

Catalan government creates Nature Agency

to increase efficiency, transparency and co-responsibility with territorial actors in nature conservation policy

Creation of Agency approved by **Parliament of Catalonia**.

The Agency forms part of the Natural Heritage and Biodiversity Strategy, approved by the Executive Council in June 2018.

The initiative, part of the Government Plan for the 12th parliamentary term, aims to increase efficiency, transparency and co-responsibility with territorial actors in nature conservation policy.



Greater executive capacity for protection, planning, management, restoration, improvement and study of the natural environment (terrestrial and marine) in Catalonia.

The Agency will have financial autonomy and its own resources – including the Natural Heritage Fund, which will be allocated 50% of revenue from the tax on CO₂ emissions – to deploy environmental protection policies.

Aim

To boost operational capacity and effectiveness in this strategic area, make more resources available, and ensure a multidisciplinary approach, expertise and sufficient human resources.

First steps



Drafting of statutes
based on a broad participatory process



Issuing of a decree to approve the statutes



Creation of a **diverse Governing Board**



Creation of the **Social Committee and Scientific Committee**

Biodiversity in Catalonia (figures)



+1 million
ha of protected land



€2,500M
annual benefit in the form of ecosystem services



land area protected under the Plan for Areas of Natural Interest



400 vertebrate species
+10,000 invertebrate species
+4,000 vascular plant species



change in population of 258 species from 2002 to 2016



Catalonia continues to lose biodiversity
Plant and animal populations are falling