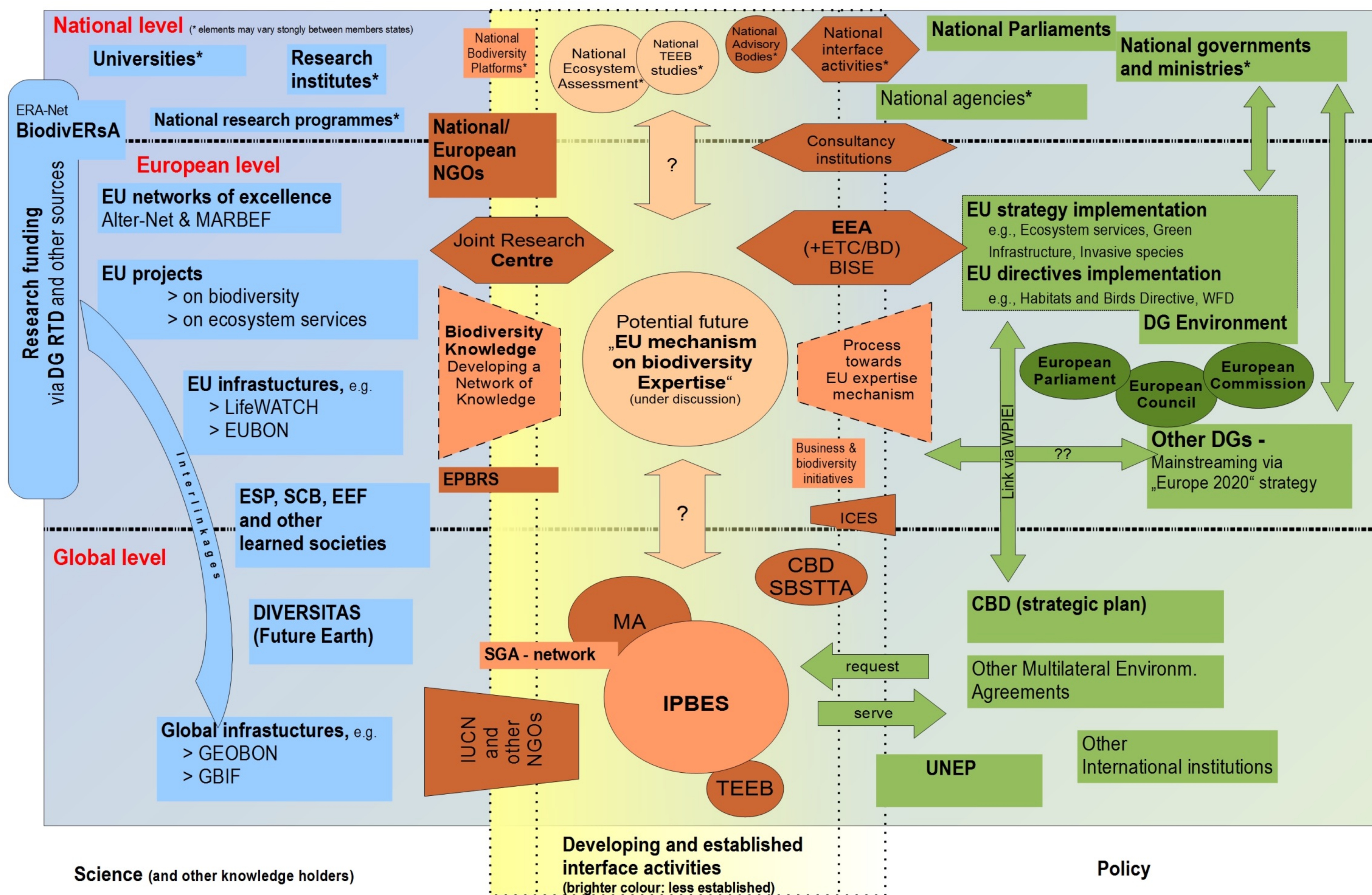


The Science-Policy Interface landscape on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

A landscape description approach for Europe



Drafted by UFZ Science-Policy Expert Group, 8th revision, 18.8.2013

Complex environmental issues like the **loss of biodiversity and the depletion of ecosystem services** pose a high demand on improving the **interface between science and policy to support better informed decisions**.

The map above, developed based on the work of the EU funded projects **SPIRAL** and **KNEU**, aims at *illustrating** the main elements of the current science-policy landscape with a focus on Europe, but also highlighting the main links to the national (top) and international (bottom) level.

Many existing or temporary initiatives already serve the interface between science (blue part on the left) and policy (green part on the right). As one major element, IPBES has just been established on the global level. On the European level, a similar institution to serve European policy needs as well as build a European regional link towards IPBES, the so called „**EU mechanisms on biodiversity expertise**“ is currently under discussion, with several projects, including SPIRAL and KNEU, currently investigating options of its potential functions and design.

* necessarily, the whole complexity of interactions cannot be captured in a one dimensional map, so this map should be understood as illustration of the main elements

Acronym	Organisation
BiodivERSA	ERA-Net of national funding organisations on biodiversity
BISE	Biodiversity Information System Europe
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
EEA	European Environment Agency
EPBRS	European Platform for Biodiversity Research Strategy
ESP	Ecosystem Services Partnership
ETC/BD	European Topic Centre on Biodiversity
EUBON	Building the European Biodiversity Observation Network
GEOBON	Group on Earth Observations – Biodiversity Observation Network
GBIF	Global Biodiversity Information Facility
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
IPBES	Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
MA	Millennium Ecosystem Assessment
SGA network	Sub-Global Assessment Network
SBSTTA	Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice of the CB
SCB	Society for Conservation Biology
TEEB	The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity
UNEP	United Nations Environmental Programme
WPIEI	Working Party on International Environment Issues