

From patchwork to network:

Landscape scale nature conservation and connectivity











International workshop of BirdLife's EU Birds and Habitats Directives Task Force (BHDTF)

14th May 2014

Villa Cagnola Convention Center, Gazzada - Varese (Italy)

How to integrate connectivity In a strategic Natura 2000 financing concept?

LIFE GESTIRE - PAF Lombardy

Nature 2000 Network in the Lombardia Region

n. 242 nature 2000 sites - 346.342 hectares

Close to 15% of Lombardy regional territory








Of these 36% is in protected areas

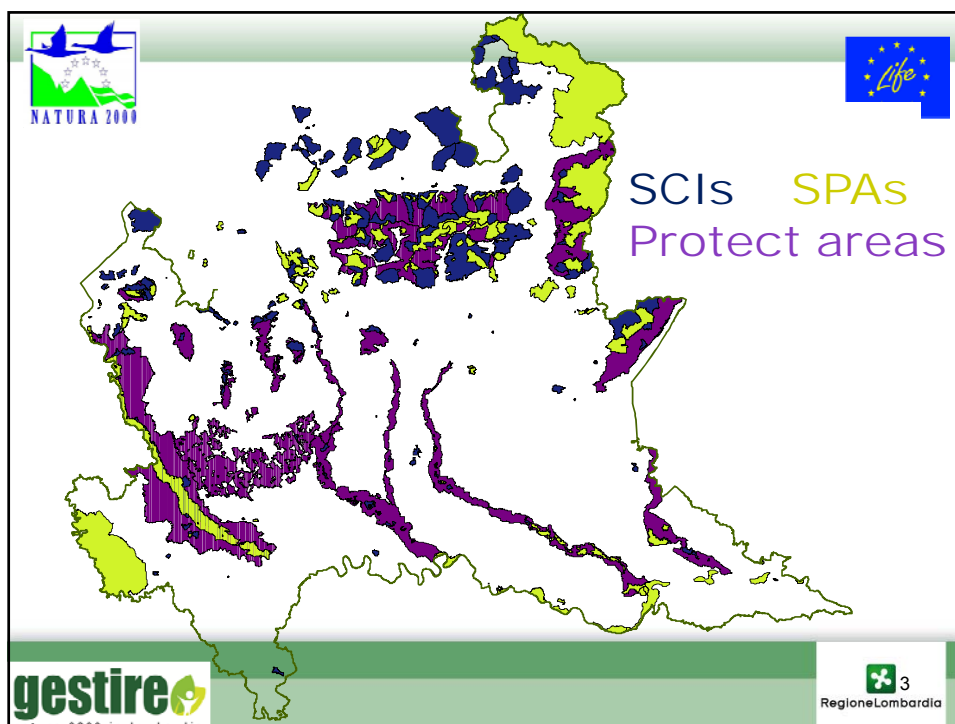
n. 193 Sites of Community Importance (SCIs) –224.200 hectares

Of these n. 46 Special Areas Conservation (SACs) are in progress!

n. 67 Special Protection Areas (SPAs) – 204.111 hectares

138 sites have management plans



management authorities
NATURA 2000 network

Regional Protected Areas = 173 sites

Parco Nazionale Stelvio = 1 SPAS + 8 SCIs




Provinces = 44 sites

Regional Body of Agricultural and Forestry Development = 8 Sites (State-owned Forest Areas)

Mountain Communities= 7 sites

wildlife hunting company = 1 site





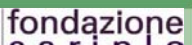




ERSAF
Fondazione Lombardia per l'Ambiente
ZIPU
comunità ambiente
fondazione cariplo
Regione Lombardia 4

2011 eight projects addressing management and restoration programmes were approved for LIFE+ co-financing.

2012 one additional project was added.


LIFE11 NAT/ES/000700	Elaboration of the Prioritized Action Framework for Natura 2000 in Spain
LIFE11 NAT/ES/000699	Natura 2000 management and monitoring programme for Mediterranean wetlands and rivers
LIFE11 NAT/UK/000384	Improvement Programme for England's Natura 2000 Sites
LIFE11 NAT/UK/000385	Development of a programme for the management and restoration of Natura 2000 in Wales
LIFE11 NAT/LV/000371	National Conservation and Management Programme for Natura 2000 Sites in Latvia
LIFE11 NAT/IT/000044	Development of the strategy to manage the Natura 2000 network in the Lombardia Region
LIFE11 NAT/IT/000187	T.E.N. (Trentino Ecological Network): a focal point for a Pan-Alpine Ecological Network
LIFE11 NAT/SI/000880	Natura 2000 Management programme for Slovenia for the period 2014-2020
LIFE12 NAT/IT/000370	SPIN4LIFE-SPIN Strategy for the implementation of Natura 2000 in Sicily



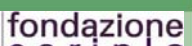














Project: LIFE NAT 000044 "GESTIRE"

"development of the strategy to manage the Natura 2000 network in the Lombardy Region"

Main objective: to produce a plan for a long term capacity to restore and manage a favourable status of sites, habitats and species, **taking into consideration all potential sources of EU, national and regional funding, and establishing a list of priority actions** to be carried out in the next decade.

















two main **outputs**

- i) the **Programme for the management of Natura 2000 sites**
- ii) the **Prioritised Action Framework** for the regional Natura 2000 network (Lombardy will be one of the first regions in Italy to produce a Prioritised Action Framework).

The project will produce a realistic overview of the value of the Natura 2000 network in Lombardy, not only from a nature conservation point of view and in terms of ecosystem services but also from a socio-economic perspective.





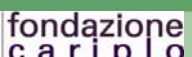

What is the PAF?




Article 8 of Habitat Directives foresees the need to develop "prioritized action frameworks" (PAFs) for EU co-financing for Natura 2000.

Article 8 of the Directive indicates that PAFs should be prepared at national level. However, Member States may decide to provide a more refined framework at regional level. **Each region in Italy must implement its own PAF**

the Lombardy region has sent **the first draft PAF** to the Ministry of Environment and EU Commission in December 2012







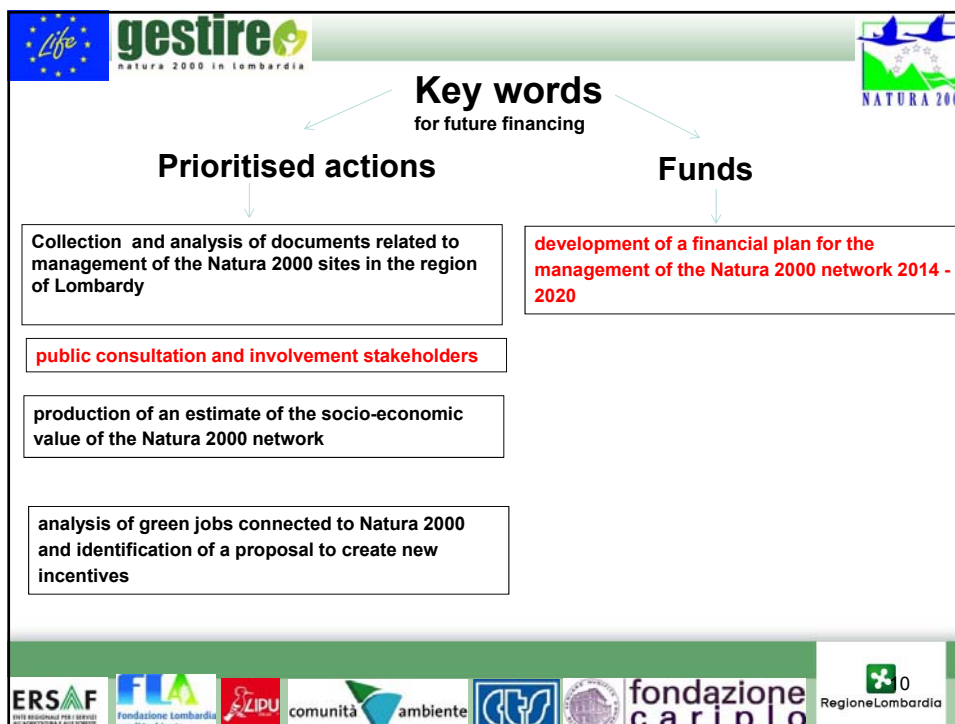
The 'PAF plans' should also be officially approved and adopted by the competent bodies at regional/national level.










the format for Prioritised Action Frameworks (PAFs)

- A. Introductory overview of Natura 2000 network for territory;
- B. Status of the habitats and species;
- C. Legal and administrative provisions for protection and management of Natura 2000;
- D. Current experience with use of EU financial instruments;**
- E. Current estimate of financial needs for management of Natura 2000 for territory;**
- F. Strategic conservation priorities for Natura 2000 for 2014- 2020;**
- G. Description of key measures to achieve priorities;
- H. Monitoring, evaluation and updating.



gestire
natura 2000 in Lombardia




public consultation and involvement stakeholders







What are we doing ?


72 planned meetings


6 meetings in every 12 provinces

The purpose of the meetings is to actively involve different stakeholders in the construction of the strategy for the integrated management of the Natura 2000 Network.








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The first round of the consultation meetings (5) were held in October 2013 in 5 geographical areas




1. To establish collaborative relationship management bodies
2. To involve management bodies to write the PAF
3. To identify prioritised actions
4. To identify other stakeholders to be involved in the PAF redaction
5. To develop a map of problems (impacts and effects)

Results

1. 50 participants from 40 management bodies
2. Participants have expressed interest in LIFE Gestire project
3. Identification of the topics to be discussed in the next meetings
4. Selection of the stakeholder to be invited to the next meetings









natura 2000 in lombardia

In relation to **priorities to work on** in the future consultation process, shared by all N2000 sites, the following aspects were identified:

- **Development of environmental impact assessment studies**
- **Relation with external professionals and consultants**
- **Relation with “extreme” sports (mountain bike and downhill, rock climbing, skydiving)**
- Production of hydroelectric Energy on a small scale level
- Measures for the future Rural Development Programme
- Establishment of sites perimeters and of new sites
- Administrative procedures
- Management of development of the habitats
- Allochthonous species
- Monitoring
- Relation with new infrastructures, mitigations and ecological corridors
- Relation between decision makers/policy level and technical level




natura 2000 in lombardia

In January 2014

1. a first plenary meeting with the management bodies and the provinces on the issue of **impact assessment studies**
2. a meeting with the Province of Trento and the management bodies of the neighboring sites N2000 (Adamello / Adamello Brenta and the Alto Garda Bresciano) for a discussion on **priorities in their management plans** on which to work **to draw up an integrated project** between the Lombardy Region and the Province of Trento.

In March 2014 meetings on the harmonization of procedures for impact assessment

one of the problems encountered was **the lack of training of professionals** on the impact assessment

In April 2014 meetings with university and professional organizations to organize courses for student and professionals




In May 2014 planned meeting on “**extreme” sports** (mountain bike and downhill, rock climbing, skydiving) with local tourism organizations

For each meeting a **report was made** and published on the web site LIFE GESTIRE






















**development of a financial plan for the management of the
Natura 2000 network 2014 -2020**

The financial plan consist of :








- A) the estimated annual cost of management of the regional network until 2020
- B) the study on possible funding channels to the network in the period 2014-2020
- C) the preparation of the Financial Plan (PF) for the management of the Natura 2000 network in Lombardy during the period 2014-2020




The Financial Plan will be included in the planning document for the management of the Natura 2000 network in Lombardy and will be the basic document for the preparation of PAF in accordance with article 8 (4) of the Habitats Directive.

What are we doing?

- a proposal for a **methodology for the analysis of costs** has been produced and been submitted to partners for their suggestions.
- collection of **management plans** for sites N2000 (to calculate **restoration costs of actions** in the period 2010-2011)
- collection of the management bodies **budgets N2000** (to calculate **management costs** in the period 2010 -2011)
- **A questionnaire** will be submitted to all management bodies to collect **site-specific costs** (management, staff, actions, etc.)
- Collection of all **projects financed with Structural Funds, LIFE funds , national and regional funds** (period 2010- 2011)
- Collection of the **measures of the Rural Development Plan** financed farms located in Natura 2000 and in Network Ecology of the Lombardy Region


















The Biodiversity Structure of Lombardy Region participates in all meetings concerning the preparation of the **Operational Program of Structural Funds** with the objective of obtaining funds to implement the actions for **Integrated Projects** (EARDF, ERDF, ESF)







Meeting were held with GD Agriculture:

- to propose agri-environmental-climate measures (art 28 Regulation n. 1305/2013) for farms in the N2000 sites;
- to propose N 2000 payments (art. 30 Regulation n. 1305/2013) for farmers in the N2000 sites;
- Video conferencing with neighboring regions to update each other on measures of the Rural Development Plan which come into effect in the 2014-2020.

The PAF programme is a basis for developing **Integrated Projects**

It is the Commission's opinion that the updating process of the PAFs should be used as an opportunity for preparing '**integrated projects**', to be implemented under the proposed new LIFE Regulation (2014-2020).





What are Integrated Projects?




- to implement **Prioritised Action Frameworks** in Natura 2000
- Large scale, e.g., regional, multiregional, national is required
- Mobilisation of other – EU, national, private - funds is required;
- Involvement of stakeholders
- Sustainability will be important

3 IPs per Member State over 7 years will be financed









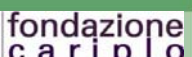










Integrated Projects









2-step application procedure

1. **Concept note**: to be accompanied by
 - a) **a Financial Plan** to evaluate compliance with the obligation to mobilise funds
 - b) **the PAF**
2. **The proposal** including full set of forms and a letter of intent from at least one other funding source

We can conclude that the financing future of N2000 is strictly related to the PAF development!




<http://www.life-gestire.eu/>

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Thank you for your attention





