

## Abbreviations and acronyms

AERW	Arrêté de l'Exécutif régional wallon (Walloon Regional Executive Order)
AFNOR	Association française de Normalisation (French Association for Normalisation)
AM	Arbuscular mycorrhiza(e)
AMINAL	Administratie Milieu-, Natuur-, Land- en Waterbeheer van het Vlaams Gewest (Environment, Nature, Land and Water Management Administration of Flanders)
ARS	Agricultural Research Service
ASCOBANS	Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas
ATCC	American Tissue Culture Collection
BAHC	Belgian Avifaunal Homologation Committee
BCCM	Belgian Co-ordinated Collections of Micro-organisms
BCS	Belgian Continental Shelf
BHG	Brussels Hoofdstedelijk Gewest (Brussels Capital Region)
BIM	Brussels Instituut voor Milieubeheer (Brussels Institute for Management of the Environment)
BIME	Brussels Institute for Management of the Environment
BOJ	Belgian Official Journal
BWK	Biologische Waarderingskaart (Biological Evaluation Map)
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CCAP	Culture Collection of Algae and Protozoa
CCIEP	Co-ordinating Committee for International Environmental Policy
CEH	Centre for Ecology and Hydrology
CH	Commission d'Homologation (Homologation Commission)
CNB	Cercles des Naturalistes de Belgique (Naturalists Cercles of Belgium)
CONSSO	Committee of North Sea Senior Officials
COP	Conference of the Parties
CORINE	Coordination de la Recherche de l'Information en Environnement (Coordination of Information on the Environment)
CRNFB	Centre de Recherche de la Nature, des Forêts et du Bois (Research Centre for Nature, Forests and Wood)
DDT	Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane
DGRNE	Direction générale des Ressources naturelles et de l'Environnement (Directorate General for Natural Resources and Environment)
DML	Dunstaffnage Marine Laboratory
DMS	Dimethyl sulfide
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid
EEC	European Economic Union
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
ERMS	European Register of Marine Species
EU	European Union
EUNIS	European Nature Information System
FES	Flemish Entomological Society
FUSAG	Faculté Universitaire des Sciences Agronomiques de Gembloux (Gembloux Agricultural University)
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
IBD	Indice Biologique Diatomées (Diatom Biological Index)
IBGE	Institut Bruxellois pour la Gestion de l'Environnement (Brussels Institute for Management of the Environment)
IBGN	Indice Biologique Global Normalisé (Global Standardised Biological Index)
IBW	Instituut voor Bosbouw en Wildbeheer (Institute for Forestry and Game Management)
ICE	Inter-ministerial Conference for the Environment
IGN	Institut géographique national (National Geographic Institute)
IHEM	Institute for Hygiene and Epidemiology, Mycology collection (now: Scientific Institute of Public Health - Louis Pasteur)
IMO	International Maritime Organisation
IN	Instituut voor Natuurbehoud (Institute of Nature Conservation)
INTERREG	Inter-regional Co-operation (European Community initiative)
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climatic Change
IRM	Institut Royal Météorologique (Royal Meteorological Institute)
ISN	Institut national de Statistique (National Institute of Statistics)
ITIS	Integrated Taxonomic Information System
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources - The World Conservation Union
IVON	Integraal Verwevings- en Ondersteunend Netwerk (Integral Interweaving and Supportive Network)

KMI	Koninklijk Meteorologisch Instituut (Royal Meteorological Institute)
KNNV	Koninklijke Nederlandse Natuurhistorische Vereniging (Royal Dutch Society for Study of Wildlife)
KUL	Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (Catholic University of Leuven)
LIFE	L'Instrument Financier pour l'Environnement (Financial Instrument for the Environment)
LMG	Laboratory for Microbiology Ghent
Ma	Million years ago
MARBENA	MARine Biodiversity research in the European economic area and the Newly Associated states
MIRA	Milieu- en natuurrapport Vlaanderen (Environmental and nature report Flanders)
MMM	Marien Milieu Marin (Marine environment)
MNHN	Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle
MPA	Marine Protected Area
MUCL	Mycothèque de l'Université catholique de Louvain (Mycological Collection of the Catholic University of Louvain)
MUMM	Management Unit of the North Sea Mathematical Models
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
NBGB	National Botanic Garden of Belgium
NEAT	North East Atlantic Taxa
NFP	National Focal Point
NGI	Nationaal Geografisch Instituut (National Geographic Institute)
NHM	The Natural History Museum
NIS	Nationaal Instituut voor de Statistiek (National Institute of Statistics)
NPK	Nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium
OFFH	Observatoire de la Faune, de la Flore et des Habitats (Observatory of the Fauna, the Flora and Habitats)
OSPARCOM	Oslo and Paris Commissions (OSPAR Convention = Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic)
PAH	Poly-aromatic hydrocarbons
PCB	Poly-chlorinated biphenyls
PDV	Phocine Distemper Virus
PIH	Provinciaal Instituut voor Hygiëne (Provincial Institute for Hygiene)
RBC	Région de Bruxelles-Capitale (Brussels Capital Region)
RBINS	Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences
RCNFW	Research Centre for Nature, Forests and Wood
RMCA	Royal Museum for Central Africa
RMI	Royal Meteorological Institute
RNA	Ribonucleic acid
RNOB	Réserves Naturelles et Ornithologiques de Belgique (Belgian Nature and Ornithological Reserves)
RUCA	Rijksuniversitair Centrum Antwerpen (University of Antwerp, partim)
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SGIB	Sites de Grand Intérêt Biologique (Sites of Great Biological Interest)
SIBW	Système d'Information sur la Biodiversité en Wallonie (Information System on Biodiversity in Wallonia)
SPA	Special Protection Area
SPM	Suspended Particulate Matter
TBT	Tributyltin
UA	Universiteit Antwerpen (University of Antwerp)
UCL	Université catholique de Louvain (Catholic University of Louvain)
UGENT	Universiteit Gent (Ghent University)
UIA	Universitaire Instelling Antwerpen (University of Antwerp, partim)
ULB	Université Libre de Bruxelles (Free University of Brussels)
ULg	Université de Liège (University of Liège)
UMH	Université de Mons-Hainaut (University of Mons-Hainaut)
UN	United Nations
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
UTM	Universal Transverse Mercator (Grid)
VEN	Vlaams Ecologisch Netwerk (Flemish Ecological Network)
VLM	Vlaamse Landmaatschappij (Flemish Land Agency)
WCMC	World Conservation Monitoring Centre
WEHAB	Water and sanitation, Energy, Health, Agriculture, Biodiversity