

Advancing sustainable resource management through community engagement in Eastern Partnership Countries

Armenia, Georgia, Moldova & Ukraine

NATURA 2000 AND EMERALD: TWO SISTERS NETWORKS OF PROTECTED SITES

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sustainable development
on our finite planet



EU4Environment
Green Economy in Eastern Partner Countries

Advancing sustainable resource management through community engagement in Eastern Partnership Countries

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Legal context for both networks : historical overview



Birds directive (1979)	1975	Bern Convention (1979)
	1980	
Habitat directive draft proposed (1988)	1985	Recommendation 16 (1989) on Areas of Special Conservation Interest
Habitat directive adoption (1992)	1990	Resolution No.3 (1996) setting-up a pan-European Ecological Network
First biogeographical seminar MAC (1996)	1995	Resolution No.4 (1996) on habitat types
First SDF (Decision 97/266/EC)	2000	Resolution No.5 (1998) rules for the Network of ASCI
First Union List MAC (2001)		Resolution No.6 (1990) on species
EU27 (2007)	2005	First Emerald Pilots
First MATL seminar (2009)	2010	First Evaluation Criteria document (2006)
Revised SDF (Decision 2011/484/EC)	2011	Beginning of the streamlining process (SC of Bern Convention)
	2012	First seminars
EU28 (2013)	2013	Revised Resolution No.6 species list (2011)
		First list of adopted sites (2011)
First Art.17 and Art.12 reports (period 2007-2012)	2013	Resolution No.8 (2012)
	2014	Revised SDF and criteria document (2013)
		Revised Resolution No.4 habitats (EUNIS)

Legal context for both networks : historical overview



2nd Marine seminars (2016)	2015	Revised Habitats Interpretation Manual
	2016	
	2017	Adoption of the reporting form for Resolution No.8 reporting
Revised reporting formats and guidelines Art.17/12	2018	Revised annex I of Resolution No.4 habitats
	2019	
	2020	
	2021	
EU27 BREXIT (2020)	2022	
	2023	
	2024	Adoption of the revised Resol.8 reporting format
Revised SDF (Decision 2023/2806)	2025	Adoption of the revised Emerald SDF

Legal context for both networks

COMMON GOAL

Ensure the long-term survival of the species and habitats of European concern



Birds directive (2009/147/EC)

Protects all species of naturally occurring wild birds within EU MS

Habitats directive (92/43/EEC)

Protects habitat types and species considered of European conservation interest: Annex I, II, IV and V



Appendix I: Strictly protected flora species

Appendix II: Strictly protected fauna species

Appendix III: Protected fauna species

No specific appendix for habitats, but references to protect natural habitats, in particular, habitats for the species of appendices I and II, endangered natural habitats and areas important for migratory birds

Procedures for site designation



Birds directive sites (SPA)

Inclusion in the Natura 2000 database

Habitats directive sites

pSCI: First time inclusion in the Natura 2000 until approval of the biogeographical union lists by the Habitats Committee.

SCI: after approval and publication of the biogeographical union lists.

SAC: 6 years after the first publication of a SCI in the union list (Art.4.4), the MS should establish the Necessary conservation measures and designate the
Site as SAC



Proposed Site: first time included in the Emerald Network database

Candidate Site: approved by the Standing Committee after the biogeographical seminar in which the proposed sites were evaluated

Adopted Site: Contracting Parties request (by written) the designation of a Candidate Sites as Adopted by the Standing Committee

Crosswalks between Resolution No.4 (1996) and Annex I habitat types

Resolution No.4 habitats follows EUNIS 2012 classification.

Adjustments needed for no 1:1 habitats in the case of accession countries

Emerald Hab_code	Emerald Habitat name	Emerald level	Emerald - HD Annex I relationship	HD Annex I code	Habitats Directive Annex I name
D6.16	Interior central European and Anatolian Salicornia, Microcnemum, Suaeda and Salsola swards	4			
D6.23	Interior Iberian salt pan meadows	4	<	1410	Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi)
E	GRASSLANDS AND LANDS DOMINATED BY FORBS, MOSSES OR LICHENS	1			
E1	Dry grasslands	2			
E1.1	Inland sand and rock with open vegetation	3			
E1.11	Euro-Siberian rock debris swards	4	>	6110	Rupicolous calcareous or basophilic grasslands of the Alysso-Sedion albi
E1.11	Euro-Siberian rock debris swards	4	>	6280	Nordic alvar and precambrian calcareous flatrocks
E1.11	Euro-Siberian rock debris swards	4	>	8230	Siliceous rock with pioneer vegetation of the Sedo-Scleranthion or of the Sedo albi-Veronicion dillenii
E1.112	Sempervivum or Jovibarba communities on rock debris	5			
E1.12	Euro-Siberian pioneer calcareous sand swards	4	=	6120	Xeric sand calcareous grasslands
E1.13	Continental dry rocky steppic grasslands and dwarf scrub on chalk outcrops	4	none		

<
>
Crosswalks Emerald-HD
Crosswalks HD-Emerald
Legend
project information
+
:

Crosswalks between Resolution No.4 (1996) and Annex I habitat types



NATURA 2000

INTERPRETATION

MANUAL

OF

EUROPEAN UNION

HABITATS

EUR 28

April 2013



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DG ENVIRONMENT
Nature ENV B.3

1320

PAL.CLASS.: 15.2

***Spartina* swards (*Spartinion maritimae*)**

1) Perennial pioneer grasslands of coastal salt muds, formed by *Spartina* or similar grasses. When selecting sites, preference should be given to those areas supporting rare or local *Spartina*.

Sub-types

15.21 - Flat-leaved cordgrass swards: perennial pioneer grasslands of coastal salt muds, dominated by flat-leaved *Spartina maritima*, *S. townsendii*, *S. anglica*, *S. alterniflora*.

15.22 - Rush-leaved cordgrass swards: perennial pioneer grasslands of southern Iberian coastal salt muds, dominated by the junciform-leaved *Spartina densiflora*.

2) Plants: 15.21 - *Spartina maritima*, *S. alterniflora*; 15.22 - *Spartina densiflora*.

3) Corresponding categories

United Kingdom classification: "SM4 *Spartina maritima* saltmarsh" and "SM5 *Spartina alterniflora* saltmarsh".

1330

PAL.CLASS.: 15.3

Atlantic salt meadows (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*)

1) Salt meadows of Baltic, North Sea, English Channel and Atlantic shores. *Aster tripolium* can be present or abundant in most subdivisions.

2) Plants: 15.31 - *Puccinellia maritima*; 15.32 - *Halimione portulacoides*, *Halimione pedunculata*, *Aster tripolium*; 15.33 - *Armeria maritima*, *Glaux maritima*, *Plantago maritima*, *Frankenia laevis*, *Artemisia maritima*, *Festuca rubra*, *Agrostis stolonifera*, *Juncus gerardii*, *Carex extensa*, *Blysmus rufus*, *Eleocharis* spp.; 15.34 - *Spergularia marina*, *Puccinellia distans*, *P. fasciculata*, *P. retroflexa*, *P. maritima*, *Triglochin maritima*, *Potentilla anserina*, *Halimione portulacoides*; 15.35 - *Elymus pycnanthus* (= *Agropyron pungens*) or *E. repens*; 15.36 - *Atriplex littoralis*, *A. hastata*, *Beta maritima*, *Matricaria maritima*.

3) Corresponding categories

United Kingdom classification: "SM10 Transitional low-marsh vegetation", "SM11 *Aster tripolium* var. *discoideus* saltmarsh", "SM12 Rayed *Aster tripolium* saltmarsh", "SM13 *Puccinellia maritima*-*Triglochin maritima* saltmarsh", "SM14 *Halimione portulacoides* saltmarsh", "SM15 *Juncus maritimus*-*Triglochin maritima* saltmarsh", "SM16 *Festuca rubra* saltmarsh community",

C3.5 Periodically inundated shores with pioneer and ephemeral vegetation

C3.51 Euro-Siberian dwarf annual amphibious swards (but excluding C3.5131 Toad-rush swards)

Includes the following subtypes separately listed in 2010 version

C3.511 Freshwater dwarf *Eleocharis* communities

C3.512 Dune-slack *Centaurium* swards

Description

Dwarf oligo-mesotrophic annual communities of recently emerged muds and sands of the nemoral, boreonemoral and boreal regions. Terrestrial forms of amphibious species and annual species are frequent. A dynamic habitat and several aspects can occur during the vegetation cycle. If the substrate is sufficiently wet, and also in advanced successional stages, the moss layer is abundant. Typical species are *Juncus bufonius*, *Cyperus fuscus*, *Cyperus flavescens* and other species from vegetation of class *Isoeto-Nanojuncetea*.

Communities dominated by *Juncus bufonius* (C3.5131 Toad-rush swards) are not included.

Plant communities

Elatino macropodae-*Damasonion alismatis*, *Eleocharition soloniensis*, *Nanocyperion*, *Radiolion linoidis*, *Verbenion supinae*

Species

C3.511: *Eleocharis ovata*, *Eleocharis carniolica*, *Carex bohemica*, *Lindernia procumbens*, *Scirpus supinus*, *Limosella aquatica*, *Cyperus fuscus*, *Peplis portula*, *Juncus tenageia*, *Elatine hexandra*, *Elatine hydropiper*, and *Coleanthus subtilis* C3.512: *Samolus valerandi*, *Centaurium littorale*, *Centaurium erythraea*, *Centaurium pulchellum*, *Gentianella amarella*, *Blackstonia perfoliata*, *Juncus bufonius* C3.513: *Juncus bufonius*, *Scirpus setaceus*, *Cyperus flavescens*, *Centunculus minimus*, *Spergularia segetalis*, *Centaurium pulchellum*, *Blackstonia perfoliata*, *Samolus valerandi*, *Cicendia filiformis*, *Radiola linoides* and *Illecebrum verticillatum*

Corresponding class in other classifications

Milieux naturels de Suisse 2008: 2.5.1 Végétation de petites annuelles éphémères

EU Habitats Directive Annex I

Included in

3130 Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the *Littorelletea uniflorae* and/or of the *Isoeto-Nanojuncetea*

C3.55 Sparsely vegetated river gravel banks

Description

Vascular plant communities occupying gravel deposits of rivers, including pioneer vegetation and subsequent stages in the colonization sequence. Early-stage communities of Alpine, boreal and

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Strasbourg, 28 November 2019
[pa18e_2019.doc]

T-PVS/PA (2019) 18

CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE
AND NATURAL HABITATS

STANDING COMMITTEE

39th meeting
Strasbourg, 3 – 6 December 2019

Interpretation manual of the habitats listed in
Resolution No. 4 (1996) listing endangered natural habitats requiring specific
conservation measures

Fourth draft version 2019



Document established by
Douglas Evans (ETC/BD) and Marc Roekaerts

This document will not be distributed at the meeting. Please bring this copy.
Ce document ne sera plus distribué en réunion. Préparez de vous munir de cet exemplaire

AOIKO

Advancing sustainable resource management through community engagement in Eastern Partnership Countries

Alignment of Natura 2000 and Emerald Network SDF

New Emerald Network Standard Data Form was endorsed by the Bern Convention Standing Committee in December 2025

During 2026 it is still possible to submit in the old SDF

New Fields

- More detail for certain ecological information
- Conservation objectives
- Conservation measures
- Management effectiveness

Deleted fields

- Site length and Latitude /Longitude
- General habitat class
- Pollution code
- Site ownership
- Designation type at national level
- Map delivered as pdf

Alignment of Natura 2000 and Emerald Network SDF

New fields or updated existing fields proposed as compulsory:

3.1.3 Non presence

Pre-defined options:

- ☐ → the habitat is no longer present in the site
- ☐ → the habitat type is not present and was not present at the time of designation but its re-establishment is planned.

3.1.6 Method used for cover

Pre-defined options:

- ☐ → complete survey or a statistically robust estimate.
- ☐ → based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data.
- ☐ → based mainly on expert opinion with very limited data.

3.1.8 Significance

Indicate if habitat type occurrence is non-significant; For significant occurrences all fields of section 3.1.b must be filled whereas for non-significant occurrences only the fields

3.1.8 (Significance) and 3.1.16 (Update date) of section 3.1.b have to be filled.

Alignment of Natura 2000 and Emerald Network SDF

5.2 Management plans

5.2.1 Existence of a management plan(s)

Pre-defined options:

- ☐ → Yes (if yes fill in 5.2.2)
- ☐ → No, site only partially covered (fill in 5.2.2)
- ☐ → No, but in preparation
- ☐ → No, because a management plan is not necessary (fill in 5.2.3)
- ☐ → No, other reason (fill in 5.2.3)

5.2.2. Reference and validity of the management plans(s)

- ☐ → Name of the plan and
- ☐ → Link to the plan (URI) and
- ☐ → Validity: start date (year and month) and duration: number of months / or not defined

5.3 Management plans

5.3.1 Detailed information on measures

Pre-defined options:

- ☐ → Necessary conservation measures are included in the management plan(s) to which the link is provided in section 5.2.2 (yes/no)
- ☐ → Necessary conservation measures are described in the following document(s):
 - Title and link (URI) and/or
 - Further explanations on detailed conservation measures (free text and language tag)

5.3.2 Status of conservation measures

Two questions with pre-defined options:

1. → Are the necessary measures established?

- ☐ → fully established
- ☐ → partly established
- ☐ → not established

For fully or partly established measures only:

2. → Are the established measures implemented?

- ☐ → all implemented and/or all on-going
- ☐ → only partly implemented and/or partly on-going
- ☐ → one-off measures not implemented and/or no re-current measures on-going

5.4 Management effectiveness

Two questions with pre-defined options:

- Is the effectiveness of the conservation measures periodically assessed? [yes/no]
- Are the conservation measures delivering the set conservation objectives? [yes/no/not yet/ unknown because not assessed]

Conservation status reporting



Article 12 of the Birds Directive (2009/147/EC):

Every six years, Member States report on populations status and trends of all naturally occurring wild bird species present in their territory.

Article 17 of the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC):

Every six years, Member States report on the conservation status of habitats (Annex I) and species (Annexes II, IV and V) across their entire territory, not only within Natura 2000 sites.

Conservation status expressed as: **Favourable (FV)**, **Unfavourable-Inadequate (U1)**, or **Unfavourable-Bad (U2)**. The assessment is based on parameters such as range, population/area, habitat quality (or structure and functions), and future prospects. Reports also include information on pressures, threats and conservation measures.



Resolution No. 8 (2012):

Contracting Parties report every six years on the conservation status of Resolution No. 4 habitats and Resolution No. 6 (1998) (species) inside and outside

Emerald Network sites

- Reports done by country/BGR
- 2019-2024 report submitted this spring (CH, IS, MC, ME, MD, NO, RS and the UK). For non-avian species and selection of habitat types.

Reportnet 3

Reportnet 3

https://reportnet.europa.eu

An official website of the European Union How do you know? ▾

European Union

Reportnet Login

The next generation for e-Reporting environmental and climate data

Reportnet 3 is the new e-Reporting platform for reporting environmental and climate data to the European Environment Agency (EEA). The platform embraces the strategic goals of the European Commission's Green Deal and Digital Strategy and hosts reporting tasks on behalf of EEA and the Commission.

The transition of reporting obligations from Reportnet 2 to Reportnet 3 will take a number of years. Therefore, Reportnet 2 will remain operational until all data flows are migrated and will then become an archive.

Reportnet 2 can be accessed here: <http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/>

Need any help?
Please contact us at helpdesk@reportnet.europa.eu

Supporting documents:

- Login
- Reporter
- Requester
- Webforms
- API

Dataflow status

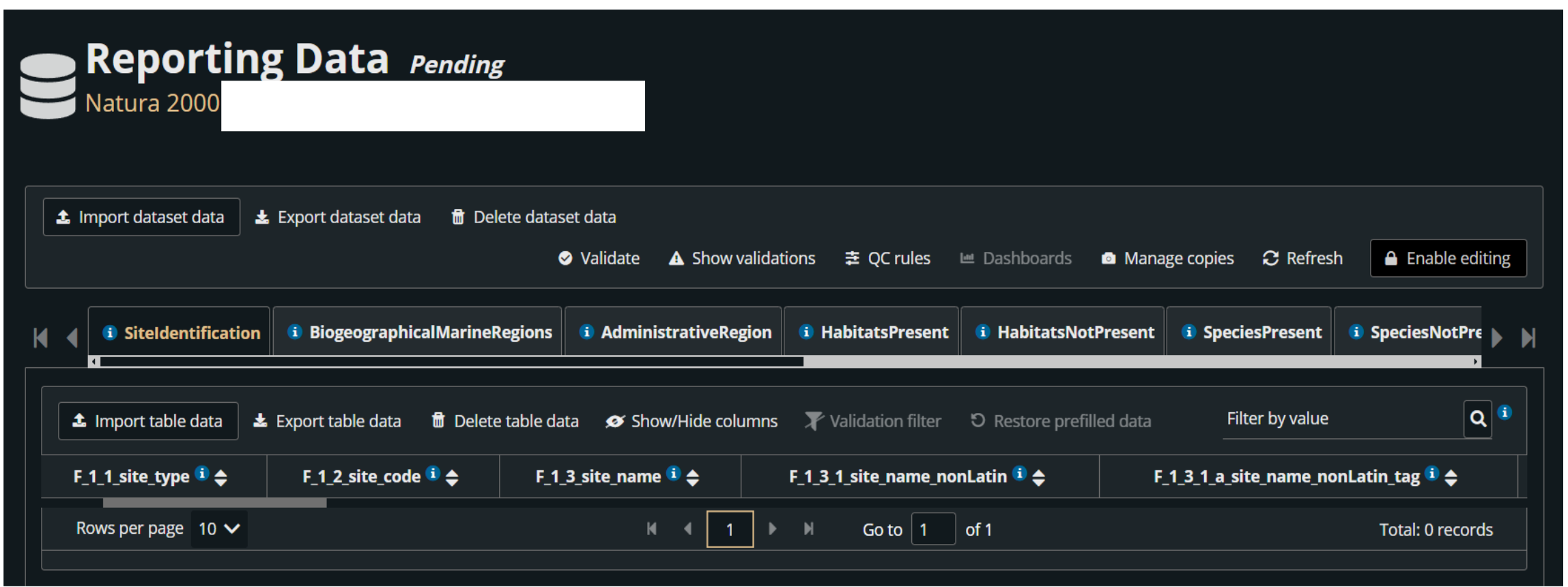
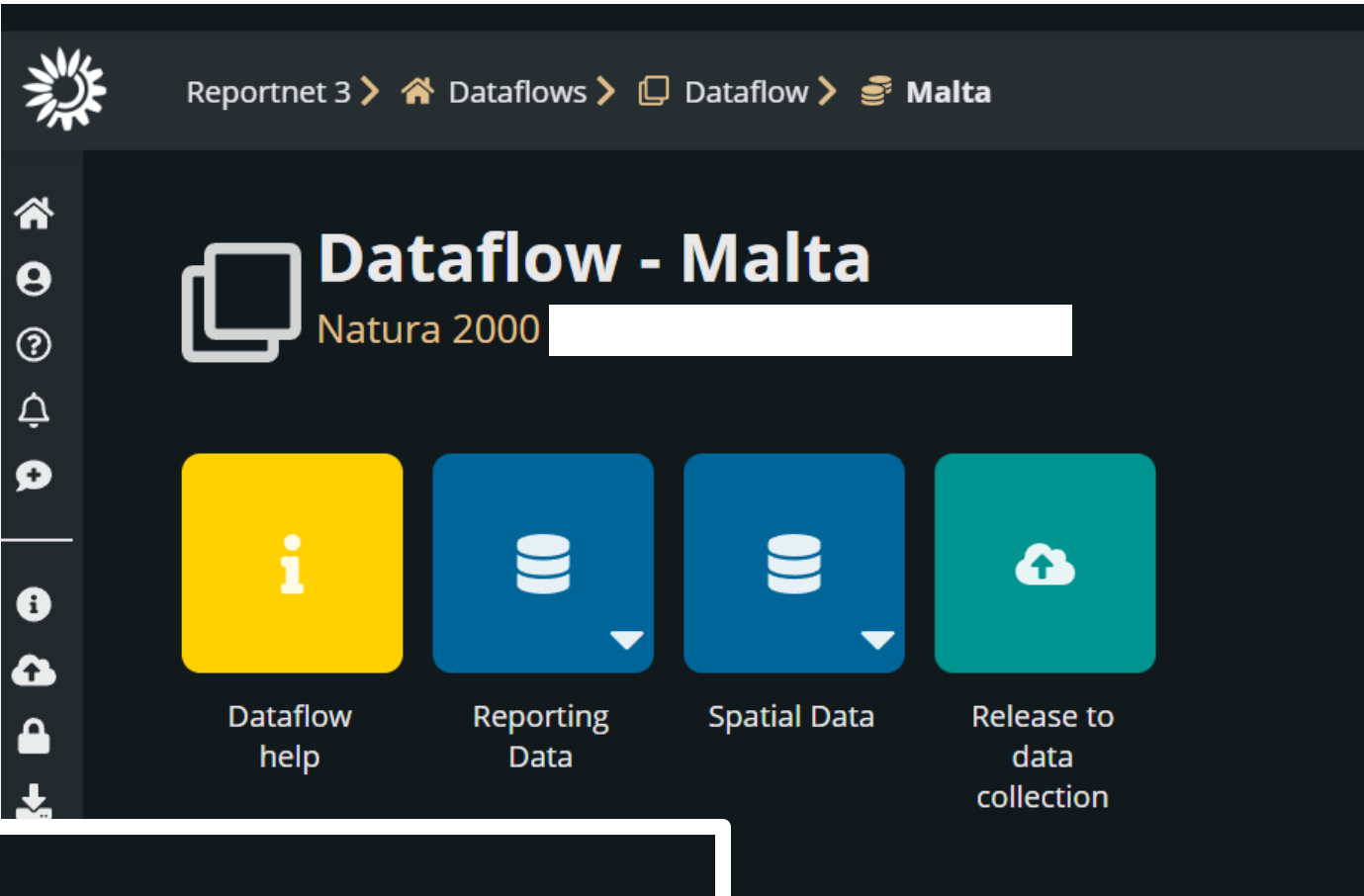
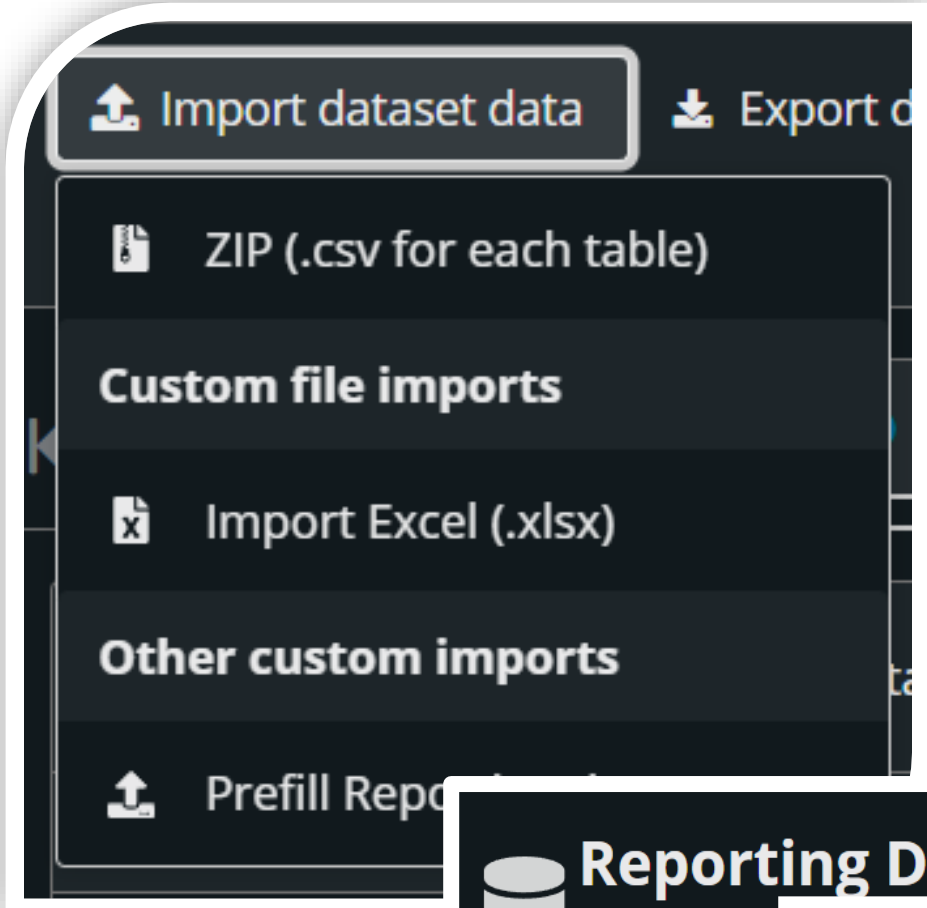
View by obligation dataflow status and download reported data

View by country dataflow status and download reported data

- Emerald will be reported in the new SDF for the first time in 2027 with three years transition period until 2030
- During 2026 it is still possible to submit in the old SDF

External portals

Reportnet 3



Reportnet 3 · Prefilled SDF examples - and run validation



Reporting Data *Pending*

Natura 2000 [November 2024] - Denmark (Big Data)

Import dataset data

Export dataset data

Delete dataset data

Validate

Show validations

QC rules

Dashboards

Manage copies

Refresh

Enable editing

HabitatsPresent

HabitatsNotPresent

SpeciesPresent

SpeciesNotPresent

OtherSpecies

SiteDescription

PressuresList

M

Import table data

Export table data

Delete table data

Show/Hide columns

Validation filter

Restore prefilled data

Filter by value

Q

Validations	site_code	F_3_1_1_habitat_code	F_3_1_2_habitat_priority	F_3_1_4_habitat_cover	F_3_1_5_habitat_caves
	DK002X110	1160	No	75	
	DK002X110	1310	No	26.99	
	DK002X110	1150	No	9.45	
	DK002X110	1170	No	4400	
	DK002X110	1110	Yes	1000	
	DK002X110	1330	No	1652.84	
	DK002X110	1210	No	72	

Natura 2000 and Emerald Network dataflow products



- Natura 2000 Barometer
- Natura 2000 Viewer
- Natura 2000 public database (EEA website)
- Biogeographical Union List for sites designated under Habitats directive
- Indicators (SEBI 008 for Natura 2000 coverage, informing EU Biodiversity Strategy)



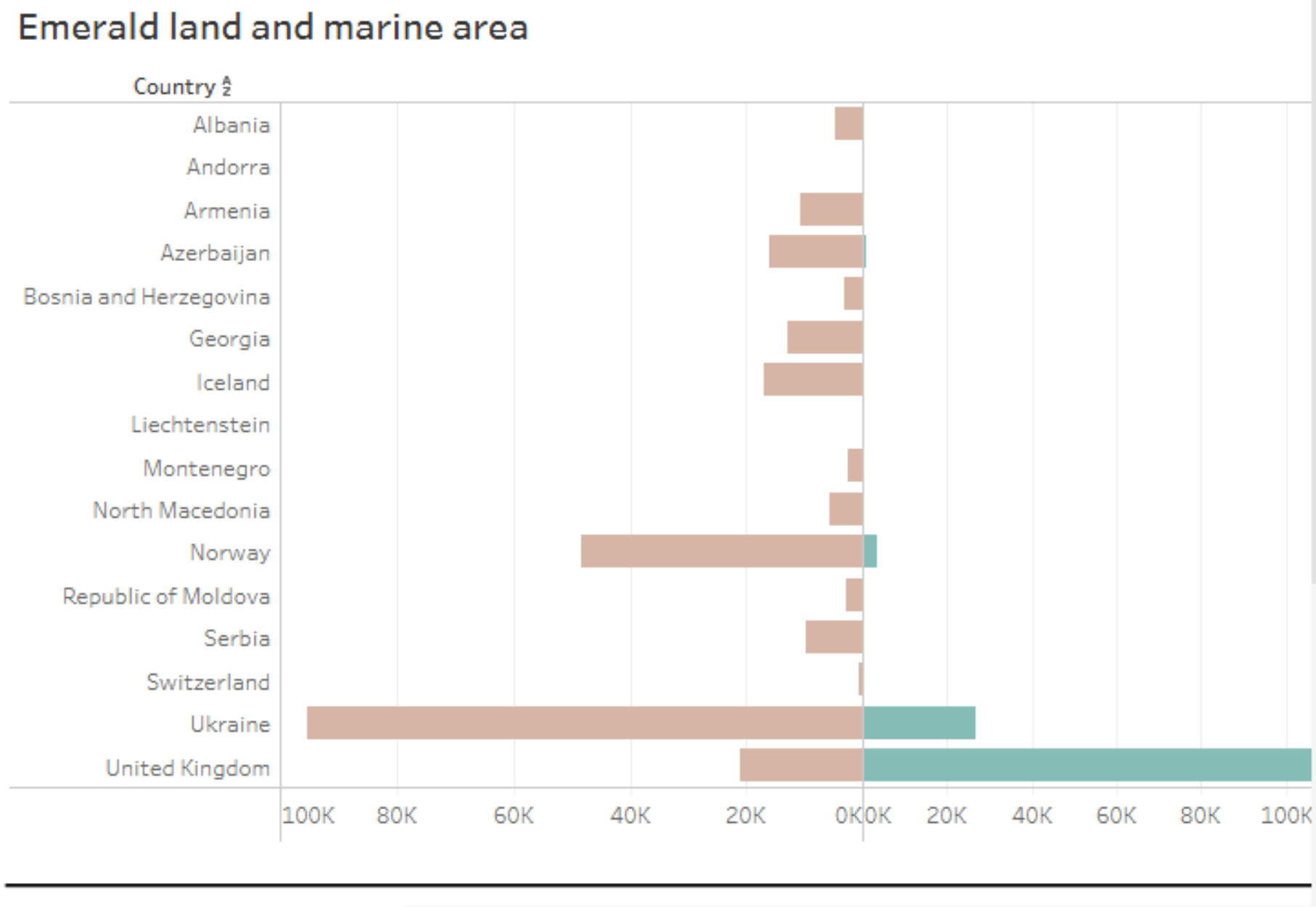
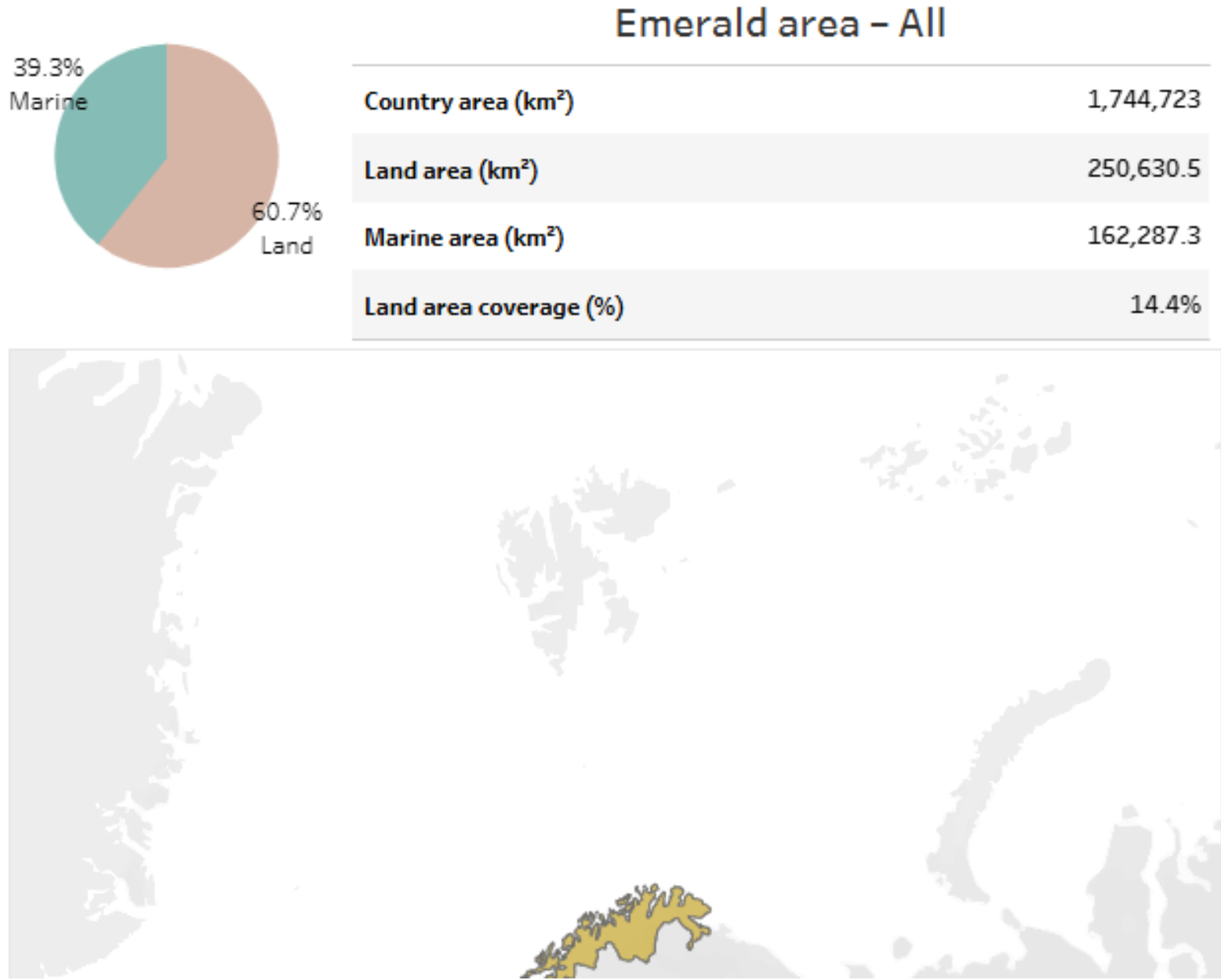
- Emerald Network Barometer
- Emerald Viewer
- Emerald Network public database (EEA and Bern Convention websites)
- List of officially adopted Emerald Network sites
- List of officially nominated candidate Emerald network sites
- Indicators (1.2 and 1.3 to follow-up implementation of the Strategic Plan)

Natura 2000 and Emerald Network dataflow products

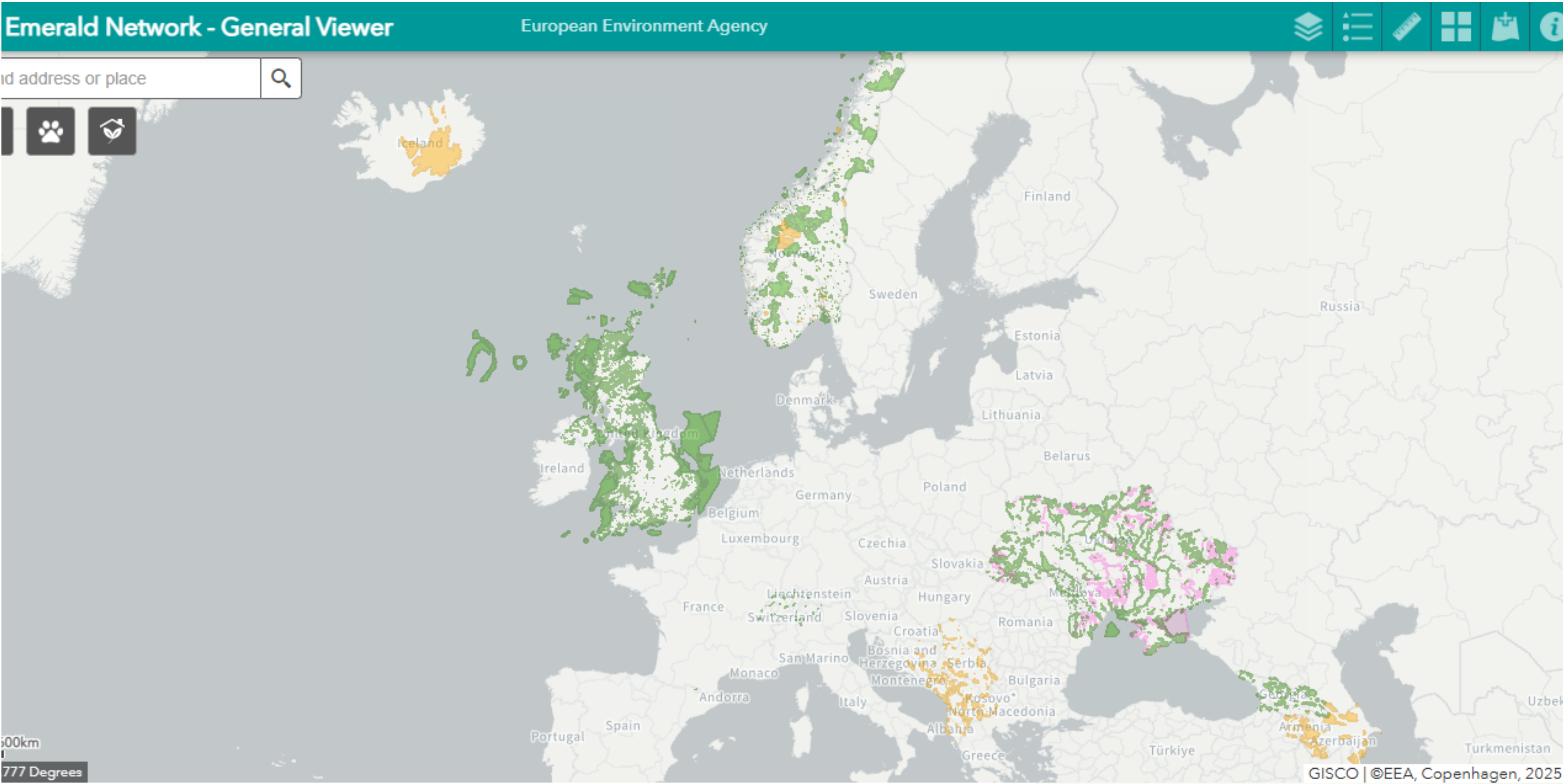
Workbook: Emerald Barometer dashboard

Barometer statistics

Release version
End2025 All countries --- 2025-12-16



Natura 2000 and Emerald Network dataflow products



Thank you for your attention.

Any questions?



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on our finite planet



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