harvesting and the leaving of retention trees in a way that supports controlled burning, and to ensure that landowners have decided on further actions for burnt areas
- record burnt areas in forest management associations' spatial data
- establish a group of experts reagrding the use of fire as part of forest management associations' environmental expert network
- ensure that forest owners and operators are familiar with the new controlled burning incentive scheme.

THICKETS FOR GAME AND MULTILAYERED STRUCTURE OF TREES

GOALS

- Tending of seedling stands and thinnings are carried out in a way that promotes diversified forest structure and biodiversity, avoiding unnecessary clearance and leaving thickets that provide shelter. Deciduous trees of low economic value and junipers are saved as natural thickets.

TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS, THE ORGANISATIONS WILL

- develop guidelines for diversifying the forest structure and identifying the best locations for thickets.

FOREST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

GOALS

- Forest owners are aware of the potential of different forest management practices and how these affect their forests.
- Different forest management practices are used in accordance with the forest owners' objectives to diversify the forest structure.

TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS, THE ORGANISATIONS WILL

- maintain and strengthen forest associations associations' knowhow of different forest management practices and how to implement them into practice
- identify potential areas for continuous cover forestry and inform forest owners about the possibilities of different forest management practices while respecting their objectives
- take a knowledge-based and neutral approach to different forest management practices, and present them in the advisory services using consistent principles.

PEATLAND FORESTS

GOALS

- Biodiversity is enhanced as part of integrated and multi-objective planning of peatland forests and by increasing cooperation between landowners.

TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS, THE ORGANISATIONS WILL

- develop and implement in forest management associations a service and operational model for integrated and multi-objective planning of peatland forests
- develop a set of good practice guidelines for forest management associations and a self-monitoring quality control systems for ditch maintenance projects, to avoid unnecessary ditch clearance, unnecessary deepening or widening of ditches and ensure that water protection is high-quality
- use the best available water protection solutions in projects planned and executed by forest management associations

- promote cooperation between landowners to allow for planning of possible actions at the catchment area level
- inform forest owners about the forestry incentive scheme for integrated planning and water protection structures in peatland forests.

TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS, COOPERATION BETWEEN ACTORS AND CONTRIBUTION OF OTHER ACTORS IS NEEDED TO

Improving cooperation

- improve the flow of information between different actors, so that information on structural features and related objectives of forest owners are communicated to all actors in the chain
- develop and bring together effective approaches to increase cooperation between landowners and improve the exchange of information between different actors so that regional-level planning can be enhanced
- strengthen the exchange of information on development projects and nature management implementation
- explore possibilities for sharing resources related to controlled burning
- improve cooperation between actors in fire continuity sites to increase effectiveness through targeting and concentration of controlled burning
- develop quality monitoring of nature management of commercial forests and comprehensively integrate it in the quality control systems of forest management and the verification of nature impacts.

Developing spatial information

- develop geospatial tools to help identify sites where thickets and multilayered structure of trees would be of particular benefit for biodiversity
- promote opportunities to record retention trees and other implemented nature management actions in spatial data for forest owners' use
- further develop the retention tree tool and improve the ability to identify groups of retention trees from forest data
- develop efficient spatial data information solutions to support comprehensive and multi-objective planning of peatland forest management

- record controlled burning carried out by different actors and areas burned by natural disasters in spatial data to obtain a information base for planning fire continuity sites.

Enhancing research

- develop retention tree forestry practices with the support of research
- strengthen research on forestry based on mixed tree species and produce models for the regeneration and forest management of different types of mixed forests
- develop a procedure for identifying potential sites of growing mixed tree species
- maintain and increase research on continuous cover forestry and its practical applicability.

Enhancing skills

- ensure the continuation of the knowhow related to controlled burning and enhance sharing of the required diverse skills and knowledge between actors
- better integrate controlled burning knowledge in vocational education and additional training aimed at forest professionals.

Other points

- ensure the availability of high-quality forest reproductive material for the establishment of deciduous and mixed forests
- control ungulate animal populations through effective licensing and hunting practices in a way that also allows for the growing of deciduous trees.

5. MORE DIVERSE ARABLE AREAS

CHARACTERISTICS OF ARABLE AREAS

GOALS

- The structure, water management and condition of arable fields improve, contributing to soil biodiversity, which is the basis for the diversity of plant and animal species in arable areas.
- Except for specialised crops, monoculture of a single crop is not practised in any way. The soil structure is improved by diversifying crop rotations, and much of the cereal crop area shifts to rotations that include oilseed crops and protein crops as catch crops. The increase in the area under these crops is market driven.
- The area of grassland under the eco-scheme increases in a controlled way so that the overall balance in the system of farming subsidies is maintained.
- The catch crop area increases to 350,000 hectares.
- The share of genuine, continuous plant cover into spring in annual crop cultivation increases significantly.

TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS, THE ORGANISATIONS WILL

- communicate the positive effects of new, sustainable farming practices to agricultural producers and encourage them to take advantage of them
- share information in our networks on successful practices in the use of catch crops and genuine plant cover under different conditions.

USE OF PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS

GOALS

- The use of plant protection products is appropriate and based on need, and alternative plant protection methods, such as intensified crop rotation, are used.

TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS, THE ORGANISATIONS WILL

- communicate on the responsible use of plant protection products.

ECOLOGICAL GRASSLANDS AND BIODIVERSITY AREAS

GOALS

- Ecologically rich grasslands increase.

- Biodiversity areas increase significantly.
- Field grazing increases.
- Vitality of indigenous breeds and crops is safeguarded.

TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS, THE ORGANISATIONS WILL

- encourage the establishment of perennial biodiversity grasslands in the poorest parcels, especially those under cereal crops, taking into account both soil improvement objectives and the needs of pollinators
- encourage biodiversity-friendly field grazing on farms as part of good animal husbandry by communicating the benefits of grazing
- promote market-led and consumer-driven growth in organic production.

TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS, COOPERATION BETWEEN ACTORS AND CONTRIBUTION OF OTHER ACTORS IS NEEDED TO

- increase the domestic market for oil and protein crops by further increasing their use in the feed and food industry
- improve the usability of protein crops by ensuring plant breeding resources and expanding the variety of species
- maintain the incentives for catch crops at least at the current level
- modify the farming subsidies to remove the last date of establishment of plant cover; establishment of winter plant cover should be equated with the sowing of autumn cereals, where the establishment of vegetation and the decision on sowing time is the farmer's responsibility; the presence of plant cover at the end of the growing season and in spring before the start of the growing season can be monitored by administrative controls
- develop the plant codes declared in subsidy applications so that they give more useful information regarding biodiversity
- increase training and education for agricultural producers on the use of plant protection products to enhance the objective of appropriate use
- ensure ecologically and economically sustainable rearing of indigenous breeds through subsidy policies and product market development
- promote sales of organic products by increasing the level of processing and in public procurement

6. SPECIAL ATTENTION TO FIELD MARGINS AND BORDERS

GOALS

- **Agricultural producers and forest owners are aware of the importance of field margins, areas between fields and forests, and forests bordering fields for biodiversity. They have defined their objectives for biodiversity-friendly management of these areas .**

TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS, THE ORGANISATIONS WILL

- **communicate the importance of marginal habitats for biodiversity**
- **encourage vigorous extension of marginal habitats , also into fields, in shaded, wet, sun exposed or otherwise unproductive border areas and clearing the excessive vegetation in forests bordering fields**
- **encourage practices in the management of private and farm road margins that make use of the full flowering season of plants growing in the margins for the benefit of biodiversity.**

TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS, COOPERATION BETWEEN ACTORS AND CONTRIBUTION OF OTHER ACTORS IS NEEDED TO

- **establish a national marginal habitat programme to strengthen research on biodiversity in marginal habitats in Finland, to identify suitable vegetation and management models and guidelines for different areas, and to increase knowledge and advisory services on management of these areas.**
- **support activities related to field margins and borders from financing sources other than CAP funds.**

7. ADEQUATE AND HIGH-QUALITY MANAGEMENT FOR TRADITIONAL RURAL BIOTOPES AND NATURAL PASTURES

GOALS

- **The area of managed traditional rural biotopes is 52,000 hectares and the management of the sites is high-quality.**

- The conditions for grazing in natural pastures improve.

TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS, THE ORGANISATIONS WILL

- improve market-based financing opportunities for the management of traditional rural biotopes through the Luontoarvot.fi service.
- participate actively in the activities of the national coordination group for the management of traditional rural biotopes and of regional cooperation groups.
- communicate the importance of traditional rural biotopes and natural pastures for biodiversity.

TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS, COOPERATION BETWEEN ACTORS AND CONTRIBUTION OF OTHER ACTORS IS NEEDED TO

- ensure consistency between administrative sectors and authorities in setting objectives for the restoration and management of traditional rural biotopes and of natural pastures as well as in organising the necessary funding
- manage large carnivore populations in a way that allows grazing animals to be kept
- reinforce practices that enable grazing animals and areas in need of grazing to be matched
- support research on the management of traditional rural biotopes and maintenance of up-to-date information on traditional rural biotopes.

8. A LEAP FORWARD IN VOLUNTARY ESTABLISHMENT OF PROTECTED AREAS AND RESTORATION

GOALS

- The voluntary establishment of protected areas will expand Finland's network of protected areas and improve its ecological representativeness, connectivity, and ability to adapt to the changing climate. Voluntary restoration improves the condition of ecosystems and their ability to provide ecosystem services.
- Landowners are aware of the potential sites for protection and restoration on their land, and of the possibilities for implementing protection and restoration. Landowners have defined their objectives for protection and restoration.
- Choosing the protection and restoration option is at least as profitable for landowners as other forms of economic use of the site.

TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS, THE ORGANISATIONS WILL

- develop procedures to improve identification of potential protection and restoration sites and to increase advisory services for landowners, so that landowners are always informed about potential sites and the possibilities for implementation
- strengthen the marketing of the METSO and Helmi Programmes and the Luontoarvot.fi service by communicating, for example, good experiences of landowners and funding opportunities for protecting biodiversity
- expand the role of forest management associations in preparing sites compatible with the METSO and Helmi Programmes for protection and restoration
- determine areas for improvement in forest management associations' services and practices related to voluntary protection and restoration and develop a plan to implement the improvements
- encourage landowners to cooperate with each other in restoration projects.

TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS, COOPERATION BETWEEN ACTORS AND CONTRIBUTION OF OTHER ACTORS IS NEEDED TO

- enhance skills in planning and implementing of actor-driven restoration and nature management projects
- develop practical and landowner-oriented approaches to promote joint restoration projects between landowners and to channel water back to mires that have become drier in order to restore their natural water balance
- develop and implement policy instruments to improve the economic attractiveness of voluntary protection and restoration both for landowners and actors providing services to them.