

# TRANSNATIONAL MEETING N°1

13, 14, 15 & 16<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2017 – LAG Gran Sasso - Assergi- Italy

## D321 Thematic Workshop MINUTES Part 2/3

WP3-Studying- Activity 3.2. Organisation of thematic workshops

TW Part one: 14th June 2017 – 14h00-18h00 (see another document)

## TW Part two 15th June 2017 – 09h00-19h00

## Field visits & Handcraft demonstrations

LET'S ALL SHARE AN EXPERIENCE OF EMbleMatiC Criteria

TW Part three: 16th June 2017 – 09h00-13h00 (see another document)

### Introduction

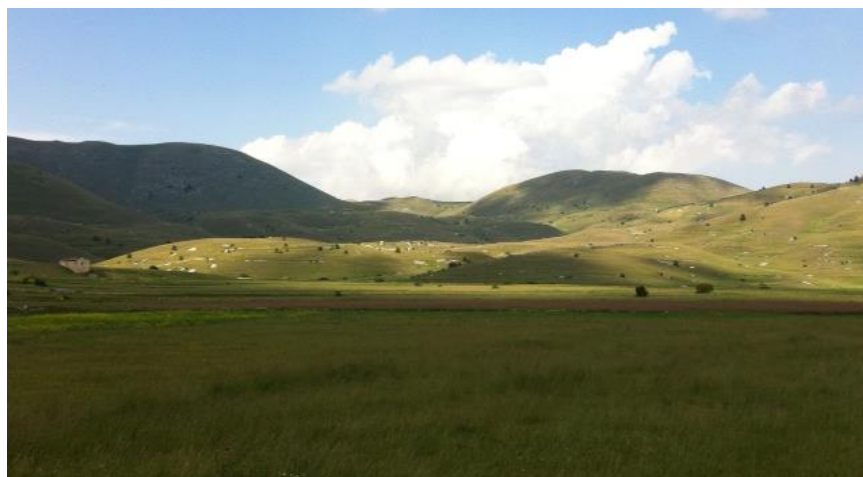
The thematic workshop was organized by PP3 with the supervision and collaboration of the LP and the external expert, Severine Bressaud. The themes to be presented during the meeting were carefully evaluated during the preparation of the thematic workshop, focusing on some of the emblematic features of the territory of Gran Sasso. The second part of the Thematic workshop was dedicated to the field visit.

The outcome of the day was to give each participant (and newcomers to the network) a proper local experience of some of the 6 emblematic criteria as per defined on the charter of our EMM network. This was achieved through field visits, with selected mediators, together with the careful choice of local services and a thematic handcrafts performance.

These carefully identified EMbleMatiC experiences could become the ingredients of our future “eco itineraries” products.

**This second part of the TWS minutes consists of 5 sections related to five EMbleMatiC criteria:**

1. PICTURESQUE LANDSCAPE
2. BIODIVERSITY
3. CULTURAL HERITAGE
4. LOCAL SERVICES
5. LOCAL MYTHS AND LEGEND



### **Author(s):**

Partner and name of the authors:

- PP3 Maria Sulpizio – Project Coordinator E-mail: maria.sulpizio@gmail.com
- LP Alain Gensane – Project coordinator – E-mail: alain.gensane@canigo-grandsite.fr

The author(s) are solely responsible for this publication. It does not represent the opinion of the European Community and the European Community is not responsible for any use that might be made of data appearing therein. Access to and use of the contents in this publication is at the user's own risk. Damage and warranty claims arising from missing or incorrect data are excluded. The authors bear no responsibility or liability for damage of any kind, also for indirect or consequential damages resulting from access to or use of this publication.

Project Ref: 594 | 1MED15\_3.1\_M12\_272p

## 1. **EMbleMatiC criteria: PICTURESQUE LANDSCAPE**

First site: Campo Imperatore – Duca degli Abruzzi Refuge -

*With Giuseppe Sordini, Alpine Guide*

Visiting Campo Imperatore on a beautiful day means really touching the sky with a finger - unforgettable scenery, with cattle (horses, cows, sheep) that grazes in the wild. Starting from Castel del Monte there are several dairy producers. From the astronomical observatory, there are several ways to reach the summit of the Great Horn.



In the picture on the left, the Emblematic group is observing the suggestive landscape. It was also an occasion to show the beauty of the place and the difficulties of the management of the area: a lack of coordination between stakeholders; a substantial difficulty by the Public institutions to manage the area and to plan a tourism strategy.

Second site: Transhumance route

Here there is a point of view of the ancient route of the transhumance: sheperds with their sheeps travelled every season from Abruzzo to Puglia.



## 2. **EMbleMatiC criteria: BIODIVERSITY**

Outdoor leisure around Campo Imperatore plateau (mountain biking, skiing, hiking, trekking) observing and respecting nature and biodiversity. During the short walk the group was introduced to the landscape and to the meaning of the Gran Sasso for the local people. An important item of the trip was the presentation of the flora and fauna: on this climax, 515 units have been recorded, 13.2% are endemics, plants that, due to particular climatic conditions, grow only in certain areas of the region. The highland is often beaten by strong winds, plants are trying to minimize resistance. They develop in very small size but not for this less beautiful. The stunning *Silene Acaulis*, is a wonderful example of dwarf plant growing in a soft pillow, the *Salix retusa*, another very widespread plant above 1800 mt s.l.m. They change in size depending on their exposure and position. Other plants adapt differently to the altitude and lack of water.



### 3. EMbleMatiC criteria: CULTURAL HERITAGE

*With Chiara Andreucci, tourist guide*

#### 3.1 Rocca Calascio

The second part of the visit was from Campo Imperatore to Calascio with its splendid, forbidding castle. Rocca Calascio is perched at an altitude of almost five thousand feet above sea level and commands a view of the entire mountainous roof of Abruzzo.

It probably served more as a watchtower than as a defensive bastion. The walk started from the ancient village of Calascio to the Castle. This was a way to demonstrate how the cultural heritage is linked to Gran Sasso Landscape.



A suggestive sight of Rocca Calascio Castle.

#### 3.2 Santo Stefano di Sessanio

During the afternoon, we had another vision of the cultural Heritage, having a walk around the ancient village of Santo Stefano di Sessanio. It is one of the four medieval towns in the Baronia, all of them quite small. Santo Stefano was a way station on the route of the transumanza – the massive seasonal migration of huge flocks of sheep between summer grazing lands in the Gran Sasso and winter pastures in the plains of Puglia to the south. In the 16th century the Baronia passed into the hands of the Piccolomini family of Siena and in 1579 it was purchased by the all-powerful Medici rulers of Florence, a major European center of the wool trade. In the 19th century the towns of the Baronia became empty and forlorn. Now, after decades of emigration, man is returning to these mountains, to find a world that is more quiet and congenial. This little village is also the first place in which was experimented the “Albergo diffuso” an innovative way of recovering old buildings and transforming them into tourist activities.





#### 4. EMbleMatiC criteria: LOCAL SERVICES

##### 4.1 A walk in the wild to meet a cheese maker;



The food and experience of local services have been a cross-topic throughout the field visit. During the journey between Campo Imperatore and Rocca Calascio we came across a small mountain cheese dairy where it was possible to taste the caciocavallo cheese and meet cows.: it was a way of living directly an almost surreal and authentic experience, in places where shepherds with their flocks.

Partners commented on the impossibility of such amazing and ancestrally operated place to survive in their territories due to norms and standards imposed on local producers.

##### 4.2 A Lunch in Chiusola Refugee;

###### *With the Pro Loco of Barisciano guys; local operators*

The lunch trip went on to a hidden place among the mountains. Get in the tractors led by young volunteers from the Pro Loco of Barisciano, we arrived at Chiusola Refugee. In a lovely setting, between the green of the fields, the blue sky and the mountains around us, the guys have restored a small shelter. Here it was possible to eat excellent foods such as gnocchi by yellow potatoes and turquoise potatoes (an autochthonous variety) and then the famous arrosticini, a typical dish of Abruzzo tradition. It was interesting to find a group of guys who enthusiastically and passionately pass down their love for their mountain.







#### **4.3 Some evening local handcrafts demonstrations**

The day dedicated to field visits ended with a small experience with local craftsmen who showed the old trades of the area when they returned to the hotel. From the spinning of natural wool to the creation of wicker baskets, tombolo and selleria . We also had a cheese maker bringing us what he had prepared the same day.





## 5. EMbleMatiC criteria: MYTHS AND LEGEND



Our journey around the traditions linked to Gran Sasso and the history of our territory has seen as a protagonist a group of folk singers who danced and sung ancient songs of the Abruzzo historical tradition. The themes of the songs, in local dialect, are related to the life of a time when there were shepherds, migration, a rural economy. The folk company has presented several themes, through music, linked to the Mountain of Gran Sasso, to its importance for the local people. In the photo below, some moments of the performance.



### **GRAN SASSO GREATNESS as perceived by partners during TNM1**

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING-IMPRESSION that each partner takes away with him/her

PP4	Inhabitants proud and jealous of their mountain
LP1	The involvement of young people volunteering to cook a meal in the refuge for us
PP16	The greatness coming from the sobriety of man presence
PP9	Deep nature, no house, balanced presence of man and nature
E21	Colours
PP12	Open space
PP7	Warm and generous people
PP5	Food from the local roots (direct from the field to the plate)
PP1	Very hot sun
ETAM	Deep routed history
PP8	Wonderful parenthesis from the world of norms and standards (tractor for lunch/cheese making)
PP5 PP16	Enormous potential (very uncrowded place)
PP6	Peaceful territory
PP12	Harmony of the territory
PP1	Harmony between valleys and mountains
	Lack of coordination between local public and private actors
LP1	Distinct atmospheres: common EMM name for very distinct types of locations