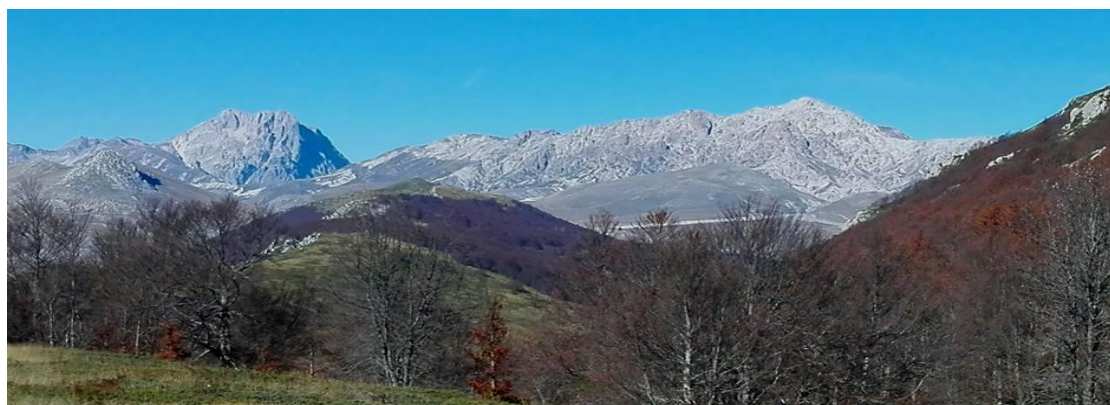


Emblematic Mediterranean Mountains as Coastal destinations of excellence (EMbleMatic)

Project Ref: 594 | 1MED15_3.1_M12_272

PARTICIPATIVE WORKSHOP REPORT PP3 - GRAN SASSO MOUNTAIN



Deliverable D 332

WP3 – Studying

**Activity A3.3 Conduction of the in depth study of the criteria composing
the emblematic dimension of the EMM**

30th of November 2017



SUMMARY

This deliverable is part of the WP3 – Studying and it is the result of the local meeting in which stakeholders were invited. In line with the objective of the project, the PP3 – LAG GSV is promoting the knowledge of the project aims and activities, following a bottom up approach. After a deep consideration about the target group to invite to the meeting, the LAG project group elaborated a list of stakeholders: local tourist association, representatives of the General Federations of Italian Commerce and Tourism, Gran Sasso Laga Park representatives, DMC (Destination Management Company) representatives, local producers, Slow Food Association representatives. The invited people participated to the local meeting, giving their specific contribution to the definition of the 10 Emblematic criteria. The content of this brief report is the result of the meeting, held in Assergi on the 20th October. After a short presentation of the Emblematic project (topic of the project, structure of the partnership, aim of the meeting) by the president of the LAG, mr Bruno Petrei, mr Maria Sulpizio, the local coordinator, explained in depth the topics of the local meeting, the bottom up approach and the 10 criteria. She also managed the group and all the information and suggestions by local stakeholders.

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I. MEETING SUMMARY

I.1. Summary list

Date: 20th October 2017 **Venue:** Assergi – hotel FIORDIGIGLI
Time duration: 10 AM TO 3 PM
Moderator's name and title: MARIA SULPIZIO – LOCAL PROJECCOORDINATOR; supported by GIOVANNI HAUSMANN – LAG GSV
Material provided: document folder, block notes, pen, slide / project summary
Summary list of stakeholders that attended the meeting:

Nº	Name	Organization	Type / Sector of activity
1	MARTA PICELLA	CENTRO EDUCAZIONE AMBIENTALE IL BOSSO	Outdoor sports/ environmental education
2	FILOMENA SPAGNOLI	CENTRO EDUCAZIONE AMBIENTALE IL BOSSO	Outdoor sports/ environmental education
3	CARLA IANNI	ASSOCIAZIONE DI CATEGORIA CONFCOMMERCIO L'AQUILA	Interventions, implementation tools and development strategy for the services sector at local, regional and national level
4	NIVA FLORIO	GIORNALISTA – FOOD TELLER COOPERATIVA TERRA AUTENTICA	Tourism promotion and tourist services
5	MARIA SULPIZIO	GAL GRAN SASSO VELINO	Local Action Group : local and rural development ; sustainability
6	ASSUNTA PERILLI	ARTIGIANO – ASSOCIAZIONE FONTE DELLA TESSITURA	Local artisan representatives
7	ANTONIO TRESKA	ASSOCIAZIONE HIGHER GRAN SASSO ACTIVITIES	Outdoor sports/ international sport festivals
8	EMANUELE DE SIMONE	ASSOCIAZIONE HIGHER GRAN SASSO ACTIVITIES	Outdoor sports/ international sport festivals
9	ADA FIORDIGIGLI	ALBERGATRICE	Local services representatives
10	GIOVANNI HAUSMANN	GAL GRAN SASSO VELINO	Local Action Group : local and rural development ; sustainability
11	RINALDO D'ALESSIO	AZIENDA AGRICOLA LA MASCIONARA	Local producers association
12	NADIA DI GIROLAMO	AZIENDA AGRICOLA LA MASCIONARA	Local producers association

13	ALFONSO D'ALFONSO	DMC GRAN SASSO D'ITALIA L'AQUILA E TERRE VESTINE	Destination Management Company (DMC)
14	RAFFAELE CAVALLO	SLOW FOOD ABRUZZO	Slow food representatives
15	ROBERTO DI GIANFILIPPO	GAL GRAN SASSO VELINO	Local Action Group : local and rural development ; sustainability
16	PAOLO SETTA	CENTRO EDUCAZIONE AMBIENTALE IL BOSSO	Outdoor sports/ environmental education
17	BRUNO PETREI	GAL GRAN SASSO VELINO	Local Action Group : local and rural development ; sustainability
18	CARLO ROSSI	ASSOCIAZIONE DI CATEGORIA CONFESERCENTI – PARTNER ASSOCIATO	Interventions, implementation tools and development strategy for the services sector at regional level

1.2. The meeting in brief

Give a short description of the organization, findings and outcomes of the meeting

The meeting started with a brief presentation of each participants. Here we give a short description of the participants, aims and activities in the Gran Sasso area. Unfortunately, despite the many official and informal invitations, no representative of the Gran Sasso National Park attended the meeting.

Il Bosso Cooperative is a dynamic company located in Abruzzo which works in the environment and tourism fields since 1999. It cooperates with Institutions, Schools and Associations by carrying out projects aimed at spreading environmental awareness, scientific culture, at promoting knowledge of the environment and territory, developing and searching programs for responsible and sustainable tourism. A good service offer is guaranteed by the experience and expertise of partners and employees who have been working in this field for many years.

The Slow Food Presidia have contributed and help save many varieties of vegetables and fruit, native breeds, cheeses, breads, salami and sweets that endanger the extinction. They have helped hundreds of small producers to continue their business, promoting contact between quality-conscious consumers that are willing to pay them a fair and profitable price for products; they helped to demonstrate that another agriculture and other food production are possible.

The Terra Autentica Cooperative is a company located in Abruzzo which mainly deals with tourism promotion and tourist services. We are specialized in the organization of tourist itineraries and tours in small villages of mountain and foothill. Thanks to the deep knowledge and love for the territory that our members and collaborators have. Each tour is an emotional experience that brings together culture, history, nature and food and allows travelers to live and perceive the uniqueness of the Abruzzo region in all its aspects.

CONFCOMMERCIO- General Federations of Italian Commerce and Tourism is the largest association company in Italy, bringing together over 700,000 companies. Confcommercio representation system is articulated both at the territorial level, with provincial organizations and regional unions. The Federation, through its statutory bodies, expresses the general guidelines of the policy of representation and, through its national structure, identifies interventions, coordinates implementation tools and defines a development strategy for the sectors represented.

Higher Gran Sasso is an association founded by the will of its founders to create a project for the promotion of outdoor sports. They are a group of professionals who have created an ambitious project: enhancing the Gran Sasso through the great opportunities it offers.

DMC Gran Sasso d'Italia, L'Aquila and Terre Vestine Scarl performs the function of the **Destination Management Company (DMC)**, which operates in favor of numerous Municipalities and actors of the territory. The territory is represented by an aggregation of 57 public and private members, covering the entire territory of the Destination, and aiming for "networking" to tackle and overcome the challenges posed by innovation as a tourist key. The social object of society is the development of tourism and the enhancement of the territory, through the coordination of the promotion and marketing of tourism products and services.

The DMC priority objective is to enhance the territorial tourism supply through the systematization of the work of the various components, the creation of local, trans-regional, regional, national and international networks and the improvement of local governance for the management of the tourist flows and the provision of services, in collaboration with other subjects.

La Mascionara represents local producers. It is a breeding farm and direct sale of meats, salumi and cheeses. It is a small local production reality in the Gran Sasso park. All products are bio and certified; come from the ancient local tradition.

Confesercenti's mission is to represent the world of small and medium-sized businesses that, with their dynamism, ensure economic and employment growth in Abruzzo and throughout Italy.

It proposes to contribute to the growth of businesses and their economies and the development of democracy through collaboration with institutions, social, economic, cultural and humanitarian organizations. On these goals, Confesercenti promotes proposals involving the Italian and European institutions and social forces.

After a short presentation of the Emblematic project (topic of the project, structure of the partnership, aim of the meeting) by the president of the LAG, mr Bruno Petrei, mr Maria Sulpizio, the local coordinator, explained in depth the topics of the local meeting, the bottom up approach and the 10 criteria: Spatial Cohesion; Institutional recognition; Reputation; Picturesque landscape; Myth and legend; power of Inspiration; Historical places; Unique ecosystems; Particular cultural identity; Sustainability and anthropogenetic environment. After listening to the emblematic criteria to be analyzed, each participant expressed his opinion on each criterion and collegially scored. The tables below show the results of the meeting and the interventions of each, with the weighted average for each emblematic criterion. As can be seen from the data scores, the working group considered that the proposed criteria could be representative of the mountain and that the Gran Sasso is actually an "Emblematic Mountain".

After assigning scores to the selected criteria, the discussion was geared to the criteria for the definition of an eco itinerary. Even in this case, the present gave their contribution, coming to define in a small part what are the possible criteria for an ecotourism in our territory. The local coordinator, Maria Sulpizio, managed the group and the information, bringing the results to the board and sharing them with the working group.

II. EMBLEMATIC DIMENSION

C1. SPATIAL COHESION										
Questions	Answers / comments									
<p>Does the territory's legal protection set certain boundaries?</p> <p>Do the virtual boundaries of the mountain correspond to a homogenic geographical area?</p> <p>Is the area considered a continuous or discontinuous area?</p> <p><u>Key words to raise discussion</u></p> <p><i>spatial cohesion</i></p> <p><i>spatial and socio-geographic similarities along the mountain</i></p> <p><i>homogenic elements/parts in the natural relief</i></p> <p><i>uniformity (e.g. land types, cultivars, desertification)</i></p> <p><i>common features in the practice of anthropogenic activities</i></p> <p><i>sub-sections shaping the boundaries of the mountain and the common cultural characteristics</i></p> <p><i>delimitation of the area</i></p> <p><i>settlements along the mountain</i></p> <p><i>particular territorial similarities in the physical and human geography</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The boundaries of the Gran Sasso Laga Park correspond to the area of our interest, which is completely under environmental protection The Gran Sasso is a barrier that naturally separates the two environments of Abruzzo: marine or Adriatic and mountainous. The massif also exhibits a strong diversity between the northern slope with steep walls, the slope of Teramo side, and the southern slope of L'Aquila side, made up of grassy highlands from May to August. The spatial profile of the area between the Campo Imperatore and the adjacent areas is characterized by a remarkable homogeneity There are common lines in culture, food and wine, customs and customs in the neighboring areas (due to commercial exchanges and communication lines over the centuries). The territory has somehow created and preserved its peculiarities: sheep's milk, pastry-related products; biodiversity-related products (chickpeas, lentils, saffron) We can consider it a continuous area <p>the emblematic dimension about this subject is 8 according to the working group</p>									
	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
c1 Scoring emblematic dimension			8							

1 very small, 2-3 small, 4-5 medium, 6-7 high, 8-9 very high, 10 paramount

C2. INSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION

Questions	Answers / comments									
<p>Is the mountain or part of it institutionally recognized?</p> <p><u>Key words to raise discussion</u></p> <p><i>IUCN designation as Strict Nature Reserve or Wilderness Area or National park</i></p> <p><i>UNESCO World Heritage List</i></p> <p><i>World Network of Biosphere Reserves and Global Geoparks</i></p> <p><i>European Destination of Excellence</i></p> <p><i>European Diploma of Protected Area,</i></p> <p><i>Natura 2000 award</i></p> <p><i>System of Measures for Excellence in Destinations (SMED)</i></p> <p><i>Cross-border cooperation and institutional recognition</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is in a NATIONAL PARK, a protected area Natura 2000 award Life Natura project Some of the villages are in the list of the The most beautiful villages in Italy (Borghi più belli d'Italia) such as Santo Stefano di Sessanio, Castel del Monte--- <p>It is still missing the capacity of the public bodies to apply for Eu project to enter, for example, in a wider network such as EDEN</p> <p>For all these reasons, the emblematic dimension about this subject is 9 according to the working group</p>									
	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
C2 Scoring emblematic dimension		9								

1 very small, 2-3 small, 4-5 medium, 6-7 high, 8-9 very high, 10 paramount

C3. REPUTATION

Questions	Answers / comments									
<p>Is there a global or national or regional or local reputation of the mountain?</p> <p>What are the highly esteemed characteristics?</p> <p><u>Key words to raise discussion</u></p> <p><i>outstanding universal value</i></p> <p><i>principal factors for the reputation</i></p> <p><i>high reputation capital / elements</i></p> <p><i>widespread knowledge</i></p> <p><i>power of the word of mouth</i></p> <p><i>number of visitors</i></p>	<p>At regional and local level knowledge and reputation are very high, both as a symbol and as a tourist destination. However, the Abruzzesi themselves do not know what Gran Sasso has of special and because it is different from other Abruzzi massifs.</p> <p>At national and international level, knowledge is low. Surely the word of mouth has been an important element for tourism: in general, the visitor is astonished by the beauty of the places.</p> <p>The advertisement related to the various catastrophes (earthquake, Rigopiano avalanche, just to mention the latest ones) has certainly helped to make the area more known, but in a negative way.</p> <p>On the other hand, we can not forget that the Gran Sasso houses a unique nuclear physics laboratory in the world, specializing in the study of the particles: it is a world-renowned lab capable of attracting renowned researchers from abroad..</p> <p>Very esteemed features are nature and landscapes, people's authenticity and good food.</p> <p>the emblematic dimension about this subject is 5 according to the working group</p>									
	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
C3 Scoring emblematic dimension						5				

1 very small, 2-3 small, 4-5 medium, 6-7 high, 8-9 very high, 10 paramount

C4. LEGENDS AND MYTHS

Question	Answers / comments									
<p>Regarding local myths and legends what are the strong points of the mountain?</p> <p><u>Key words to raise discussion</u></p> <p><i>mythology</i></p> <p><i>godly presence</i></p> <p><i>haunted places</i></p> <p><i>unknown powers</i></p> <p><i>supernatural phenomena</i></p> <p><i>spiritual, symbolic and other interactions</i></p> <p><i>heroic accomplishments</i></p> <p><i>folktales</i></p> <p><i>sacred plants and animals</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The legend of the birth of the Gran Sasso - Witches and magic herbs - Magic and "wandering" (a death bill, love rites, evil eye) - Sacred rites and pagan gods carried in Christianity and in still-present rites of symbolic value - Places sacred woods (forests, springs, caves) - Octagonal churches dedicated to the Madonna along the treadmill = shape is a symbol of something very precise - Healing rocks - sacred waters - popular dances and songs - Pope Celestine V refusing the papacy and the procession of the Perdonance <p>the emblematic dimension about this subject is 8 according to the working group</p>									
	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
C4 Scoring emblematic dimension			x							

1 very small, 2-3 small, 4-5 medium, 6-7 high, 8-9 very high, 10 paramount

C5. POWER OF INSPIRATION

Questions

How strong is the up to now power of inspiration and what is the potential not yet promoted or self-revealed?

Can you recall examples of people, personal or collective work of art inspired by the mountain?

Key words to raise discussion

literature

fine arts

films

theatre

music

contemporary art

design

photography

video games

smartphones applications

Answers / comments

Paintings: Patini

Photography – Michael Kenna and hundreds of local photographs

Cinema -

- Continuavano a chiamarlo Trinità con Bud Spencer e Terence Hill (1971),
- Il deserto dei Tartari con Vittorio Gassman e Philippe Noiret (1976)
- Così è la vita con Aldo, Giovanni e Giacomo (1998),
- Ladyhawke con protagonisti Matthew Broderick, Rutger Hauer e Michelle Pfeiffer (1985),
- Il nome della rosa con Sean Connery (1986)
- The American con George Clooney (2010)
- Un passo dal cielo (2016), inside the National Institute of Physics of Gran Sasso

Advertising with special guest star as Leonardo DiCaprio and some Italian videoclip of singer Elisa (Eppure sentire (un senso di te) and Simona Molinari (Nell'aria).

Despite important films and advertising, the reputation and the power of inspiration of Gran Sasso are not properly exploited

the emblematic dimension about this subject is 6 according to the working group

	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
C5 Scoring emblematic dimension					<u>6</u>					

1 very small, 2-3 small, 4-5 medium, 6-7 high, 8-9 very high, 10 paramount

C6. PICTURESQUE LANDSCAPE

Questions

What are the grandiose parts of the mountain?

How far more is the aesthetic enjoyment of the mountain compared with other?

Key words to raise discussion

extraordinary / uncommon shape

spectacular formations

imposing peaks

magnificent scenery

geological exceptional characteristics

rock formations

steep slopes

impressive landscape and panoramas

topographic prominence

graphic and astonishing parts of landscape

aesthetic enjoyment

Answers / comments

The landscape is incredibly diverse. In some places, the land is exceedingly wild and mountainous, whereas in others, it is domestic and pastoral. Hill towns, castles and churches proliferate. Vineyards and olive groves are ubiquitous. Eighty miles of Adriatic shoreline provide endless points of view.

There is a vast abundance of rich and diverse subject matter.

Rocca Calascio Castle and Campo Imperatore. Both locations are stunning. Fortunately, to get to them, you will also see many other beautiful scenes

the emblematic dimension about this subject is 9 according to the working group

	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
C5 Scoring emblematic dimension		x								

1 very small, 2-3 small, 4-5 medium, 6-7 high, 8-9 very high, 10 paramount

C7. UNIQUE ECOSYSTEMS										
Questions How unique do you consider the ecosystems of the mountain? What is their vulnerability and state of conservation? <u>Key words to raise discussion</u> <i>naturalness</i> <i>intactness of natural systems</i> <i>special biotopes and geotopes</i> <i>caves</i> <i>alpine lakes</i> <i>unique biodiversity</i> <i>botanical richness</i> <i>endemism</i> <i>species richness</i> <i>unique terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems</i> <i>forest diversity</i> <i>tree cover/density</i> <i>remarkable trees</i> <i>threatened species</i> <i>natural quietness</i> <i>high nature value farmland</i> <i>high conservation status of habitats and species</i> <i>conservation of vulnerable areas</i> <i>aesthetic enjoyment</i> <i>natural phenomena</i> <i>climate particular conditions</i> <i>scenic pastures</i> <i>gorges, valleys</i> <i>emblematic plants and animals as national or regional symbols</i>	Answers / comments ➤ Gran Sasso is the highest massif of the Apennines. Thanks to its naturalness, its geographic location and its extension, it has a variety of unique landscapes and ecosystems in the world. ➤ In the Gran Sasso area the highest number of plants across Europe has been detected <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 51 floristic emergencies • 59 spontaneous orchids • 2 carnivorous plants 2651 plants counted • 139 italian endemic plants • 12 plants endemic to the Park At the moment are registered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 couples of golden eagles • 150 deers • 622 apennine chamois • 80 wolves - 13 reproductive units ➤ Gran Sasso also offers a wide variety of lakes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake Campotosto, which is the largest artificial lake in Abruzzo; • Lake Capo d'Acqua • Lake Background, today is a small pond, almost extinct; • Lake Pietranzoni • Lake Calascio, also artificial ➤ There is a wide presence of forests of oaks, maples, limes, ash and elms For all these reasons, the emblematic dimension about this subject is 10 according to the working group									
	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
C7 Scoring emblematic dimension	X									

1 very small, 2-3 small, 4-5 medium, 6-7 high, 8-9 very high, 10 paramount

C8. PARTICULAR CULTURAL IDENTITY

Questions	Answers / comments									
<p>What is the particular cultural profile of the area?</p> <p>Which are the elements attributing a unique character to the area?</p> <p><u>Key words to raise discussion</u></p> <p><i>values and works of the local society</i></p> <p><i>customs</i></p> <p><i>music</i></p> <p><i>dance</i></p> <p><i>festivals</i></p> <p><i>market places</i></p> <p><i>dietary habits</i></p> <p><i>local dialect</i></p> <p><i>social characteristics and peoples special attitude</i></p> <p><i>folklore</i></p> <p><i>artisanal production</i></p> <p><i>ethnicity</i></p> <p><i>religion</i></p> <p><i>intangible cultural heritage</i></p> <p><i>holy places</i></p> <p><i>thematic routes</i></p> <p><i>quality products (PDOs, PGIs, TSGs, bio)</i></p> <p><i>local peoples' pride for the mountain</i></p> <p><i>particular mentality and temperament of the locals</i></p> <p><i>architectural works</i></p> <p><i>works of monumental sculpture and painting</i></p> <p><i>locations, elements or structures of an archaeological nature</i></p>	<p>Abruzzo and Gran Sasso area, of course, have been a shrewd administrators of the environment, especially inland, protecting its heritage of towns and villages, farmlands, monuments, art and culture assets, traditions. The writer Ignazio Silone, one of the greatest interpreters of regional identity, said that "the Abruzzese have been embraced by a quite unique shared fate, typified by the tenacious devotion to their economic and social methods, even beyond any practical use, which would be inexplicable if it were not taken into account that the constant factor of their existence is precisely the most primitive and stable of elements: Nature." A few striking words, closely-woven with concepts, that outline how this "ability to preserve" is deep-rooted in thousands of years of contact with a tough, challenging environment that can change swiftly from a mother into a stepmother unless its inhabitants avoid overexploiting it. This is the real secret of this region.</p> <p>The Slow food Presidia: a tool for telling stories of ancient productions and tasting the products, including through dedicated menus offered by restaurants who adhere to the initiative / many local products are Slow food presidia, moreover, we have also a peculiar wine production (DOP, DOC; DOCG, IGT with native grape varieties)</p> <p>Thematic routes: perdonanza and transumanza;</p> <p>For all these reasons, the emblematic dimension about this subject is 10 according to the working group</p>									
	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
C8 Scoring emblematic dimension	X									

1 very small, 2-3 small, 4-5 medium, 6-7 high, 8-9 very high, 10 paramount

C9. SUSTAINABILITY AND ANTHROPOGENIC ENVIRONMENT

<p>Questions</p> <p>What does the anthropogenic environment offer to a traveler?</p> <p>What damage has been made to the natural environment?</p> <p><u>Key words to raise discussion</u></p> <p><i>vulnerability</i></p> <p><i>current state of conservation</i></p> <p><i>management of the area</i></p> <p><i>manmade environment profile</i></p> <p><i>pleasing urban scenes</i></p> <p><i>architectural features</i></p> <p><i>aesthetics of settlements</i></p> <p><i>authenticity</i></p> <p><i>antiquities</i></p> <p><i>industrial heritage</i></p> <p><i>notable public works of the past</i></p> <p><i>sustainable, non-intensive, small scale interventions</i></p> <p><i>large scale interventions</i></p> <p><i>sustainable or exceeding carrying capacity</i></p> <p><i>environmental impact of the human activity (businesses, public works, locals and tourists)</i></p> <p><i>uncontrolled urbanism</i></p> <p><i>negative impacts of tourism at present or foreseen</i></p> <p><i>man-caused and natural catastrophes wounds</i></p>	<p><u>Answers / comments</u></p> <p>Hiking and photographing in the mountains.</p> <p>Exploring hill towns.</p> <p>Sitting in quiet village churches.</p> <p>Tasting wine. Meeting trees.</p> <p>Eating good food and drinking fine local wines.</p> <p>For all these reasons, the emblematic dimension about this subject is 8 according to the working group</p>									
	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
C9 Scoring emblematic dimension			X							

1 very small, 2-3 small, 4-5 medium, 6-7 high, 8-9 very high, 10 paramount

C10. HISTORIC PLACES

Questions

Are there historic elements that can be promoted?

Key words to raise discussion

prehistoric and historic places and resources

historic monuments

traditional trails

sanctuaries

landmarks

battle fields

emblematic personalities origin

historic towns

Answers / comments

The area has a lot of historic and prehistoric resources:

FOSSA Necropolis - Prehistoric places

AMITERNUM & PELTUINUM – Prehistoric places

GUERRIERO DI CAPESTRANO (Capestrano warrior, a prehistoric sculpture)

TRANSUMANZA paths

PERDONANZA procession

History of Saints and beatified people

Due to the special shape of space, the Abruzzi Mountains have been from the dawn of Christianity a place of birth and contemplation of Saints and Beatified people. In particular, there are numerous stories of saints in the Gran Sasso area

San Massimo, born in Fossa (AQ) around 228. The saint is the patron saint of the city and the diocese of Aquila, and his remains lie in the cathedral of the regional capital

Santa Colomba (1100-1116) was a young hermit who retired beneath the slopes of Gran Sasso, where he died at the age of sixteen by praying. Almost at the same time, on the other side of the mountain was consumed the beautiful earthly story of another hermit: San Franco da Assergi

San Giovanni da Capestrano (1386-1456) was a fervent preacher who exhorted Christians to fight against Muslims. The convent of Capestrano is dedicated to him

In the fifteenth century there are several blessed abruzzes of the fifteenth century, almost all lived around L'Aquila in a period of great spiritual vigor for the preaching of San Bernardino da Siena.

Blessed Timothy of Monticchio, born in 1444

Blessed Ambrose of Pizzoli (1400s)

Blessed Bernardino da Fossa (1421-1503)

Blessed Vincenzo from L'Aquila (1435-1504)

Beata Cristina Ciccarelli (1480 - 1543)

	<p>The martyr San Cesidio Giacomantonio (1873-1900), born in Fossa (Aq) and killed in China by the Boxer Sect, and the Servant of God, Maria Ferrari (1824-1896), born and lived in L'Aquila, where he founded the Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus</p> <p>For all these reasons, the emblematic dimension about this subject is 10 according to the working group</p>									
	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
C10 Scoring emblematic dimension	<u> </u>									

1 very small, 2-3 small, 4-5 medium, 6-7 high, 8-9 very high, 10 paramount

Other questions possible to address or address in a different manner in comparison to the previous ones (1-3 pages)

<p>A. EMBLEMATIC DIMENSION</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the mountain's elements that you are proud off? 2. What are the common components characterising the emblematic mountains? 3. What are the elements justifying a universal value of the mountain? 4. How could we enhance the international recognition of the unique character of the mountain? 5. How could we improve the international recognition of our singularities? 6. Is the mountain superior in comparison to other mountains of the country and why? 7. What distinguishes the coastal Mediterranean mountains from other further hinterland mountains? 	<p><u>Answers / comments</u></p> <p>For local people, the sense of belonging to the mountain is very strong: it is also a source of pride (for beauty, landscape, emotion, majesty, traditions related to it), but also bitterness (for lack of development, lack of recognition, lack of attention on the part of the institutions).</p> <p>Women and men belonging to mountain territories often identify with the mountain itself as a sense of identity and belonging "I am of Gran Sasso, I come from the Gran Sasso"</p> <p>The elements that characterize the mountainous area are: variety and richness of the landscape (highlands, rocky peaks); another element of which to be proud of and which today represents an advantage is the preservation of the territory: we have an uncontaminated and wild nature that is in itself an absolute value.</p> <p>Gran Sasso is certainly a well-known mountain range in Italy: however, we must compete with other well-known mountain ranges (Alps) with world-famous peaks: Monte Bianco, Monte Rosa, Matterhorn (Cervino), Dolomite Massif - North Italy - and the well-known volcanoes such as Vesuvius and Etna</p> <p>The peculiarity is certainly one that belongs to a hinged region between the Mediterranean and the continent, thus promoting the presence of particular climatic conditions that are unique to the world</p>
<p>B. DEVELOPMENT / STRATEGY</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. How could the coast and the mountain be connected as a common tourism experience? 9. How could we establish a strong connection and permanent tourism flows from the coast to the mountain? How much sustainable could that be? 10. Are there any interconnections and interactions with other sectors e.g. agro-food sector and nearby artistical places 11. Are there any "sleeping" assets? 12. What would be a desirable future "picture" of the area? 	<p><u>Answers / comments</u></p> <p>Development Strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To tighten cooperation agreements with those working in the marine tourism sector, offering well-structured packages and routes in the mountains - Work more on an integrated sea / mountain supply, also favoring seasonalizing - Organize the network of transport services - Valorizing the religious element of the territory (eg La Perdonanza, the Rifugio dedicated to Pope John Paul II etc.) - Enhance the attractiveness of the territory through food - Valorizing biodiversity also through knowledge and educational paths

13. What are the reasons for a traveler to extend the length of his/her stay?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Focus on a single brand /brand that can characterize Abruzzo: we propose the Gran Sasso - Promoting experiential tourism - Increase visibility through international sporting events: the Higher Association, for example, is promoting an international winter sports event on the Gran Sasso for 2018.
14. What types of tourism are most suitable with reference to the mountain?	
15. What are the pros and cons of the level of accessibility of the area?	
16. Is domestic or inbound tourism preferable?	
17. What is the potential of eco-tourism?	
18. What is the societal awareness and appreciation of the mountain by the locals?	
19. How would you comment on the carrying capacity of the area?	
20. What is missing to achieve a sustainable tourism development in the area?	
21. What conflicts are raised from time to time with groups such as hunters, livestock breeders etc?	
22. What are the ascertained and the potential dangers?	
23. What would be harmful for the mountain?	
24. What risks, endogenous and exogenous threats should we bear in mind?	

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- Promoting experiential tourism

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Risks/conflicts

Nature, ecosystem and environmental conservation are very variable and fragile elements: climatic variations and human intervention are constant threats to the conservation of natural environments.

In our area we still have a substantial lack of infrastructure and services, poor coordination that strongly penalizes the territory.

The Park itself, as a body of protection, often imposes rigid constraints that prevent the survival of traditional activities (sheep-farming, dairy production, agriculture) and often does not fulfill the function of controlling and managing the natural heritage, causing disinterest, conflicts and dissatisfaction of the inhabitants

In order to avoid catastrophic events (in the summer a major fire has devastated some wooded areas), the park should also play a more active role of surveillance and control. The accesses to the summit are 5.

C. ECO-ITINERARY	Answers / comments
<p>25. What could be an ideal eco-itinerary?</p> <p>26. What would be an ideal eco-tourism product based on the emblematic characteristics of the mountain?</p> <p>27. Is there adequate welcoming facilities in the eco-itinerary area?</p>	<p>Just a few tips for the definition of an ecoitinerary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is a journey in a territory respecting its existing characteristics and peculiarities ➤ It is an offer that combines mountain and nature; food and biodiversity; culture and experience ➤ It is implemented according to the sustainability criteria <p>Criteria to be analyzed or highlighted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Definition of the target - Validation of the authentic character of the route - Enhancement of the proximity to the sea - Promoting slow tourism - Valorisation of the accessible aspect of tourism

Other particular outcomes Please feel free to develop any other outcomes not included in the previous parts of this participative meeting report	
	<p>It should be emphasized that all participants actively contributed to the discussion and that was launched the idea of building a shared path/project to realize the activities.</p>