



European Union European Regional Development Fund

Innovative Models for Protected Areas: exChange and Transfer (IMPACT) *Molise Region Action Plan – Work in progress*

PEGIONE MOLISE

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Actions envisaged in the IMPACT Project Action Plan



The action plan approved is a document providing details on how the lessons learnt from the cooperation will be exploited in order to improve the policy instrument tackled within that region. It specifies the nature of the actions to be implemented, their timeframe, the players involved, the costs (if any) and funding sources (if any).

- ACTION 1 Mountain habitat conservation: forests and open spaces
- ACTION 2 Improve the "Italian Transiberiana"
- ACTION 3 Molise "Natura 2000" Label
- ACTION 4 Conservation and restoration of fresh water habitats

ACTION 1 (Mountain habitat conservation: forests and open spaces) what's the problem?



Natura 2000 - Land Use - Molise Region

Fortore Trigno Volturn

The Natura 2000 areas of Molise are mostly located in the mountains and characterized by the presence of woods and pastures: specifically the coexistence of extensive forests and wide open spaces creates the ideal conditions for the conservation of many species of Community interest.

Threats:

unproper forest exploitation practices: the category facing the most widespread threat in Molise (which - according to the Management Plans - occurs in 58% of the sites) is the management and use of forests.
the lack of active, sustainable and responsible management of forests reduces that the value of forests and forest' products (as underlined by the Regional Forest Management Plan).

- The abandonment of mountain animal husbandry that Prois Areas Causing a considerable reduction of pasture meadows: according to the Regional Forestry Plan of Molise, between 1990 and 2012 the area with "grass and sture pasture and uncultivated grasslands" decreased by almost 10,000 hectares, while the wooded area is growing strongly.

ACTION 1 - What actions envisaged in the Action Plan?



Sub-action 1.1 - Improvement of forest management practices by encouraging eco-certification of wood products from forests within Natura 2000 areas.

Activity 1.1.1 - Property registration (public and private) of forest areas within the Natura 2000 areas

Activity 1.1.2 - Preparation of a "standard specifications" for the allowance of forest exploitation of public property plots

Activity 1.1.3 - Meetings with Municipalities of public forest properties and State Property

Activity 1.1.4 - Identification of incentive mechanisms to guide owners of private forest areas towards eco-certification.

Activity 1.1.5 - Promotion of an eco-certified wood supply chain

<u>Sub-action 1.2 Promoting sustainable farming activities for the conservation of meadows / pastures</u>

Activity 1.2.1 - Analysis of the effectiveness of existing incentive mechanisms Activities 1.2.2 - Definition of an effective incentive strategy

Activity 1.2.3 - Definition of a regional funding plan to support specific measures of the Natura 2000 site management plans

ACTION 2 - What actions envisaged in the Action Plan?



Sub-action 2.1 Development of paths and activities that allow to extend the benefits of "railway tourism" to the surrounding territory

Activity 2.1.1 - Itineraries for the use of the surrounding historical-cultural and natural heritage, through cycle paths or public transport Activity 2.1.2 - Feasibility study for the creation of information points, service and marketing spaces for local products at the main stations Activity 2.1.3 - Development and elaboration of a communication strategy and promotion of tourism offer

Sub-action 2.2 Adapt the frequency of trains and the number of stops to the new ways of using "railway tourism"

Activity 2.2.1 Activate synergies with the Abruzzo Region and other possible partners to optimize the new railway tourism formulas

Activities 2.2.2 - Agreeing on the new mode of train management among all the stakeholders involved

ACTION 1 and ACTION 2 - What we have done?



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To achieve the objectives set out in action 1 already in the Action Plan, the action was taken to integrate with the instruments already existing aimed at protecting the forests, pastures and biodiversity, but focusing attention on the Natura 2000 areas.

Actions in the field for implementation of action 1:

- for the woods, Within the framework of the programmatic actions of the Rural Development Plan (RDP), in the next two years will see the issue of special calls for prevention (sub-measure 8.3) and the restoration (sub-measure 8.4) of the damage caused by fires, natural disasters and catastrophic events, and investments to increase the resilience and environmental value of forest ecosystems (sub-measure 8.5).

- The Region is achieving an important goal by approving shortly the "Regional Forest Management Plan" which provides, as part of action 3 - management and improvement of public (3A) and private (3B) forests - the solutions object of this action (sub-action 1.1 Improvement of forest management practices by encouraging eco-certification of wood products from forests within Natura 2000 areas).

- 33 new "State-owned forest management plans" are approved for the same number of municipalities that fall even partially into the Natura 2000 network. For these, it was necessary to first identify the public and private properties of forest areas also within the Natura 2000 areas. (therefore finding the sub-action Action 1.1.1 of the Action Plan).

ACTION 1 and ACTION 2 - What we have done?



The ACTION 1 "Mountain habitat conservation: forests and open spaces" and ACTION 2 «Improve the "Italian Transiberiana", are about to be included in a tender for the "valorisation and protection of itineraries and routes with high naturalistic and landscape value for tourism purposes, of alternative sustainable mobility" that finds financial coverage in the "Molise Development Pact" (2014-2020 DEVELOPMENT AND COHESION FUND), which should be issued before the end of the year 2018.

What is the "Molise Development Pact":



PACT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MOLISE REGION is the implementation of priority interventions and the identification of strategic intervention areas for the Molise territory.

How was it born?

- The Molise Region as part of the Regional Economic and Finance Document (DEFR) 2016-18 approved the basic lines and priority interventions aimed at the development of regional mobility, economic development, production and employment; to environmental sustainability, to the tourist and cultural enhancement of the regional heritage, to the strengthening of the university and school system.
- On 29 October 2014, the European Commission adopted the Partnership Agreement with Italy for the use of the European Structural and Investment Funds for growth and employment in the period 2014-2020
- in relation to the 2014-2020 programming period, the State has allocated resources amounting to € 378.0 million of the Development and Cohesion Fund for the implementation of the interventions included in the Pact for the Molise Region, as part of the total resources allocated to the Molise Region, within the Development and Cohesion Fund for the Southern regions

What funds the outgoing call?



Synergistic and INTEGRATED interventions aimed at:

- implementation of action 1 "Conservation of mountain habitats: forests and open spaces" of the IMPACT Action Plan;
- Implementation of action 2 "Valorising the Italian Trans-Siberian" of the IMPACT Action Plan;
- -Visitor centers with small spaces for environmental education;
- Recovery centers for wildlife;
- Realization of wildlife areas and aviaries;
- -Realisation or renovation of shelters equipped for parking;
- -Realisation or restructuring of small buildings for foresteria use;
- Small campsites;
- Adaptation and implementation of the trail network and related IT application;
- -Realisation of hiking cartography and related computer application;
- -Equipment of permanent exhibitions or museums of a naturalistic nature or representing the peculiarities and traditions of the territory;
- Small picnic areas;
- Renovation and recovery of fountains or springs;
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What funds the outgoing call?



- Information boards;

-Interventions to protect habitats and species of fauna of Community or priority interest;

- Realization of specific site conservation measures approved for the Natura 2000 sites of the Molise Region;

- Realization of small shelter areas for horses and related equipped bridleways;
- Realization of trails for mountan-bike;
- -Recreation of habitats of community or priority interest;
- -Small interventions of hydrogeological and territorial consolidation

AWARD CRITERIA OF THE INTERVENTIONS

- integration between the tourist valorisation of the intervention with the actions of protection, conservation and reconstitution of habitats of community or priority interest and of habitats of fauna species of community or priority interest;

- integration of the interventions with the productive activities of tourist, agricultural, zootechnical, etc., existing in the territory;
- implementation and diversification of the tourism offer existing in the area;

- lower ratio between the cost of the intervention and the area unit of the territory enhanced by the tourist and environmental point of view.

ACTION 3 and 4 - What actions envisaged in the Action Plan?

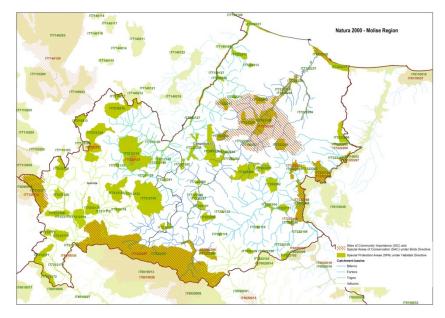


ACTION 3 Molise "Natura 2000" Label

The action aims to create a *brand* that makes recognizable products (agri-food, crafts) and services (hospitality, restaurants and catering) of the Natura 2000 areas of Molise.

ACTION 4 - Conservation and

restoration of fresh water habitats The action aims to activation of "*river contracts*" on the most important water bodies of Molise, in particular to guarantee the conservation of species, populations and habitats of Community interest AND definition of a specific funding line on the ROP funds to finance river protection and / or rehabilitation and re-habitat interventions identified as priorities in the context of river contracts





Individuazione delle priorità e delle linee di finanziamento





Thanks for your attention!

IMPACT is also in Molise Region Website! https://cooperazione.regione.molise.it/node/75

http://www.interregeurope.eu/impact

