

Wetland Contract

Final Version of 20/08/2021

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Activity Title	Drafting the Wetland Contract
Partner in Charge	Agency for Occupation and Development in North Barese / Ofantina Area
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Abstract

The 4.3.4 Activity aimed at drafting and signing a Wetland Contract, to systematize and formally adopt all measures co-developed with the territorial stakeholders in the previous phases of the project.

As a final deliverable, the protocol of the Wetland Contract itself contains the defined action plan, including all objectives, activities, and stakeholders’ responsibilities to be carried out, timing and financing planned, together with detailed provisions about governance, responsibilities, and organizational structure. These contracts are seen as a non-binding shared commitment between stakeholders.

Wetland Contracts Overview

Every target area conducted a series of participatory processes involving various stakeholders that led to the drafting of the Action Plan and the subscription of each Wetland Contract. Methodologies used to stimulate democratic participation were generally meetings (Territorial labs) through EASW, using tools as questionnaires, surveys etc. These contracts are seen as a non-binding shared commitment between stakeholders which bring the specific strategies and competences of the stakeholders involved towards a governance process, respecting the specificities and autonomies, with a flexible approach.

General Overview

Partner	# of Participants	# of Actions	# of Signatures
IUAV	44	16	xxx
Natura Histrica	23	17	17
Natura Jadera	14	4	5
PIDNC	205	46	19
PTNBO	70	11	13
San Benedetto D.T.	19	22	16
UTI	118	26	48

Following actions are divided into environmental components:

1. Biodiversity (BD)
2. Water quality (WQ)
3. Ecosystem services (ES)
4. Protection level (PL)

Overview of Actions

IUAV	Natura Histrica	Natura Jadera	PIDNC	PTNBO	San Benedetto D.T.	UTI
Participatory creation of a statute	Carry out reedbed bird Monitoring, improve habitats and provide proposals for their conservation	Rising touristic visibility	Bird monitoring, conservation and improving habitat actions	GOVERNANCE: Coordination of Existing Plans, Programmes and Projects	GOVERNANCE: Data and knowledge sharing	Extend the Lagoon Contract and integrate it with the river contracts of the tributaries of the drainage basin
Mechanisms of permanent coordination between active associations	Dismantle illegal hunting infrastructures in the Neretva delta and joint monitoring of bird poaching	Rising the regional awareness	Raising awareness among youth	GOVERNANCE: Ofanto Cluster Data Hub	GOVERNANCE: Improving the ability of stakeholders to implement shared decisions and manage conflicts	Transfer the knowledge of the INTERREG Italy-Croatia CREW pilot project to contribute to the coordination for the creation of a control room and coordination of

						the River Contracts
Coordination of research groups	Support the establishment of the „Youth Nature Protectors“ program on the Neretva delta	Reduction of poaching and other harmful activities	Collaborations and projects on various topics of nature protection	GOVERNANCE: Advocacy for ZEA I.394 extension	GOVERNANCE: Introduction of new governance tools for a wide area	Definition and activation of a governance model of the wetland contract
Better accessibility to the public spaces	Jointly encourage changes in legislation and its application (poaching in ornithological reserves)	Ensuring that educational materials are available	Actions regarding reduction of poaching	ENVIRONMENT: Remodeling of theApply for projects focused on nature conservation on alluvial plain	ENVIRONMENT: Improvement, recovery and reuse of water resource quality	Implementation and updating of knowledge and environmental data
Definition of a strategy leading to the sustainable transportation	Apply for projects focused on nature conservation		Actions of encouraging changes in legislation and its application	ENVIRONMENT: Cleaning of floodplain areas	ENVIRONMENT: Improvement of hydraulic safety	Feasibility study for the construction of a cycle-pedestrian ring, a "North West Passage"
Promotion of a conscious and responsible use of a lagoon	Keep records of the number of fires and burned areas coverage		Actions regarding controlling and preventing wildfires	ENVIRONMENT: Construction of islands connected to the riverbed	ENVIRONMENT: Fighting coastal erosion	Creation of interchange microhubs

Enhancement of thematic paths and creating new ones	Organize clean-up actions, taking into account that it is necessary to leave deposits of natural origin		Clean up actions	ENVIRONMENT: Participated Monitoring	ENVIRONMENT: Safeguarding nature and biodiversity	Promotion of the cycle-river park and shared governance path for the maintenance of cycletourist routes
Protection and promotion of a lace-making cultural heritage	Collaborate in the development and distribution of educational materials about natural values of the Neretva Delta		Actions of education and rising public awareness on the topic of nature protection and the promotion of intangible cultural heritage	DEVELOPMENT: Training protocol for the 'Food Districts'	ENVIRONMENT: Mitigation of the degradation phenomena of the Sentina ecosystem	Mapping of sustainable tourism activities already present and active in the area
Protection and promotion of a fishing cultural heritage	Collaborate on the development of selective tourism in Neretva Delta and development and improvement of visitor infrastructure		Actions of branding, marketing and guided tourism	DEVELOPMENT: Pilot for the Renewable Energy	ENVIRONMENT: Fighting and mitigating climate change	Development of activities that integrate aquaculture and tourism services, including nature, crafts and / or teaching

Protection and promotion of a gastronomic cultural heritage	Encourage composting and the improvement of the agriculture waste collection system among farmers		Actions of encouraging sustainable agriculture	DEVELOPMENT: Cycling Network	DEVELOPMENT: Sustainable agriculture with low environmental impact	Integrate the geomorphological study of the Marano Lagoon with sedimentological and geochemical characterization and analysis
Integration and enhancement of permanent and temporary museum heritage	Organize regular meetings related to nature protection activities		Actions of organizing regular meetings of stakeholders	DEVELOPMENT: Re-branding of the "Ofanto Cluster"	DEVELOPMENT: Recovery, preservation and enhancement of the historical and cultural landscape	Communicate and raise awareness of the effects of discharges in tributaries and effects on the lagoon
Preservation and enhancement of natural and urban heritage	Collect and collaborate on the analysis of data on water quality		Collecting data and collaboration on analysis of water quality		DEVELOPMENT: Improvement of the sustainable tourist use of the area and the territory	Carry out training and information activities and awareness-raising activities on anthropic nesting disturbances
Promotion of a community agriculture	Cooperate on the proclamation of the Man and Biosphere Program		Actions of encouraging sustainable fishing		DEVELOPMENT: Environmental education and awareness-raising	Signing of a Framework Agreement for the implementation of didactic, applied

						research and cultural activities.
Initiatives for gaining hydromorphological equilibrium and adaptation to climatic changes	Collaborate on wildfire preventive measures		Actions of grassland preservation and establishing vegetation			Census and mapping of training initiatives and educational paths

*This table is indicative, consult individual reports on Wetland Contracts

IUAV

the University IUAV of Venice organized and moderated thirteen meetings with the stakeholders, 1 questionnaire and 2 site visits. Specific objectives of a Wetland contract created from those processes are divided into four thematic sections: taking care of environment and culture, educate and develop sense of belonging to the Lagoon, inhabitation and transportation in the Lagoon and transversal values.

Natura Histrica

Public Institution “Natura Histrica” held a series of participatory events in the period from July 2020 to April 2021 involving various stakeholders, including local and regional authorities, state-level authorities and institutions, small enterprises present in the area, scientific and expert institutions, non-governmental organizations, regional development agencies, tourist boards and individuals. Joint effort of all stakeholders and the public institution yielded a Wetland Contract for the Palud Ornithological Reserve, with the action plan.

Natura Jadera

Natura Jadera held series of participatory processes in time period of September 2020 to February 2021, involving various stakeholders, leading to the development of the Action Plan and the subscription of the Wetland Contract for Veliko i Malo blato localities by 4 key actors: Natura Jadera, Hunters Alliance of Zadar County, Tourist board of Poveljana Municipality and Association “Volim Vlačići”. Specific objective is to improve the development of Veliko i Malo Blato as an ornithological reserve important as a natural wealth and heritage of Zadar County. The aim is to encourage cooperation between the Public Institution Natura Jadera with selected stakeholders from Zadar County through the implementation of activities listed in the Action Plan. Specifically, the aim is to preserve the reservation to a highest degree.

PIDNC

This Wetland Contract was signed on 15th July 2021 in Metković. PIDNC organized participatory processes in 2016, 2017, 2020 and 2021 involving various stakeholders. The result of these meetings and workshops is the Action plan, incorporated in the “Wetland Contract for the preservation of the Neretva River Delta”. The Wetland Contract is signed by 19 key actors. The management structure of the Wetland Contract consists of one governing body that will monitor the implementation of activities – the Stakeholder Forum. Specific objectives of this contract are preserving valuable habitats and species, decision-making regarding sectors influencing nature preservation together with the nature protection sector, encouraging local community to understand the importance of preserving natural values and the resources of the area and recognizing the local community as the key institution for biodiversity management.

PTNBO

PTNBO boosted a participatory process in September and October 2020 involving various stakeholders, leading to the development of the Action Plan and the preparation of a Wetland Contract of the Ofanto River, containing the key results of the participatory process, duly elaborated, and transformed into programmatic measures. A methodology defined in the Wetland Contract Toolkit was used to identify and operate in compliance with the local legal framework. In this perspective, participatory activities were inserted as an instrument of territorial drive by investing not only the competent bodies and administrations, but the entire community of the valley, in the assumption of co-responsibility and promotion of a shared Action Plan, aimed at addressing the environmental problems of the river basin in the context of its local development.

San Benedetto D.T.

Participatory processes were held from July 2019 to April 2021 involving various stakeholders, leading to the development of the Action Plan and the subscription of the Wetland Contract of Sentina Natural Regional Reserve area by 16 key actors. Specific objectives regard governance, environment and economic and social development.

UTI

UTI Riviera Bassa Friulana / Comunita Riviera Friulana held a series of participatory events from February 2020 to February 2021 involving various stakeholders, including: Autorita di Bacino Distrettuale delle Alpi Orientali, Regione Autonoma Friuli Venezia Giulia, PromoTurismoFVG, Universita di Trieste - Dipartimento di Ingegneria e Architettura, Comune di Marano Lagunare, Comune di Carlino, Comune di Latisana, Comune di Lignano Sabbiadoro, Comune di Muzzana del Turgnano, Comune di Palazzolo dello Stella, Comune di Pocenia, Comune di Porpetto, Comune di Precenico, Comune di Ronchis, Comune di San Giorgio di Nogaro, Associazione Valle del Cormor,



Gruppo Passaggio a Nord Ovest Carlino Marano Muzzana, Associazione Casoneri, leading to the development of the Action Plan and the subscription of the Wetland Contract of Marano Lagoon by the key actors.

REPORT OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT

Iuav University of Venice
Northern Lagoon of Venice

Deliverable 4.3.4 – English summary

Final version date: 20/07/2021

Notes:

1) A.4.3 Drafting the Wetland Contract

The activity aims at implementing and subscribing the one Wetland Contract in each target area through the following progressive steps:

- identifying the institutional management bodies for the Wetlands Contracts (Coordinating Committee / Management Board and Technical Secretariat);
- developing of Territorial Labs for the participated governance;
- defining mid-long term strategic scenarios;
- sharing and assessing the strategic scenarios;
- drafting the Action Plan and subscription of the formal agreement of the Wetland Contract during the Local Final Conference (press conference).

The actors subscribing the Contract will be committed of: (i) acting in the frame of valorising of the subsidiarity principle, in respect of every actor's competences; (ii) activating all the partnership tools; (iii) keep working and monitoring the process even after the project end.

2) D.4.3.4 Wetland Contract

The WP4 final deliverable will be the protocol of the Wetland Contract itself, containing the defined action plan (all objectives, activities and stakeholders' responsibilities to be carried out, timing and financing planned). It will be subscribed by the key stakeholders during the Local Final Conference.

3) This template has been developed by UNICAM (University of Camerino). It is inspired by and coordinated with the documentation elaborated in the Project WETNET financed under Interreg MED Cooperation Programme to increase information share, data and opportunities of confrontation.



Authors: Iuav University of Venice

REPORT OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT

(deliverable 4.3.4 – English summary)

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ANNEX 2. TEMPLATE OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT AGREEMENT

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Chapter number and name		Contents
A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	I. Overview	<p>Iuav University boosted a participatory process involving various stakeholders, leading to the development of the Action Plan and the subscription of the Wetland Contract of the Northern Lagoon of Venice by 30 key actors. The Contract includes 18 actions e 76 activities. The process for the construction of the contract started in September 2019 with a series of information meetings in the main municipalities of the area involved (Musile di Piave, Venice, Quarto d'Altino, Jesolo, Cavallino-Treporti). The work continued with listening activities, public participation and negotiation, including two tours for the formulation of the knowledge framework and the organisation of three working tables (02-03/2021), dedicated to: (1) ecological and hydromorphological protection and wave management, (2) productive and recreational activities, agriculture, hunting and fishing, tourism promotion and reception, (3) housing and accessibility.</p> <p>The process has been characterised by a wide participation of institutional and non-institutional actors: from public bodies, to local associations of the territory, from economic operators to the University of Padua and Ca' Foscari University, who joined the process by signing an initial Memorandum of Understanding that now leads to the Contract.</p>

B. REPORT OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT

This section scopes are:

- to describe the local regulatory and legal framework of the Wetland Contract
- to identify the stakeholders who signed the Wetland Contract Agreement
- to identify the coordinator and the management system of the Wetland Contract
- to describe the foreseen actions: typology, actors involved in the implementation, financial resources, timing
- to evaluate the process listing success factors and criticality

Chapter number and name	Contents
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<p>B. REPORT</p>	<p>I. Introduction:</p>	<p>Pilot Area</p> <p>The pilot Area is represented by the Northern Lagoon of Venice. The choice to focus on the Northern Lagoon of Venice is linked to morphological, political and technical reasons. From a morphological and functional point of view we can in fact recognise in the North Lagoon a different functional area compared to other parts of the lagoon. Economic development, which in other parts of the lagoon has led to important modifications, such as the excavation of canals that have changed the hydraulic dynamics, has kept the overall morphology sufficiently unaltered in the northern lagoon with a good level of meandering that guarantees the correct exchange between fresh and salt water. Although these characteristics highlight its diversity, the northern lagoon (approximately 220 km²) is part of a larger lagoon system consisting of the entire Venice lagoon (approximately 550 km²) and is characterised by important historical and natural features. UNESCO declared Venice and its lagoon a World Heritage Site in 1987, recognising the presence of a widespread and diverse heritage: environmental and landscape, archaeological, historical, architectural and ethnological. Not only biodiversity and the presence of different floristic and faunal habitats, but also the combination of the natural heritage with the presence of a stratified social and economic culture, which has deposited artefacts, skills and practices over the centuries.</p> <p>As a double frontier of water and land, this territory has always been the subject of formal and informal practices and is therefore strongly regulated.</p> <p>Process to the Action Plan</p> <p>Between September 2019 and January 2020, the researchers of the Iuav University of Venice, with the support of the Municipalities of Venice, Quarto d'Altino, Musile di Piave, Jesolo and Cavallino Treporti, and of the Metropolitan City of Venice, organized the first information meetings on the objectives of the Interreg Italy-Croatia CREW project.</p> <p>In addition, 5 public information meetings were held "Towards a Wetland contract for the Northern Lagoon of Venice", to communicate the objectives of the project, collect proposals and open questions from the participants, members of active citizenship and representatives of the associations of the territory concerned.</p> <p>Also, we proposed an online questionnaire to start building together a shared vision for the Northern Lagoon of Venice. Through four simple</p>
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		<p>questions to redraw a map of perceptions, desires, knowledge and concerns of the inhabitants of the lagoon. A starting point for the future actions of the Wetland Contract for the Northern Lagoon of Venice.</p> <p>In October 2020, the group of researchers from the Luav University of Venice carried out two knowledge Tours to meet the actors in the places where they live, work and use the northern lagoon of Venice. We have collected the testimonies of some privileged interlocutors, of restaurateurs and hoteliers who welcomed us and other amphibious populations and animals present in the Northern Lagoon of Venice.</p> <p>After these first months dedicated to the involvement of local actors and interest groups, we have drawn up the Knowledge framework and the Strategic Document, described in report D.4.3.1.</p> <p>The latest activities carried out include a further phase of listening to the territory, structured in 3 Thematics tables (1. tutela ecologica e idromorfologica e gestione del moto ondoso; 2. attività produttive e ricreative, agricoltura, caccia e pesca, promozione e accoglienza turistica; 3. residenzialità). We also prepared an open map of existing projects related to the relevant issues addressed during the Thematic tables.</p> <p>After the Thematic Tables proposals were elaborated in a draft Action plan that was rediscussed in a plenary session and through one-to-one meetings with the different stakeholders. All comments and proposed changes were embedded and represented to the whole group.</p> <p>The document resulted in a list of 18 actions e 76 activities.</p> <p>The final documents constituting the Wetland Contrat (the formal Act of Commitment of the Contract, the Action Programme's synopsis and table of measures, the Knowledge Document and the Strategy Document) were shared again in June 2021 for a last round of reviews and are being presented on the 15th July 2021 at the ceremony for the signature of the contract.</p>
	<p>II. Legal framework and methodology:</p>	<p>[Identify and describe the local regulatory and legal framework in which the Wetland Contract has been integrated including a brief description of the methodology used if different from the one included in the Wetland Contract Toolkit]</p> <p>As defined by the National Table of River Contracts in the Document "Definition and basic qualitative requirements of the CoF (TNCdF, 2015)" the River Contracts are voluntary instruments coherent with the forecasts</p>

		<p>of plans and programmes already existing in the reference river basin/sub-basin and for the territory object of the River Contract and, if necessary, they can contribute to integrate and reorient the local planning and to improve the contents of the superordinate planning instruments, in conformity with the objectives of the environmental regulations.</p> <p>Legal references at the EU/national level:</p> <p>Directive 2003/4/EC of the European Parliament and of the European Council of 28 January 2003 on public access to environmental information and repealing Council Directive 90/313/EEC</p> <p>Directive 2003/35/EC of the European Parliament and of the European Council of 26 May 2003 on public participation in respect of the drawing up of certain plans and programmes relating to the environment and amending Council Directives 85/337/EEC and 96/61/EC with regard to public participation and access to justice</p> <p>Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the European Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy</p> <p>European Landscape Convention, promulgated in Florence on 20 October 2000 by the Member States of the Council of Europe and incorporated into Italian law</p> <p>National Charter of River Contracts, signed by the Veneto Region at the Conference of Presidents of the Regions and Autonomous Provinces on 2 March 2011</p> <p>Directive 2007/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the European Council of 23 October 2007 on the assessment and management of flood risks</p> <p>Directive 92/43/EEC of the European Council of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora</p>
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		<p>Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds (the "Birds Directive")</p> <p>Law no. 662 of 23 December 1996, on "Measures for the rationalisation of public finances", which introduces (art. 2, c. 203) the "Negotiated Planning".</p> <p>Legislative Decree no. 42 of 22 January 2004, on the "Code of cultural heritage and landscape".</p> <p>D.Lgs. 152/2006 and D.Lgs 49/2010 which transposed the above mentioned Directives in Italy, with specific reference to art. 68-bis of D.Lgs 152/2006 (introduced by art. 59 of L. 221/2015) concerning "River Contracts"</p> <p>Also, the Site "Venice and its Lagoon", as per the Ministerial Decree of 1 August 1985, was inscribed as an "Outstanding Universal Value" in 1987 on the World Heritage List during the XI session of the World Heritage Committee.</p> <p>The local regulatory framework includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Water Management Plan (PGA) of the Eastern Alps Hydrographic District, approved by D.P.C.M. of 27 October 2016, which provides for River Contracts among the additional measures to achieve the quality objectives set by the Water Framework Directive; - the Flood Risk Management Plan (PGRA) of the Hydrographic District of the Eastern Alps, approved by the Resolution of the Institutional Committee of the Upper Adriatic River Basin Authority of 3 March 2016, which pursues, in line with the provisions of art. 7 (Directive 2007/60/EC), "the reduction of the potential negative consequences that a flood event could have on human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity", taking into account relevant aspects such as "costs and benefits, flood extent water flow paths and areas with flood expansion capacity, such as natural floodplains, the environmental objectives of Article 4 of Directive 2000/60/EC, soil and water management, spatial
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		<p>planning, land use, nature conservation, navigation and port infrastructure';</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Regional Territorial Coordination Plan (approved by Regional Council Resolution no. 62 of 30 June 2020) provides: "The Region promotes the concertation and integration of policies at basin and hydrographic sub-basin level, with the participation of public and private stakeholders, in order to integrate the management of hydraulic safety with the planning and use of the soil and the protection and enhancement of water resources and related environments." (art. 22, c. 1, of the Technical Implementation Rules); these aims are pursued "[...] through negotiated planning tools, such as the "River Contract" (CdF), pursuant to article 68-bis of legislative decree 152/2006, an instrument related to the processes of water management. This instrument incorporates the indications of the superordinate planning (sector and territorial, landscape and environmental) contributing to the development of synergies between the different policies referring to water and producing, where possible, multifunctional programmes and action plans". (art. 22, c. 2, of the Technical Implementation Rules); moreover "In order to guarantee the protection of biodiversity, to preserve the habitats and the agricultural landscapes, also resorting to the improvement of the ecosystem services, it is possible to activate the negotiated planning tools mentioned in paragraph 2, also for the delta and estuary, lake, valley and lagoon areas, resurgence areas, as well as any other water area". (art. 22, c. 3, of the Technical Implementation Rules); - The Water Protection Plan (PTA) of the Veneto Region, approved by the Deliberation of the Regional Council of 5 November 2009, no. 107, and the relevant Technical Implementation Rules (as amended by DGRV of 15 May 2012, no. 842), which identifies the instruments for the protection and conservation of water resources, defining the guidelines for the remediation of surface and underground water bodies and for the sustainable use of water, as well as identifying the integrated measures for the qualitative and quantitative protection of water resources that also guarantee the natural self-purification of water bodies and their ability to support large and well-diversified animal and plant communities; - the Area Plan of the Lagoon and Venice Area (PALAV), approved by Regional Council Measure No 70 of 9 November 1995, which provides that "[...] the local authorities and competent authorities, using the appropriate instruments, shall contribute to planning and implementing measures aimed at the conservation, protection, revitalisation and
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		<p>enhancement of the lagoon environment, understood as the natural, archaeological and historical environmental heritage [...]" (Article 5) and "[...] the conservation, protection and restoration of the environment of salt marshes, mud flats and cane thickets [...]" (art. 6);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the General Metropolitan Territorial Plan (PTGM) of Venice, approved by the Metropolitan Council no. 3 of 1 March 2019, which "[...] recognises the morphological, hydrological, hydraulic and floral-fauna aspects characteristic of the wetlands present within the provincial territory [...] aiming in particular (i) at the conservation of the ecosystem represented by the whole of the biocenosis, the essential ecological processes and the systems that support the natural balance and (ii) at the safeguard of the genetic diversity present [...]" (art. 26); - the 2021-2018 Management Plan of the UNESCO site "Venice and its lagoon" which, among the strategic objectives, envisages that of "developing a widespread awareness of the universal values of the Site and active forms of dialogue, participation and involvement of the actors (citizens, users, economic operators, tourists)", through an "integrated management model" which envisages "the participation of local institutions, business and professional representatives of research and financial institutions and recognised social organisations in order to make the implementation of the actions envisaged for the achievement of the shared objectives more effective shared objectives to be achieved"; - Regional Law no. 3 of 05 April 2012, concerning the "regional budget for the year 2013", with which the Veneto Region (art. 42) "in order to test new guidelines and measures to ensure the eco-sustainable development of the territory and the containment of the degradation of water resources and related environments, encourages the adoption and use of tools for the integrated and participatory management of water on the model of river contracts, however denominated"; - the Deliberation of the Regional Council of 31 March 2015, no. 402, with which the Veneto Region - in compliance with the provisions of the Regional Law of 5 April 2013, no. 3, art. 42 - establishes a Regional Table for the Coordination of River Contracts and establishes its functions, with specific reference to: (a) favouring the River Contract experiences in progress and accompanying the start of new initiatives aimed at the subscription of a River Contract; (b) defining a quality system to be adopted in the River Contract processes in progress and for the direction of new initiatives, in coordination with the activities of the Working Groups belonging to the National Table of River Contracts; (c) monitoring
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		<p>the experiences undertaken and the new initiatives, considering the specificity of the contexts and the themes of each River Contract; (d) guaranteeing the coordination between the directions and activities of the various River Contracts; (e) identifying the modalities of regional intervention in cases where the Regional Council is directly interested in specific River Contracts;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Deliberation of the Regional Council of 23 December 2015, no. 1938, with which the Veneto Region - in compliance with the provisions of the Regional Law of 5 April 2013, no. 3, art. 42 - provides regional indications on the quality requirements of River Contracts, with specific reference to the phases in which such governance processes are articulated, namely: (a) sharing of a Document of Intent; (b) development of a preliminary integrated cognitive Analysis; (c) definition of a Strategic Scenario involving a medium-long term planning/programming horizon; (d) identification of an Action Programme with short term feasibility; (e) signing of the River Contract; <p>Methodology</p> <p>The Strategic Document describes the trend scenario for the Venice Lagoon based on the adopted plans and other official documents (technical reports, strategic assessments, etc.) (see Deliverable 4.3.3); it provides the data for the individual items listed in the index and highlights for each of these the plans that deal with them. It includes information gathered from the territorial lab ("Local observation") and the information included in the official documents ("Official Documents"). The Strategic Document aims to give an overview of the current legal, normative framework according to selected topics: #1: Ecological quality of water bodies; 1.2 Environmental health; 1.3 Landscape; 1.4 Biodiversity of habitats and species; 1.5 Hydraulic and storm surge risk; 1.6 Wave motion and erosion / #2: 2.1 Culture and Tourism; 2.2 Agriculture, hunting and fishing/ #3: 3.1 Housing; 3.2 Mobility).</p> <p>The Thematic tables tackled each issue with reference to the normative framework and proposals were developed against the trend scenario.</p>
	<p>III. Subscribers:</p>	<p>The Contact has been signed by 30 stakeholders. These include:</p> <p>3 municipalities (Comune di Cavallino Treporti, Musile di Piave, Jesolo);</p>

		<p>4 other territorial institution (Consorzio di Bonifica Veneto Orientale, Consorzio di Bonifica Acque Risorgive, Provveditorato Interregionale OO. PP. Triveneto, Anbi Veneto);</p> <p>4 Universities and Research bodies (Iuav University of Venice, University of Padua, University Ca' Foscari, Co.Ri.La);</p> <p>19 Associations and organizations (Amici del parco di San Giuliano, Ekos Club, Archeoclub d'Italia, ClimAct, Prometheus Open Food Lab, Confraternita Serenissima, Venezia Nativa, La Salsola, Toccia!, We are here Venice, OTS, Polo San Giuliano, Vela al Terzo, Mare Vivo Veneto, WigWam, WWF, Tra Mar e Laguna, VeGAL, FIAB Mestre).</p>
	<p>IV. Management system</p>	<p>[Identify the actors in charge of the coordination of the Wetland Contract process and describe the management system, including the stakeholders involved in each management body:</p> <p>The management bodies are:</p> <p><u>Basin forum (or Lagoon Assembly):</u> The path towards the Wetland Contract was carried out through a process of active participation within an Assembly, intended as a body of participation enlarged to the whole territory of the system of the northern lagoon of Venice, in which all the representatives (or their delegates) of public or private organisations interested in the area in question had the opportunity to participate, and which had the task of contributing to the construction of knowledge, the identification of problems and opportunities, the discussion of possible solutions and the sharing of choices for the integrated management of the territory concerned.</p> <p>The Assembly is also open, as observers, to all those who, among those who are interested in the field and intend to join the CoAU after its formalisation.</p> <p>The Assembly is also the consultative forum where the signatories of the present Agreement may update each other and discuss knowledge, requests and proposals concerning the CoAU topics.</p>

		<p>The Contract establishes that the Assembly shall meet at least once a year, in presence and/or remotely, and verify the correspondence of the initiatives in place with the actions and activities identified by the BoD, and identify any need or opportunity to update this Agreement and its annexes. The Assembly shall also monitor the status of implementation of the Programme of Action, as well as draft any updates to this agreement and its annexes. The Assembly shall liaise with the Regional Coordination Table of River Contracts referred to in DGRV of 31 March 2015, n. 402, and with the National Observatory of River Contracts referred to in DM of 8 March 2018, n. 77, as well as with any other Body and Authority competent in River Contracts at local, regional, national and international level.</p> <p>The Assembly shall, within 6 months of the signing of the Agreement, identify one or more persons from among the signatories to this Agreement to act as technical and organisational secretariat for the implementation phase.</p> <p>The Assembly also has the task of identifying the persons responsible for actions/activities for which this role is not covered, even in the case of renunciation by a signatory who had previously taken on this role. The Assembly may also amend the list of persons involved or to be involved.</p> <p><u>Technical Secretariat</u> The Technical Secretariat of the Wetlands Contract is constituted by the IUAV University of Venice and is composed of a multidisciplinary staff with proven technical-scientific expertise in the field of territorial planning and governance.</p> <p><u>Management Board</u> The management operations were mainly carried out by luav University. Management activities were mainly carried out by iuav university of venice. This role involved luav both in the promotion phase of the process but also in its closure, when it was necessary to transfer responsibility to a local authority for the operational management of the process. This was due to some political pressures that prevented the bodies with the necessary institutional strength to take on medium-term responsibilities, on the other hand they have. On the other hand, smaller (non-)institutional bodies did not have the necessary strength and position to</p>
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		<p>take on management responsibility. The IUAV University, as a third party, therefore undertook to remain the reference point for the project in the operational phases following signature. In the management of the instances, its role was expressed in the organisation of a dense calendar of bilateral meetings aimed on the one hand at overcoming divergences between subjects, and on the other at creating appropriate and dedicated spaces for discussion.</p>
	<p>V. Specific objectives</p>	<p>The Contract is intended as a voluntary act of commitment shared by various public and private stakeholders interested in the northern lagoon of Venice and the area connected to it, aimed at finding ways to pursue objectives of landscape and environmental rehabilitation and socio-economic regeneration of the territorial system. In particular, the Contract aims to combine the management of water, hydro-morphological risks and local development in an integrated, collaborative and sustainable manner.</p> <p>The aims of the Contract can be traced back to twelve specific objectives, declined as values in the following four thematic areas</p> <p><u>1 - care for the environment and culture of the Lagoon</u> biodiversity of habitats and species</p> <p><u>2 - environmental healthiness</u> morphological and ecosystem system heritage value of lagoon assets</p> <p><u>3- feeling the Lagoon</u> sense of belonging to a unique natural/anthropic system sense of care and affection education and training</p> <p><u>4- living and moving in the Lagoon</u> habitability walkability and connection</p> <p><u>5- transversal values</u> regulatory and administrative clarity</p>

		<p>synergy between local organisations and initiatives</p> <p>local knowledge and resources</p>																																																																	
	VI. Actions: List	<p>List the actions included in the action plan and the corresponding environmental components concerned : BD biodiversity; WQ water quality; ES ecosystem services; PL protection level; other</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Actions</th> <th colspan="5">Environmental components</th> </tr> <tr> <th>BD</th> <th>WQ</th> <th>ES</th> <th>PL</th> <th>Other (indicate)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Participatory definition of a statute of places in the northern lagoon</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>governance</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Permanent coordination between associations active on the northern lagoon</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>governance</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Coordination between research groups on the northern lagoon of venice</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>research</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Accessibility of public spaces along the lagoon embankment</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>accessibility/mobility</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5. Definition of an integrated strategy for sustainable mobility in the north lagoon</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>accessibility/mobility</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6. Promotion of conscious and responsible use of the lagoon</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>X</td> <td>education/se nsibilization</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7. Enhancement of existing thematic routes and promotion of new ones</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>local heritage</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8. Protection and enhancement of the burano lace heritage</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>local heritage</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9. Protection and enhancement of the cultural heritage of lagoon fishing</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>local heritage</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Actions	Environmental components					BD	WQ	ES	PL	Other (indicate)	1. Participatory definition of a statute of places in the northern lagoon	X	X	X	X	governance	2. Permanent coordination between associations active on the northern lagoon					governance	3. Coordination between research groups on the northern lagoon of venice	X	X	X	X	research	4. Accessibility of public spaces along the lagoon embankment					accessibility/mobility	5. Definition of an integrated strategy for sustainable mobility in the north lagoon					accessibility/mobility	6. Promotion of conscious and responsible use of the lagoon				X	education/se nsibilization	7. Enhancement of existing thematic routes and promotion of new ones					local heritage	8. Protection and enhancement of the burano lace heritage					local heritage	9. Protection and enhancement of the cultural heritage of lagoon fishing	X	X			local heritage
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		11. Integration and enhancement of the permanent and temporary museum heritage					local heritage
		12. Protection and cultural enhancement of the village of lio piccolo				X	local heritage
		13. Protection and naturalistic enhancement of the campalto salt marshes	X	X	X	X	local heritage
		14. Promoting community agriculture	X		X		local heritage
		15. Initiatives for the hydromorphological rebalancing of the lagoon	X	X	X	X	
		16. Joint adaptation plan to climate change	X	X	X		
		17. Initiatives for the integrated management of the drainage network of the lagoon watershed	X	X	X		
		18. Initiatives for the networking of wetland contracts on the north adriatic coast	X	X	X	X	research/gov ernance
		<p>Each of above -mentioned Actions are composed of a number of activities that make explicit in practical terms what are the “things to be done”. The Activities are 76 in total and are divided in: Structural (Concrete) Activities, Communication and Education Activities, Monitoring Activities and Surveys, Governance (and other) Activities, Studies and Projects.</p>					

	<p>VII. Actions: Typology</p>	<p>VII.a Concrete Activities (Topics: e.g. biodiversity, water, air, landscape, ...)</p> <p>Concrete activities span from the enforcement of local plans of sustainable mobility, to the follow up of European projects aiming at restoring the sandbars, to very specific measures pursued by single municipalities to contrast climate change and restore the hydraulic functions of the landscape.</p> <p><i>04.03 Pilot action: improvement of the cycle path between Musile di Piave and Caposile; 05.03 Pilot action: strategic interventions of the Schema Direttore of the "Piano di fruizione turistica della laguna di Jesolo"; 05.04 Pilot action: observation tower between Piave Vecchia and Laguna Nord in the municipal territory of Musile di Piave; 05. 05 Pilot action: implementation of projects of the Master Plan for sustainable mobility in Eastern Veneto; 06.07 Awareness campaign "small gestures, big crimes against the abandonment of cigarette butts in the environment"; 07.02 Enhancement of the Veneto Coastline; 07. 05 Identification of routes linked to the fortification works (the "F'Orti" project in Sant'Erasmo); 13.02 Installation of signs at the Campalto salt marshes; 15.02 Maintenance works for the vivification of the "dead lagoon"; 15.04 Pilot action: continuation of LIFE VIMINE interventions; 15. 05 Pilot action: vivification of the lagoon areas between San Giuliano and Venice; 16.02 Implementation of measures to adapt to climate change in the Municipality of Jesolo; 16.03 Implementation of measures to adapt to climate change in the Municipality of Musile di Piave; 17.02 Pilot action: hydraulic-environmental requalification of a portion of the minor reticulum in the Municipality of Cavallino-Treporti.</i></p> <p>VII.b Communication and Education Activities</p> <p>Communication and education activities pursue the sensibilization of a wider range of users, from local citizens to tourists, local guides, yatchmen and students. They include the activation of thematic tables on the topic, consultancy activities as much as the identification of local heritages to protect (built as much as cultural), the organization of periodic events (festivals) and a carefully planned dissemination activity.</p>
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	<p>01.02 Dissemination campaign of the local statute of places in the Northern Lagoon of Venice; 02.03 Organisation of an annual event on lagoon issues; 04.02 Workshop with university students on accessibility in the lagoon; 06.01 "Adopt a beach" project; 06.02 "Save the sea. Recycle cooking oil" project; 06.03 Raising awareness among yachtsmen on sustainable navigation; 06.04 Setting up a permanent council of sustainable tourism operators; 06.06 Organisation of regattas and educational sailing trips; 06.07 Awareness campaign "small gestures, great crimes against the abandonment of cigarette butts in the environment"; 07. 01 Enhancement of "Il Sentiero delle Barene" on the island of Lazzaretto Nuovo; 07.03 Identification of routes related to the First World War; 07.04 Identification of routes related to the lagoon memorial stones ("Cento Cippi" project); 07.05 Identification of routes linked to the fortification works ("F'Orti" project in Sant'Erasmo); 07.06 Identification of routes linked to the lagoon saltpans; 07.07 Digitisation of existing routes and itineraries; 08.01 Activation of a thematic working table for the Burano lace quality brand; 09.01 Cultural project to disseminate the cultural heritage of fishing in the lagoon; 09.02 Activation and promotion of the "Fisherman's House" at Punta Sabbioni (Cavallino-Treporti); 09.03 Project for the recovery of waste produced during fishing activities; 09.04 Training and income support to make fishermen "custodians" of the lagoon territory; 09.05 Creation of an exhibition section on fishing sites at the Lazzaretto Nuovo Ecomuseum; 10.01 Identification of potential gastronomic uses of lagoon vegetation; 10.05 Initiatives for food and wine exploration of the lagoon territory; 11.01 Creation of a permanent round table for coordination between lagoon museums; 11. 02 Identification and promotion of visiting circuits among museums ("pathway of the lagoon museums"); 11.03 Organisation of cultural events at the lagoon museums; 11.04 Organisation of a round table with La Biennale di Venezia for an exhibition extension in the Northern Lagoon; 11.05 Pilot action: activation of an information point on M.O.S.E. at Punta Sabbioni; 11.06 Pilot action: activation of an ecomuseum of Eastern Venice on the theme of water; 13. 01 Activation of a thematic working table for the establishment of a naturalistic oasis at the Campalto salt marshes; Installation of posters at the Campalto salt marshes; 13.03 Environmental education activities at the Campalto salt marshes; 14.03 Activation of a network of producers and users of sustainable agriculture; 15.01 Organisation of a periodical event for the dissemination of data</p>
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		<p><i>and information on lagoon hydromorphology; 15. 03 Data collection campaign on the process of silting up the middle lagoon between San Giuliano and M. Polo airport; 16.01 Implementation of measures to adapt to climate change in the Municipality of Cavallino-Treporti; 16.02 Implementation of measures to adapt to climate change in the Municipality of Jesolo; 16.03 Implementation of measures to adapt to climate change in the Municipality of Musile di Piave; 17.03 Dissemination activities on the themes of the relationship between reclamation and lagoon within the Terrevalute Festival.</i></p>
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		<p>VII.c Monitoring Activities and Surveys</p> <p>Monitoring activities and surveys include the activation of an institutional coordination table on sustainable mobility, which is one of the biggest issues raised by all stakeholders. Also, an effort in rendering local activities (fishing, hunting, farming) sustainable is pursued and the intention of coordination among the municipalities of the north adriatic coast sustaining this or other Wetland Contracts.</p> <p><i>03.03 Pilot action: research activities on ecosystem services connected to the conservation and restoration of lagoon sandbanks; 04.01 Census of the continuity of the peri/endo-lagoon network and identification of completion itineraries; 04.02 Workshop with university students on accessibility in the lagoon; 05. 01 Activation of an institutional coordination table on sustainable mobility in the Northern Lagoon of Venice; 05.02 Data collection and reporting on the use and state (environmental, infrastructural, etc.) of the Northern Lagoon; 05.06 Pilot action: strategic project for electric mobility on water; 06.04 Activation of a permanent council of sustainable tourism operators; 07. 01 Enhancement of the "Sentiero delle Barene" on the island of Lazzaretto Nuovo; 09.01 Cultural project for the dissemination of the cultural heritage of fishing in the lagoon; 09.03 Project for the recovery of waste produced during fishing activities; 09.06 In-depth study of the factors of productivity and competitiveness of traditional fishing in the lagoon; 10. 02 Identification of protocols for the cultivation, harvesting and use of lagoon vegetation; 10.04 Creation of a cultural platform on the relationship between food and the lagoon; 11.02 Identification and promotion of visiting circuits between museums ("path of the lagoon museums"); 13.01 Activation of a thematic working table for the establishment of a naturalistic oasis at the Campalto salt marshes; 14.02 Census of disused areas that could be potentially used for community agriculture; 14.03 Activation of a network of producers and users of sustainable agriculture; 15.02 Maintenance interventions for the vivification of the "dead lagoon", 15.03 Data collection campaign on the process of silting up the middle lagoon between San Giuliano and M. Polo airport; 16.01 Implementation of measures to adapt to climate change in the Municipality of Cavallino-Treporti; 16. 02 Implementation of measures to adapt to climate change in the Municipality of Jesolo; 16.03 Implementation of measures to adapt to climate change in the Municipality of Musile di Piave; 17.04</i></p>
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		<p><i>Environmental education in the schools of the municipalities of the lagoon gutter on the themes of the relationship between reclamation and lagoon; 18.02 Coordinated communication between active and subscribed Wetland Area Contracts in the Northern Adriatic coast; 18.03 Joint dissemination event between active and signed Wetland Area Contracts on the North Adriatic coast</i></p>
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	<p>VII.d Governance (and other) Activities</p> <p>Governance activities mainly focus on the activation of laboratories and permanent tables to discuss prominent topics for the safeguarding of the lagoon, together with the promotion of local economies. Also, specific actions consider the implementation of measures to adapt to climate change and the activation of institutional groups of discussion.</p> <p><i>01.01 Activation of a laboratory for the definition of a local statute of places in the Northern Lagoon of Venice; 02.01 Activation of a permanent coordination table; 02.02 Coordination of ecological days; 03.01 Activation of a public/private research group; 03.02 Definition of a multi-year integrated research plan on the Northern Lagoon of Venice; 05.06 Pilot action: strategic project for electric mobility on water; 06. 01 "Adopt a beach" project; 08.01 Activation of a thematic working table for the Burano lace quality brand; 09.02 Activation and promotion of the "Fisherman's House" at Punta Sabbioni (Cavallino-Treporti); 09.03 Project for the recovery of waste produced during fishing activities; 09.04 Training and income integration to make fishermen "custodians" of the lagoon territory; 09.05 Creation of an exhibition section on fishing sites at the Ecomuseum of Lazzaretto Nuovo; 10.03 Development of the vegetation chain in the lagoon from producer to consumer; 11.01 Activation of a permanent round table for the coordination of lagoon museums; 11.04 Activation of a round table with La Biennale di Venezia for the extension of the exhibition in the Northern Lagoon; 11.05 Pilot action: activation of an information point on the M.O.S.E. at Punta Sabbioni; 11.06 Pilot action: activation of an ecomuseum of Eastern Venice on the theme of water; 11.07 Pilot action: digitalization of photographic and documentary archives on the history of Cavallino-Treporti; installation of posters at the sandbanks of Campalto; 14.05 Activation of a working group for the agro-environmental and tourist enhancement of the area between the Northern Lagoon of Venice and the old Piave; 14.06 Support to local farmers in the recovery and enhancement of the "white fishing" of Cavallino and Jesolo; 15.02 Maintenance interventions for the vivification of the "dead lagoon";</i></p>
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		<p><i>16.01 Implementation of measures to adapt to climate change in the Municipality of Cavallino-Treporti; 16.02 Implementation of measures to adapt to climate change in the Municipality of Jesolo; 17.01 Activation of an institutional coordination table; 18.01 Coordination table between active and subscribed Wetland Area Contracts in the Northern Adriatic Coast.</i></p> <p>VII.e Studies and Projects</p> <p>Studies and Projects include future and ongoing projects for the protection and promotion of the territory. The census of potentialities and dormant opportunities, the mapping of coastal paths, in-depth studies of the factors of productivity and competitiveness of traditional activities are some examples. These punctual interventions and studies aim to implement local master plans and increase the sensibility towards the environment.</p> <p><i>04.01 Census of the continuity of the peri/endo-lagoon fruition network and identification of completion itineraries; 04.02 Workshop with university students on accessibility in the lagoon; 04.03 Pilot action: improvement of the cycle path between Musile di Piave and Caposile; 04.04 Pilot action: requalification and valorisation of state-owned areas in Caposile; 05. 01 Activation of an institutional coordination table on sustainable mobility in the Northern Lagoon of Venice; 05.02 Data collection and reporting on the use and condition (environmental, infrastructural, etc.) of the Northern Lagoon; 05.03 Pilot action: strategic interventions of the Master Plan of the "Plan for the tourist use of the lagoon of Jesolo"; 05.04 Pilot action: observation tower between Piave Vecchia and Northern Lagoon in the Municipality of Musile di Piave; 05. 05 Pilot action: implementation of projects of the Master Plan for sustainable mobility in Eastern Veneto; 06.04 Activation of a permanent council of sustainable tourism operators; 06.05 Bicycle tours along the lagoon shore; 06.06 Organisation of regattas and didactic sailing trips; 06.07 Awareness campaign "small gestures, big crimes against the abandonment of cigarette butts in the environment"; 07.01 Enhancement of "Il Sentiero delle Barene" on the island of Lazzaretto Nuovo; 07. 02 Enhancement of the Litoranea Veneta; 07.03 Identification of routes related to the First World War; 07.04 Identification of routes</i></p>
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	<p>VIII. Actions: Stakeholders involved in the implementation</p>	<p>How many private and public stakeholders have been engaged in the implementation of the actions?</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="550 1657 1423 1809"> <thead> <tr> <th>Action</th> <th>Private</th> <th>Public</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Concrete Actions</td> <td>18</td> <td>28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Communication Actions</td> <td>95</td> <td>70</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Action	Private	Public	Concrete Actions	18	28	Communication Actions	95	70
Action	Private	Public									
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		<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Monitoring Actions</td> <td>43</td> <td>59</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Governance Actions</td> <td>50</td> <td>64</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Studies and Projects</td> <td>65</td> <td>79</td> </tr> </table> <p><u>Notes to the engagement:</u> the stakeholders involvement is indicative only. Many actions have among their aim the involvement of a wider spectrum of stakeholders. For other actions the Lagoon Assembly will need to identify the lead stakeholder during the first meeting.</p>	Monitoring Actions	43	59	Governance Actions	50	64	Studies and Projects	65	79									
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	X. Actions: Workplan	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Action</th> <th>Start</th> <th>End</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>Action 1</td><td>2021</td><td>2025</td></tr> <tr><td>Action 2</td><td>2021</td><td>2025</td></tr> <tr><td>Action 3</td><td>2021</td><td>2025</td></tr> <tr><td>Action 4</td><td>2021</td><td>2025</td></tr> <tr><td>Action 5</td><td>2021</td><td>2025</td></tr> <tr><td>Action 6</td><td>2021</td><td>2025</td></tr> <tr><td>Action 7</td><td>2021</td><td>2025</td></tr> <tr><td>Action 8</td><td>2021</td><td>2023</td></tr> <tr><td>Action 9</td><td>2022</td><td>2025</td></tr> <tr><td>Action 10</td><td>2021</td><td>2025</td></tr> <tr><td>Action 11</td><td>2021</td><td>2025</td></tr> <tr><td>Action 12</td><td>2021</td><td>2023</td></tr> <tr><td>Action 13</td><td>2021</td><td>2025</td></tr> <tr><td>Action 14</td><td>2021</td><td>2025</td></tr> <tr><td>Action 15</td><td>2021</td><td>2025</td></tr> <tr><td>Action 16</td><td>2021</td><td>2025</td></tr> <tr><td>Action 17</td><td>2021</td><td>2025</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Action	Start	End	Action 1	2021	2025	Action 2	2021	2025	Action 3	2021	2025	Action 4	2021	2025	Action 5	2021	2025	Action 6	2021	2025	Action 7	2021	2025	Action 8	2021	2023	Action 9	2022	2025	Action 10	2021	2025	Action 11	2021	2025	Action 12	2021	2023	Action 13	2021	2025	Action 14	2021	2025	Action 15	2021	2025	Action 16	2021	2025	Action 17	2021	2025
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Action 5	2021	2025																																																						
Action 6	2021	2025																																																						
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Action 8	2021	2023																																																						
Action 9	2022	2025																																																						
Action 10	2021	2025																																																						
Action 11	2021	2025																																																						
Action 12	2021	2023																																																						
Action 13	2021	2025																																																						
Action 14	2021	2025																																																						
Action 15	2021	2025																																																						
Action 16	2021	2025																																																						
Action 17	2021	2025																																																						

		Action 18	2021	2025
	XI. Other	The Contract Agreement details can be found in the hereby enclosed document. The contract includes 10 articles: ART. 1 - SCOPE; ART. 2 - PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES (as cited above); ART. 3 - DURATION; ART. 4 - IMPLEMENTING BODIES; ART. 5 - IMPLEMENTING PROCESS; ART. 6 - ACTION PROGRAMME; ART. 7 - COMMITMENTS OF THE SUBSCRIBERS; ART. 8 - MONITORING; ART. 9 - EXTENSION OF THE SUBSCRIPTION; ART. 10 - APPENDICES.		
C. EVALUATION	<p>[This section contains the conclusions of the Wetland Contract process and explains any problems and obstacles encountered and what elements concurred to the success of the process.]</p> <p>The methodology in place for the shaping of the Action Plan and Wetland Contract is explained in section B. REPORT - I. Introduction and more extensively in D. 4.3.2. On the basis of the activities promoted, some weaknesses and strengths can be highlighted.</p> <p>Weaknesses-obstacles to the process</p> <p><u>Restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 Pandemic:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A first difficulty is linked to the rules of distancing imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic, which prevented the carrying out of activities normally conceived in presence. The need for closeness, a necessary condition for listening and exchange, forced the research group to build alternative moments of confrontation. <p><u>Opposing political interests resulting in the lack of Referent subject for the next phases and the withdrawal of some institutional partners from the project:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One of the main aims of the Wetland Contracts is the transfer of responsibility from the promoting subject to the subjects that become part of the process (National Table of River Contracts, 2012; Ministry of Environment, 2017). The IUAV University of Venice initially proposed to nominate, among the bodies of the Contract, a Coordinator subject who would be the referent of the project on the territory. Normally, this role is covered by institutional subjects recognised by the partnership for their representative function, and therefore endowed with territorial authority. Unfortunately, some political oppositions conditioned the involvement of the Coordinating body identified in the Metropolitan City of Venice, which 			

	<p>was not able to take on the role of contact person for the implementation phase following signature. Since no other body felt it had the means and strengths to take on this task, the role was filled by the IUAV University of Venice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The same opposing political interests caused the municipalities' temporary uncertainty about joining the Contract. After several other bilateral meetings almost all of them decided to join except the municipality of Venice and the municipality of Quarto d'Altino. <p>Strengths to the process</p> <p><u>Inventive and proactive solutions to maximise the sharing experience in times of restriction:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The need for proximity, a necessary condition for listening and exchange, forced the research team to build alternative moments of confrontation. The activities included on-line forum, questionnaire and fact-finding tours and highlighted the need to think of supplementary and alternative tools for the collection of local knowledge, new mechanisms for the active involvement of local actors and a renewed ability to manage the process, coordinating activities and materials of a very different nature. Also, we decided to organise a tour along the land-water interface of the Northern Lagoon, scheduling small meetings for each stage of the tour. - Iuav decided to structure the working tables in an original way, avoiding the traditional tripartition protection / hydromorphological risk / local development, normally associated with the regulatory principles of the River Contracts. The challenge takes up the need to make the link between proposals and local feeling more evident, and therefore puts at the centre of the debate not so much the themes, but rather the values that emerged during the listening phase. The values are in turn associated with groups of actions and correspond to the subdivision of the tables. It is precisely this subdivision that makes it possible to emphasise the operational nature of the contract during the commitment and negotiation phases. <p><u>Increased connection among partners and projects:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The creation of various opportunities for discussion gave the actors living and working in the area the opportunity to get to know each other. This made it possible to increase mutual knowledge by identifying points of contact and similar projects already in operation. The contract
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	<p>has therefore allowed, on the one hand, the convergence of common interests and, on the other, the acceleration of ongoing processes. Stakeholders became independent in the exchange of information already in the first months of the process.</p>
<p>D. APPENDICES</p>	<p>The documents associated with the Wetland Contract are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Knowledge Document (DC) with thematic graphics, shared with the Assembly, which has accompanied the path of the Wetland Contract also providing appropriate insights according to the issues that emerged in the participatory process; - Strategic Document (QS) of reference for the Wetland Contract, shared with the Assembly, defined on the basis of the integration between the expert knowledge collected in the above mentioned Knowledge Document and the contextual knowledge emerged from the listening phases of the participatory process, which established the vision and the scenarios for the participatory decision-making process and for the governance of the Northern Lagoon of Venice, as well as the general objectives of the Wetland Contract; - Action Programme (PA), shared with the Assembly, containing the measures that the Contratto di Area Umida recognises for the integrated and sustainable management of the Northern Lagoon of Venice, articulated in a Synoptic Framework and in an Abacus of Measures;
<p>E. ANNEXES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annex 1: Wetland Contract Agreement - Annex 2: Action Programme - Annex 3: Synoptic Framework - Annex 4: Knowledge Document (DC) - Annex 5: Strategic Document (QS)

ANNEX 1. TEMPLATE OF THE ACTION PLAN

The Action Plan is the collection of all the actions foreseen by the Wetland Contract, analysing for each action: objective, stakeholders’ responsibilities, timing, financing.

NOTE: Please translate the following table into your local language to describe each action and develop the Action Plan, and then attach it to the “Report of the Wetland Contract”. This template is a guide for organizing your Action Plan, so if you consider it necessary you can also add more information.

Action X*	
Title	
Specific Objective	
Typology	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Action <input type="checkbox"/> Communication action <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring action <input type="checkbox"/> Governance action <input type="checkbox"/> Other action
Brief description	[500 characters]
Location	[indicate the area affected by the specific action]
Scope of intervention	[indicate the aim of the intervention]
Expected Results	[indicate the expected results and benefits the action aims to]
Coordinator	[Actors / actuators involved and the respective obligations and commitments. Include the contact person]
Other actors involved	[Other actors / actuators involved and the respective obligations and commitments]
Timing/Workplan	[Implementation times and procedures]
Budget	[Necessary human and economic resources]
Available funds/financial resources	[Funds already available and appointed resources]
Financial resources to be mobilized/financial resources	[Funds to be mobilized and possible resources]

[*Duplicate the table as needed]

ANNEX 2. TEMPLATE OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT AGREEMENT

The actors (both public and private) subscribing the Wetland Contract will be committed of: (i) acting in the frame of valorising of the subsidiarity principle, in respect of every actor's competences; (ii) activating all the partnership tools; (iii) keep working and monitoring the process even after the project; (iv) realizing the interventions/actions identified in the Action Plan.

NOTE:

- 1) The following is a general model of Wetland Contract Agreement in which the partner can base its own draft. Editing styles for legal documents differ notably from one Country to another, and the standard we have used here is based on the Italian one (drawing on the River Contract Agreement developed in Piedmont and Lombardy Regions). The partner can take the basic ideas and edit it as necessary in the style most appropriate to its own Country's regulatory framework.
- 2) Please translate the following template into your local language and then attach it to the "Report of the Wetland Contract".
- 3) The partners from the same Country are encouraged to cooperate in order to translate the template and adapt it to its National regulatory framework in a coherent way.

WETLAND CONTRACT

Given that:

[In the introduction, indicate the definition and purposes of the Wetland Contract tool, highlighting the regulatory and planning framework in which it is inserted. Below are some statements of the general principles on which the process is based]

- The Wetland Contract is a negotiated programming process for the governance of a specific wetland system, which allows to coordinate far-reaching interventions regarding the protection of the environment, the protection of water resources, the enhancement of the territory and the prevention of hydrogeological risk, combining competences and optimizing resources.
- The Wetland Contract implementation process is based on the participation and negotiation between all the actors and citizens involved, with the aim of activating environmental and territorial development projects. In fact, the Wetland Contract is configured as a voluntary agreement between local authorities and other public and private entities with which objectives, intervention strategies, actions to be activated and competences are defined. In this sense, it is an interactive approach that guarantees the consent and feasibility of the actions. The involvement of all possible users/stakeholders of the wetland system (protected areas managers, production sector, Municipalities, trade associations, citizens' associations) allows to share objectives, stimulating and promoting virtuous behaviour and committing to actions that are jointly approved.

- The Wetland Contract is an instrument consistent with the provisions of the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC), adopted by the European Community with the general objective of protecting, improving and restoring the quality of all internal surface waters, transitional waters, coastal and groundwater.

- *[Add National and regional framework references]*

**ALL THIS PREMISED AND CONSIDERED
the following is stipulated
WETLAND CONTRACT AGREEMENT
FOR ... *[insert the pilot wetland]*
among:
*[Add the list of the subscribers]***

Table of contents:

Art.1 – Purposes and objectives
 Art.2 – Territorial scope of intervention
 Art. 3 – Methodology
 Art.4 – Management of the Wetland Contract implementation
 Art. 5 – General obligation of the subscribers
 Art. 6 – Action Plan
 Art. 7 – Role of the actors responsible for the implementation of the Action Plan
 Art. 8 – Resources
 Art.9 – Deadlines/timing
 Art. 10 – Tools and implementation methods
 Art. 11 – Monitoring and updating
 Art. 12 – Procedures of new adhesion of public and private subscribers
 Art. 13 – Non-fulfilment and revocation
 Art. 14 – Withdrawal
 ANNEX Action Plan

Art.1 – Purposes and objectives

The Wetland Contract pursues the main objectives of the following European environmental directives: Habitat Directive 1992/43/EC; Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC; Floods Directive 2007/60/EC; Birds Directive 2009/147/EC; Marine Strategy Framework Directive 2008/56/CE.

The Wetland Contract for *[insert the pilot wetland]* contributes to the implementation of the Interreg IT-HR CREW project (Coordinated Wetland management in Italy-Croatia cross border region).

This Agreement aims at the realization of a shared Action Plan, concerning the territorial area of *[insert the pilot wetland]*, on which to converge interventions related to different policies to be integrated mutually, pursuing at the same time the objectives of administrative simplification and the effectiveness, efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the actions envisaged.

The specific objectives to be pursued for the wetland system of ... *[insert the pilot wetland]* are those specified below, in accordance with national and regional planning policies, which for relevance and complexity require an integrated approach over a large area.

- *[Add specific objectives]*

This Agreement commits its subscribers - who adhere to it on a voluntary basis - to achieve the above objectives, each for their own competences and responsibilities and through the commitment of their financial resources.

Art.2 – Territorial scope of intervention

[Add the territorial scope of intervention including a short description and a map highlighting the boundaries]

Art. 3 – Methodology

The subscribers share the principle that only through a synergic and strong action of all the stakeholders, both public and private, the trend towards territorial/environmental degradation of wetland systems can be reversed and the objectives of their sustainable development adequately pursued.

To this end, the subscribers undertake, in compliance with the competences of each one, to operate within a framework of strong enhancement of the principle of subsidiarity by activating all the partnership tools useful for the full achievement of the shared objectives.

The Wetland Contract implementation foreseen the development of a multistage process, as follows:

1. Definition of a structured and integrated knowledge base, shared and updatable, on the state of the target area (strengths / weaknesses from the environmental and socio-economic point of view) and the risks / opportunities connected to it, as well as the framework of the programmatic tools (existing plans, programs, projects);
2. Establishment of the governance structure that has the task of coordinating the Wetland Contract process and - if necessary - sharing the main common objectives signing a Memorandum of Understanding by local key stakeholders;

3. Identification – through the organization of several Territorial Labs (participative planning workshops) – of concerted future scenario, a strategic vision to be adopted, capable of coordinating various planning tools and adopting the principles of sustainable development,
4. Development of an Action Plan that establishes the priority actions, the roles and the methods for implementing the strategy and a plan to monitor its actual implementation;
5. Signature of the Wetland Contract as a formal commitment document to carry out the actions developed and shared in the participated path;
6. Realization of the activities foreseen in the Action Plan;
7. Monitoring of the activities and the effectiveness of the Wetland Contract process.

Art.4 – Management of the Wetland Contract implementation

The governance structure of the Wetland Contract is composed by three management bodies:

- Basin Assembly: is the body of public participation extended to the entire Community of the territory under the competence of the wetland system, in which all public and private subjects can participate. It has the task of contributing to the construction of knowledge, the identification of problems, the definition of possible solutions and the approval of choices. It can meet in plenary sessions or in the form of thematic and/or territorial tables according to the specific needs of the process.

[Add members]

- Management Board: is the institutional body made up of public entities adhering to the Wetland Contract. This body undertakes to direct, instruct and validate the work of the Basin Assembly and the Technical Secretariat. It has the task of supervising the decision-making process as well as of promoting the diffusion of the initiative in the territory, identifying and informing the interested parties, guaranteeing the communication and transfer of information between the actors of the process, promoting and organizing the project activities.

[Add members]

- Technical Secretariat: is the operating body supporting the Management Board and the Basin Assembly. It has the task of carrying out all the technical steps for the construction of the cognitive, evaluation and decision-making framework, including the collection of data and information, the development of plans and projects, the adoption of diagnostic tools, the technical analysis processing and evaluations, drafting of project documents (including the Action Plan). It also has the task of designing and conducting the facilitation in the Basin Assembly and the Territorial Labs. It performs the role of technical project secretariat, managing the timing and general organization of the process, as well as managing communication activities. It plays a role in the scientific setting of the works and validation of the results. Due to the articulation of the issues affecting the wetland systems, this body should be made up of technical experts of different disciplinary backgrounds, with proven experience in matters of importance for the specific context of reference.

[Add members]

Art. 5 – General obligation of the subscribers

Under this Agreement, the subscribers undertake:

- to pursue with commitment and synergy all the regulation already foreseen by European, national and regional regulations aiming at pursuing the environmental quality objectives for the *[insert the pilot wetland]*;
- to act on the basis of the objectives contained in art. 1 of this Agreement;
- to immediately implement the Action Plan, contributing to its revision where necessary;
- to integrate strategies and objectives of the Wetland Contract, as well as the interventions and actions foreseen by the Action Plan in sector/territorial planning according to specific competences and operating tools;

Art. 6 – Action Plan

The subscribers of this Agreement undertake to develop the following activities included in the attached Action Plan:

- *[Add the list of actions]*

Each of the aforementioned actions is described in detail in the Action Plan attached.

Art. 7 – Role of the actors responsible for the implementation of the Action Plan

Among the subscribers, the parties responsible for the implementation of the Action Plan are those responsible for the effective realisation of each specific action as required by the Action Plan itself.

The Management Board, having acknowledged of the Action Plan and of the actors identified by it, acts as guarantor of the roles assumed.

The subscribers of this Agreement undertake to assume their respective roles, as defined in the attached Action Plan, and to contribute to the realisation of the actions for the parts of their competence.

Art. 8 – Resources

This Wetland Contract represents an instrument that makes up the interests of a territory in compliance with specific expertise, providing a strategic vision to the ordinary policies of each of the actors involved. It also represents the tool through which to integrate and orient resources and the economic planning of the territory.

In this sense, participation in the Wetland Contract commits all subscribers to achieve the shared objectives referred to in art. 1, each with their own competences, responsibilities and resources. In

particular, the parties responsible for the implementation of the Action Plan must guarantee financial support for the actions for which they have responsibility.

If this commitment is not possible through their own financial instruments, they must take an active part - with the support of the Technical Secretariat - in identifying and accessing the most suitable sources of funding to fund the specific actions.

They also undertake to integrate the interventions of the Action Plan within their multi-year planning tools in order to identify, where possible, ad hoc financial resources to be allocated in the future to the planned interventions.

These commitments represent the first financial nucleus towards which other resources otherwise identified can catalyze in the future. In general, all subscribers undertake to support the Action Plan in the context of their financial resources by directing and identifying, where possible, elements of reward and priority for the actions of the Contract within their budget resources.

In the case of intangible actions that involve the use of only human resources, the underwriters ensure the availability of human resources within their structures to the extent and within the timeframe to be defined specifically. The financial capability foreseen by this Agreement and by the relative Action Plan pursuant to art. 6 can be summarized as follows:

Subscribers	Available funds	Funds to be mobilized	TOTAL Budget
<i>[add as many rows as needed]</i>			
TOTAL			

Art.9 – Deadlines/timing

The subscribers of this Agreement undertake to respect the deadlines set in the attached Action Plan. The deadlines/timing may be modified in relation to the updates and revisions that the Action Plan may undergo in accordance with the provisions of the following art. 11.

Actions	Start	End
<i>[Action name]</i>		
<i>[add as many rows as needed]</i>		

Art. 10 – Tools and implementation methods

The actions envisaged in the Action Plan and those that will be subsequently defined and agreed in future updates can be carried out, when deemed necessary, also through the activation of specific implementation tools envisaged by current legislation, including program agreements for the execution of works of particular relevance.

The contents of these implementation tools must acknowledge the Wetland Contract and in particular the adequacy of the intervention with respect to the general and detailed objectives of this process.

Art. 11 – Monitoring and updating

The Action Plan is a dynamic plan and can be updated and integrated periodically in the subsequent stages of the Wetland Contract implementation. In fact, the Management Board can review the Action Plan and this Agreement on the basis of the monitoring activities. Any changes to the Agreement and / or Action Plan are authorized by the Management Board which will bring them to the attention of the Basin Forum when it considers to represent substantial changes to these documents.

The Technical Secretariat monitors the implementation of the Wetland Contract and provides to the Management Board information on the progress and effectiveness of the process with respect the achievement of the objectives agreed. Periodic reports (at least one a year) on the progress of the actions will be drafted by the Technical Secretariat, and if necessary, it will prepare specific reports.

Art. 12 – Procedures of new adhesion of public and private subscribers

This Contract is open to the new public, private and Non-profit Organizations subscribers, upon written request to the *[Add the body in charge of the coordination/promotion of the Wetland Contract].*

The Management Board evaluates the membership proposals specifying the contribution of each subject with reference to the activities envisaged by the Action Plan.

Art. 13 – Non-fulfilment and revocation

Failure to implement, verify and monitor the Action Plan envisaged by art. 6 due to a fact attributable to the implementing parties gives rise to non-fulfilment. In the above hypothesis, the person in charge of the Agreement denounces the nature of the default by analytical registered letter and, due to its seriousness, assigns a suitable term for late compliance, if this is still useful.

In case of further non-compliance or failure to adapt to any indications of the responsible person, the Agreement manager activates the procedures for the withdrawal of the loan due to the ownership of the funds.

Art. 14 – Withdrawal

The subscribers can withdraw, with a motivated measure approved by the competent body.

The Management Board acknowledges the withdrawal, making sure that the conditions indicated above are respected.

ANNEXES:

- Action Plan

- ...

Date .././....

Read and signed

The contracting parties

.....

.....

REPORT OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT

City of San Benedetto del Tronto

Sentina Natural Regional Reserve

Deliverable 4.3.4 – English summary

Final version date: 28/06/2021

Notes:

1) A.4.3 Drafting the Wetland Contract

The activity aims at implementing and subscribing the one Wetland Contract in each target area through the following progressive steps:

- identifying the institutional management bodies for the Wetlands Contracts (Coordinating Committee / Management Board and Technical Secretariat);
- developing of Territorial Labs for the participated governance;
- defining mid-long term strategic scenarios;
- sharing and assessing the strategic scenarios;
- drafting the Action Plan and subscription of the formal agreement of the Wetland Contract during the Local Final Conference (press conference).

The actors subscribing the Contract will be committed of: (i) acting in the frame of valorising of the subsidiarity principle, in respect of every actor's competences; (ii) activating all the partnership tools; (iii) keep working and monitoring the process even after the project end.

2) D.4.3.4 Wetland Contract

The WP4 final deliverable will be the protocol of the Wetland Contract itself, containing the defined action plan (all objectives, activities and stakeholders' responsibilities to be carried out, timing and financing planned). It will be subscribed by the key stakeholders during the Local Final Conference.

3) This template has been developed by UNICAM (University of Camerino). It is inspired by and coordinated with the documentation elaborated in the Project WETNET financed under Interreg MED Cooperation Programme to increase information share, data and opportunities of confrontation.



Authors: City of San Benedetto del Tronto

REPORT OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT

(deliverable 4.3.4 – English summary)

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- VII. Actions: Typology
- VIII. Actions: Stakeholders involved in the implementation
- IX. Actions: Financial resources
- X. Actions: Timing/workplan
- XI. Other

C. EVALUATION

D. APPENDICES

ANNEX 1. TEMPLATE OF THE ACTION PLAN

ANNEX 2. TEMPLATE OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT AGREEMENT

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Chapter number and name		Contents
A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	I. Overview	The Municipality of San Benedetto del Tronto, as managing body of Sentina Reserve boosted a participatory process from July 2019 to April 2021 involving various stakeholders, leading to the development of the Action Plan and the subscription of the Wetland Contract of Sentina Natural Regional Reserve area by [16] key actors.

B. REPORT OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT

This section scopes are:

- to describe the local regulatory and legal framework of the Wetland Contract
- to identify the stakeholders who signed the Wetland Contract Agreement
- to identify the coordinator and the management system of the Wetland Contract
- to describe the foreseen actions: typology, actors involved in the implementation, financial resources, timing
- to evaluate the process listing success factors and criticality

Chapter number and name		Contents
B. REPORT	I. Introduction:	<p>The pilot area</p> <p>The Sentina Nature Reserve covers 177 hectares, entirely within the territory of the Municipality of San Benedetto del Tronto, between the town of Porto d'Ascoli to the north and River Tronto to the south, between the coastline to the east and the railway line to the west. The area is part of the Marche coastal system, characterised by a flat and straight coastline (whose articulation is mainly linked to defence works, ports and armed river mouths) and has always been linked to the Tronto river mouth environment. The territory has a coastal front of about 1.6</p>

		<p>km, between the mouth of Tronto and the built-up area of Porto d'Ascoli and an average width of about 900 metres, from the current shoreline to the Bologna-Bari railway line, which is the western limit.</p> <p>Its importance is linked to the fact that it is the only residual wetland area in the wide stretch of the Adriatic coastline, over 400 km long, between the Comacchio Valleys and Lesina and Varano lagoons, and it presents relict ecological conditions in an almost completely anthropized territory. Currently it has unique floristic characteristics and, above all, from the fauna point of view, it plays a decisive role for migratory avifauna, thus representing a strategic element for the ecological network, also in a vast area.</p> <p>The process that has led to the development of the Action Plan and the subscription of the Wetland Contract in the target area</p> <p>The process that led to the drafting of the Action Plan is the result of a shared path between local authorities and actors that, in July 2019, started the process of the Wetland Area Contract of the Sentina Regional Nature Reserve; this process was developed within the European project CREW "Coordinated Wetland management in Italy-Croatia Cross Border Region", co-financed by the CBC 2014-2020 Interreg V-A Italy-Croatia Programme, and included 8 working tables for stakeholder involvement.</p> <p>At the ninth table it was signed the contract for the Wetland Area of the Sentina Reserve.</p> <p>The methodology used for the involvement of stakeholders is the EASW (European Awareness Scenario Workshop), which is widely used in participatory processes at European level and serves to stimulate democratic participation in choices related to the improvement of living conditions of the community and the sustainability of the territory.</p> <p>Some meetings were organised in person and some, due to COVID-19 emergency, were carried out remotely (online on the Cisco Webex platform). During the activities, participants were given questionnaires and information sheets to be returned and filled in.</p>
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		<p>After the stakeholder involvement phase, a Strategic Document was drafted, and following the definition of the Strategic Document through EASW, the negotiation phase was activated during which the key stakeholders, in coordination with the Reserve, produced sheets indicating the actions to be included in the action programme.</p>
	<p>II. Legal framework and methodology:</p>	<p>[Identify and describe the local regulatory and legal framework in which the Wetland Contract has been integrated including a brief description of the methodology used if different from the one included in the Wetland Contract Toolkit]</p> <p>As defined by the National Table of River Contracts in the Document "Definition and basic qualitative requirements of the CoF (TNCdF, 2015)" the River Contracts are voluntary instruments coherent with the forecasts of plans and programmes already existing in the reference river basin/sub-basin and for the territory object of the River Contract and, if necessary, they can contribute to integrate and reorient the local planning and to improve the contents of the superordinate planning instruments, in conformity with the objectives of the environmental regulations.</p> <p>Legal references:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The process has followed the steps promoted by the Italian legislation on River Contracts: Legislative Decree 3 April 2006, n. 152 "Environmental regulations" and in particular article 68 bis, which has recognised River Contracts on a national scale with the following wording: "River and Lake Contracts contribute to the definition and implementation of district planning on a basin and sub-hydrographic basin scale, as voluntary instruments of negotiated strategic planning that pursue the protection, correct management and valorisation of water resources and the valorisation of river territories, together with the safeguarding from hydraulic risk, contributing to the local development of these areas".

		<p>- The formal agreement is a NEGOTIATED PROGRAMMING AGREEMENT pursuant to Article 2, paragraph 203 letter a) of Law 662/96.</p> <p>The acknowledgment of the planning and programming tools present in the Tronto River Basin and, in particular, in the area of the Sentina Reserve, started from the initial Integrated Preliminary Analysis, which was carried out with the methodologies provided in the Wetland Contract Toolkit.</p> <p>The Plans and Programmes that constitute the main reference framework within which the Wetland Contract of Sentina Regional Nature Reserve operates are the following:</p> <p><u>National level</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Central Apennine District Management Plan (PGDAC.2, 2016) - Flood risk management plan (PGRAAC, 2016) <p><u>Regional level</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tronto River Hydrogeological Structure Plan (PAI, 2007) - Regional Water Protection Plan (PRTA, 2010) - Regional Environmental Landscape Plan (PPAR, 1989, updated in 2010) - Marche Ecological Network (REM, 2013) - Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan (ICZM, 2018) - Five-year Plan of Protected Areas 2016-2020 <p><u>Local level</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Territorial Coordination Plan of the Province of Ascoli Piceno (PTC, 2002, updated 2006) - Area Plan 2018 - 2047
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - General Regulatory Plan of the Municipality of San Benedetto del Tronto (2013) - Implementation plan for redevelopment and preservation of the suburban building heritage (PARS, 2006) - Management Plan of the Sentina Regional Nature Reserve (PdG, 2014) - Participatory local development strategy for the South Marche FLAG area (FLAG, 2016)
	<p>III. Subscribers:</p>	<p>[Describe by who the Wetland Contract has been signed and what are their commitments]</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Municipality of San Benedetto del Tronto 2. Municipality of Martinsicuro 3. Municipality of Ascoli Piceno 4. Province of Ascoli Piceno 5. Province of Teramo 6. Marche Region 7. Abruzzo Region 8. Central Apennine District Basin Authority 9. CIIP 10. AATO5 11. Sentina Association 12. Legambiente Circolo Lu Cucale of San Benedetto del Tronto 13. L.I.D.A. 14. Marche a rifiuti Zero Association 15. University of Camerino 16. Selva Giurata Farm business

		<p>The signatories signed the agreement with aiming to collaborate for the sustainable development of the Sentina Reserve. The associations will cooperate with the managing body for the surveillance and growth of the areas, to fight pollution and to improve the environment. The consortia (AATO5 and CIIP) will take care of necessary hydraulic interventions. Marche and Abruzzo Region are planning to build a cycle bridge over the Tronto River.</p>
	<p>IV. Management system</p>	<p>[Identify the actors in charge of the coordination of the Wetland Contract process and describe the management system, including the stakeholders involved in each management body:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Management Board - Basin Forum - Technical Secretariat] - The Coordination Committee represents the executive body coordinated by the Responsible Party and responsible for the implementation of the process; it has political-decision-making functions and is made up of the Implementing Parties of the Wetland Contract, i.e. all those responsible for an action: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Municipality of San Benedetto del Tronto - Marche Region - Abruzzo Region - Central Apennine Basin District Authority - CIIP - AATO5 - The "Assembly of the Wetlands Agreement" is composed of the legal representatives of all the signatories of the Agreement, or their delegates. Specifically: (n°8 Bodies) Municipality of San Benedetto del Tronto, Municipality of Martinsicuro, Municipality of Ascoli Piceno, Province of Ascoli Piceno, Province of Teramo, Marche Region, Abruzzo

		<p>Region, Central Apennine District Basin Authority, (n°2 Consortia) CIIP, AATO5, (n°4 Associations) Associazione Sentina, Legambiente Circolo Lu Cucale di San Benedetto del Tronto, L.I.D.A., Associazione Marche a rifiuti Zero, (n°1 Research Institute) University of Camerino, (n°1 Private company) Azienda Agricola Selva Giurata.</p> <p>The Technical Secretariat is established within the Coordination Committee and coordinates the implementation of the actions, supporting the Responsible Party (Municipality of San Benedetto del Tronto) and the Coordination Committee in carrying out their tasks.</p> <p>In order to carry out its tasks, the Technical Secretariat may require the cooperation of the technical-administrative structures of the subscribers. The Technical Secretariat provides organisational support to the Assembly for its meetings and for the activation of decentralised meetings and collaborates with the Responsible Party in the verification and monitoring of the implementation of the Wetlands Agreement and the related Action Programme.</p> <p>The works of the Technical Secretariat are coordinated and chaired by the Responsible Party, or its delegate. Other subjects, possibly external to the Secretariat itself, may participate in the works of the Technical Secretariat, if convened. Within the Technical Secretariat smaller working groups can be established for specific topics, involving the interested actors in close relation with the different problems and with the specific objectives of the strategic scenario of the basin development. In carrying out its activities the Technical Secretariat can avail itself of experts, facilitators and external expertise.</p>		
	<p>V. Specific objectives</p>	<p>[List the specific objectives to be pursued for the pilot wetland, in accordance with regional planning policies]</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="550 1646 1409 1747"> <tr> <td data-bbox="550 1646 766 1747"> <p>G. GOVERNANCE</p> </td> <td data-bbox="766 1646 1409 1747"> <p>O.G.1 Improving the ability of stakeholders of the Sentina area to implement shared decisions and manage conflicts</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>G. GOVERNANCE</p>	<p>O.G.1 Improving the ability of stakeholders of the Sentina area to implement shared decisions and manage conflicts</p>
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		<p>O.G.2 Introduction of new governance tools for a wide area</p> <p>O.G.3 Data and knowledge sharing</p>																	
	E. ENVIRONMENT	<p>O.A.1 Improvement of water resource quality</p> <p>O.E.2 Recovery and reuse of the water resource</p> <p>O.E.3 Improvement of hydraulic safety</p> <p>O.E.4 Fighting coastal erosion</p> <p>O.E.5 Safeguarding nature and biodiversity</p> <p>O.E.6 Mitigation of the degradation phenomena of the Sentina ecosystem</p> <p>O.E.7 Fighting and mitigating climate change</p>																	
	D. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	<p>O.D.1 Sustainable agriculture with low environmental impact (Safeguarding environmental qualities and agricultural production capacities)</p> <p>O.D.2 Recovery, preservation and enhancement of the historical and cultural landscape and promotion of low environmental impact economies</p> <p>O.D.3 Improvement of the tourist use of the area and the territory according to the principles of environmental sustainability</p> <p>O.D.4 Environmental education and awareness-raising</p>																	
	VI. Actions: List	<p>List the actions included in the action plan and the corresponding environmental components concerned. Mark with "X": BD biodiversity; WQ water quality; ES ecosystem services; PL protection level; other</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Actions</th> <th colspan="5">Environmental components</th> </tr> <tr> <th>BD</th> <th>WQ</th> <th>ES</th> <th>PL</th> <th>Other (indicate)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Actions	Environmental components					BD	WQ	ES	PL	Other (indicate)						
Actions	Environmental components																		
	BD	WQ	ES	PL	Other (indicate)														

		G1	Initiation of a negotiation table between the Municipality of San Benedetto and the Municipality of Ascoli						GOVERNANCE
		G2	Monitoring the process of the Wetland Contract of the Sentina Regional Nature Reserve					X	
		G3	Launch of the Tronto River Interregional Contract	X	X	X	X		GOVERNANCE
		G4	Conservation measures of the sea SCI IT5340001 "Litorale di Porto d'Ascoli".	X	X				
		G5	Creation of a logical scheme and populating of a cartographic database	X	X	X	X		
		E1	Environmental monitoring of Tronto River by the Coast Guard					X	
		E2	Restoration of the northern part of the collector ditch and neighbouring ditches	X	X				
		E3	Water quality control of the purification plant		X				
		E4	Adaptation of the sewage network within the Reserve		X			X	
		E5	Environmental monitoring	X	X	X			
		E6	Implementation of fit-for-purpose wastewater re-use systems		X	X			
		E7	Preparation of a specialised study to	X	X			X	

			analyse coastal erosion processes					
		E8	Elimination of invasive alien plant and animal species	X		X		
		E9	Wetlands monitoring	X		X		
		E10	Restoration of wetlands	X				
		E11	Reintroduction of <i>Emys orbicularis</i>	X		X		
		E12	Collaboration between organisations and associations to carry out surveillance activities in the Sentina Reserve				X	
		E13	Installation of a "plastic-catcher" barrier at the mouth of River Tronto		X			MARINE LITTER
		E14	Beach and marine litter		X			MARINE LITTER
		D1	Creation of tree belts	X				SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
		D2	Creation of soft mobility infrastructures	X				SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
		D3	Environmental education and awareness-raising activities for students and citizens	X				SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
	VII. Actions: Typology	<p>VII.a Concrete Actions (Topics: e.g. biodiversity, water, air, landscape, ...)</p> <p>[Provide a brief description of the concrete actions included in the Action Plan of the Wetland Contract]</p> <p>In the Action Programme real actions are envisaged and related to the requalification of the ditches and of the hydrographic basins; the safeguard of the beach and of the dune; the implementation of conservation measures of the existing sea SCI. The restoration of wetlands is planned, as well as the creation of tree belts along the</p>						

		<p>paths, useful both for a more pleasant use of the area and for the recovery of the ancient agrarian landscape. Furthermore, it is planned to reintroduce protected animal and plant species and to fight the invasion of alien species currently present. For a more sustainable development of the area, the construction of green mobility infrastructures and the upgrading of the sewage system within the reserve are planned.</p>
		<p>VII.b Communication Actions [Provide a brief description of the communication, awareness raising and training actions included in the Action Plan of the Wetland Contract] At a local level, environmental education and awareness-raising activities are planned, addressed to students and citizens, also through <i>a Beach and marine litter</i> awareness campaign. In addition, a collaboration between organisations and associations will be set up to carry out surveillance and information activities in the Sentina Reserve.</p>
		<p>VII.c Monitoring Actions [Provide a brief description of the monitoring actions included in the Action Plan of the Wetland Contract] The plan foresees the monitoring of the implementation of the Reserve Wetland Contract. Environmental monitoring and control activities of the Tronto River mouth by the Coast Guard are also foreseen. The managing body of the Reserve will carry out all the environmental monitoring activities and in particular of the wetlands; AATO5 and CIIP will take care of the water quality of the purification plant and of the sewage network.</p>
		<p>VII.d Governance Actions [Provide a brief description of the management and governance actions included in the Action Plan of the Wetland Contract] Interaction between authorities is foreseen: a negotiation table is to be set up between the Municipality of San Benedetto del Tronto (managing body of the Reserve) and the Municipality of Ascoli Piceno (owner of most of the territories of the Reserve) for a better</p>

	<p>management of the area. Moreover, it is planned to start the procedures to reach an interregional contract for the Tronto River. To this end, the ABDAC (Autorità di Bacino Distrettuale dell'Appennino Centrale) and the competent offices of the Marche Region will be involved.</p>																		
	<p>VII.e Other Actions</p> <p>[Provide a brief description of the other key actions included in the Action Plan of the Wetland Contract]</p> <p>An activity of populating an updated cartographic database is scheduled. A specialised study of coastal erosion processes will be carried out.</p> <p>The implementation of fit-for-purpose wastewater reuse systems is planned. Particular attention will be paid to the problems related to environmental pollution and specifically to the installation of a "plastic catcher" barrier at the mouth of the Tronto river.</p>																		
VIII. Actions: Stakeholders involved in the implementation	<p>How may private and public stakeholders have been engaged in the implementation of the actions?</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Action</th> <th>Private</th> <th>Public</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Concrete Actions</td> <td>1</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Communication Actions</td> <td>6</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Monitoring Actions</td> <td>1</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Governance Actions</td> <td>7</td> <td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other...</td> <td>1</td> <td>5</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Action	Private	Public	Concrete Actions	1	7	Communication Actions	6	1	Monitoring Actions	1	8	Governance Actions	7	11	Other...	1	5
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IX. Actions: Financial resources	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Action</th> <th>Budget</th> <th>Financial resources</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Concrete Actions</td> <td>3'549'000,00 €</td> <td>miscellaneous (see financial framework, Annex 5)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Communication Actions</td> <td>44'000,00 €</td> <td>miscellaneous (see financial framework, Annex 5)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Action	Budget	Financial resources	Concrete Actions	3'549'000,00 €	miscellaneous (see financial framework, Annex 5)	Communication Actions	44'000,00 €	miscellaneous (see financial framework, Annex 5)									
Action	Budget	Financial resources																	
Concrete Actions	3'549'000,00 €	miscellaneous (see financial framework, Annex 5)																	
Communication Actions	44'000,00 €	miscellaneous (see financial framework, Annex 5)																	

		Monitoring Actions	125'000,00 €	miscellaneous (see financial framework, Annex 5)
		Governance Actions	58'000,00 €	miscellaneous (see financial framework, Annex 5)
		Other...	362'567,38 €	miscellaneous (see financial framework, Annex 5)
	X. Actions: Workplan	Action	Start	End
		Action G1	01/2021	12/2024
		Action G2	01/2021	12/2024
		Action G3	01/2021	12/2024
		Action G4	01/2021	12/2024
		Action G5	06/2022	12/2022
		Action A1	01/2021	12/2024
		Action A2	01/2021	12/2024
		Action A3	01/2021	12/2024
		Action A4	01/2017	12/2023
		Action A5	01/2021	12/2024
		Action A6	01/2021	12/2024
		Action A7	07/2022	12/2024
		Action A8	01/2019	12/2024
		Action A9	01/2021	12/2024
		Action A10	01/2021	12/2024
		Action A11	01/2021	12/2024
		Action A12	01/2021	12/2024
		Action A13	01/2021	12/2024
		Action A14	01/2019	12/2024
	Action S1	01/2021	12/2024	
	Action S2	01/2021	12/2024	
	Action S3	01/2021	12/2024	

	XI. Other	<p>[This section reports any changes made for adapting the Wetland Contract Agreement to your specific case (e.g. related to the following articles: General obligation of the subscribers, Role of the actors responsible for the implementation of the Action Plan, Deadlines/timing, Tools and implementation methods, Monitoring and updating, Procedures of new adhesion of public and private subscribers, Non-fulfilment and revocation, Withdrawal)]</p> <p>The process that led to the signing of the Reserve's Wetland Contract took place without significant problems of involvement of local stakeholders, with the exception of the difficulty in organising public meetings since March 2020, due to the Covid emergency.</p> <p>The stakeholders proved to be cooperative and proactive in the activities carried out and in the negotiation phase, investing both personnel and financial resources of their own for the activities planned in the coming years for a more innovative and sustainable management of the Sentina Reserve.</p>
C. EVALUATION		<p>[This section contains the conclusions of the Wetland Contract process and explains any problems and obstacles encountered and what elements concurred to the success of the process.]</p>
D. APPENDICES		<p>Please include the documents associated to the Wetland Contract. These documents may include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wetland Contract in local language signed by key actors - Action Plan in local language <p>ANNEX 1 Knowledge Analysis in local language</p> <p>ANNEX 2 Strategic Document in local language</p> <p>ANNEX 3 Participatory Process Report in local language</p> <p>ANNEX 4 Action Programme in local language</p> <p>ANNEX 5 Financial Framework in local language</p> <p>Wetland Contract in local language signed by key actors</p>

ANNEX 1. TEMPLATE OF THE ACTION PLAN

The Action Plan is the collection of all the actions foreseen by the Wetland Contract, analysing for each action: objective, stakeholders' responsibilities, timing, financing.

NOTE: Please translate the following table into your local language to describe each action and develop the Action Plan, and then attach it to the "Report of the Wetland Contract". This template is a guide for organizing your Action Plan, so if you consider it necessary you can also add more information.

Action X*	
Title	
Specific Objective	
Typology	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Action <input type="checkbox"/> Communication action <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring action <input type="checkbox"/> Governance action <input type="checkbox"/> Other action
Brief description	[500 characters]
Location	[indicate the area affected by the specific action]
Scope of intervention	[indicate the aim of the intervention]
Expected Results	[indicate the expected results and benefits the action aims to]
Coordinator	[Actors / actuators involved and the respective obligations and commitments. Include the contact person]
Other actors involved	[Other actors / actuators involved and the respective obligations and commitments]
Timing/Workplan	[Implementation times and procedures]
Budget	[Necessary human and economic resources]
Available funds/financial resources	[Funds already available and appointed resources]
Financial resources to be mobilized/financial resources	[Funds to be mobilized and possible resources]

[*Duplicate the table as needed]

ANNEX 2. TEMPLATE OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT AGREEMENT

The actors (both public and private) subscribing the Wetland Contract will be committed of: (i) acting in the frame of valorising of the subsidiarity principle, in respect of every actor's competences; (ii) activating all the partnership tools; (iii) keep working and monitoring the process even after the project; (iv) realizing the interventions/actions identified in the Action Plan.

NOTE:

- 1) The following is a general model of Wetland Contract Agreement in which the partner can base its own draft. Editing styles for legal documents differ notably from one Country to another, and the standard we have used here is based on the Italian one (drawing on the River Contract Agreement developed in Piedmont and Lombardy Regions). The partner can take the basic ideas and edit it as necessary in the style most appropriate to its own Country's regulatory framework.
- 2) Please translate the following template into your local language and then attach it to the "Report of the Wetland Contract".
- 3) The partners from the same Country are encourage to cooperate in order to translate the template and adapt it to its National regulatory framework in a coherent way.

WETLAND CONTRACT FOR [insert the pilot wetland]

Given that:

[In the introduction, indicate the definition and purposes of the Wetland Contract tool, highlighting the regulatory and planning framework in which it is inserted. Below are some statements of the general principles on which the process is based]

- The Wetland Contract is a negotiated programming process for the governance of a specific wetland system, which allows to coordinate far-reaching interventions regarding the protection of the environment, the protection of water resources, the enhancement of the territory and the prevention of hydrogeological risk, combining competences and optimizing resources.
- The Wetland Contract implementation process is based on the participation and negotiation between all the actors and citizens involved, with the aim of activating environmental and territorial development projects. In fact, the Wetland Contract is configured as a voluntary agreement between local authorities and other public and private entities with which objectives, intervention strategies, actions to be activated and competences are defined. In this sense, it is an interactive approach that guarantee the consent and feasibility of the actions. The involvement of all possible users/stakeholders

of the wetland system (protected areas managers, production sector, Municipalities, trade associations, citizens' associations) allows to share objectives, stimulating and promoting virtuous behaviour and committing to actions that are jointly approved.

- The Wetland Contract is an instrument consistent with the provisions of the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC), adopted by the European Community with the general objective of protecting, improving and restoring the quality of all internal surface waters, transitional waters, coastal and groundwater.
- *[Add National and regional framework references]*

**ALL THIS PREMISED AND CONSIDERED
the following is stipulated
WETLAND CONTRACT AGREEMENT
FOR *[insert the pilot wetland]*
among:
*[Add the list of the subscribers]***

Table of contents:

- Art.1 – Purposes and objectives
 - Art.2 – Territorial scope of intervention
 - Art. 3 – Methodology
 - Art.4 – Management of the Wetland Contract implementation
 - Art. 5 – General obligation of the subscribers
 - Art. 6 – Action Plan
 - Art. 7 – Role of the actors responsible for the implementation of the Action Plan
 - Art. 8 – Resources
 - Art.9 – Deadlines/timing
 - Art. 10 – Tools and implementation methods
 - Art. 11 – Monitoring and updating
 - Art. 12 – Procedures of new adhesion of public and private subscribers
 - Art. 13 – Non-fulfilment and revocation
 - Art. 14 – Withdrawal
- ANNEX Action Plan

Art.1 – Purposes and objectives

The Wetland Contract pursues the main objectives of the following European environmental directives: Habitat Directive 1992/43/EC; Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC; Floods Directive 2007/60/EC; Birds Directive 2009/147/EC; Marine Strategy Framework Directive 2008/56/CE.

The Wetland Contract for *[insert the pilot wetland]* contributes to the implementation of the Interreg IT-HR CREW project (Coordinated Wetland management in Italy-Croatia cross border region).

This Agreement aims at the realization of a shared Action Plan, concerning the territorial area of *[insert the pilot wetland]*, on which to converge interventions related to different policies to be integrated mutually, pursuing at the same time the objectives of administrative simplification and the effectiveness, efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the actions envisaged.

The specific objectives to be pursued for the wetland system of ... *[insert the pilot wetland]* are those specified below, in accordance with national and regional planning policies, which for relevance and complexity require an integrated approach over a large area.

- *[Add specific objectives]*

This Agreement commits its subscribers - who adhere to it on a voluntary basis - to achieve the above objectives, each for their own competences and responsibilities and through the commitment of their financial resources.

Art.2 – Territorial scope of intervention

[Add the territorial scope of intervention including a short description and a map highlighting the boundaries]

Art. 3 – Methodology

The subscribers share the principle that only through a synergic and strong action of all the stakeholders, both public and private, the trend towards territorial/environmental degradation of wetland systems can be reversed and the objectives of their sustainable development adequately pursued.

To this end, the subscribers undertake, in compliance with the competences of each one, to operate within a framework of strong enhancement of the principle of subsidiarity by activating all the partnership tools useful for the full achievement of the shared objectives.

The Wetland Contract implementation foreseen the development of a multistage process, as follows:

1. Definition of a structured and integrated knowledge base, shared and updatable, on the state of the target area (strengths / weaknesses from the environmental and socio-economic point of view) and the risks / opportunities connected to it, as well as the framework of the programmatic tools (existing plans, programs, projects);
2. Establishment of the governance structure that has the task of coordinating the Wetland Contract process and - if necessary - sharing the main common objectives signing a Memorandum of Understanding by local key stakeholders;
3. Identification – through the organization of several Territorial Labs (participative planning workshops) – of concerted future scenario, a strategic vision to be adopted, capable of coordinating various planning tools and adopting the principles of sustainable development,
4. Development of an Action Plan that establishes the priority actions, the roles and the methods for implementing the strategy and a plan to monitor its actual implementation;
5. Signature of the Wetland Contract as a formal commitment document to carry out the actions developed and shared in the participated path;
6. Realization of the activities foreseen in the Action Plan;
7. Monitoring of the activities and the effectiveness of the Wetland Contract process.

Art.4 – Management of the Wetland Contract implementation

The governance structure of the Wetland Contract is composed by three management bodies:

- Basin Assembly: is the body of public participation extended to the entire Community of the territory under the competence of the wetland system, in which all public and private subjects can participate. It has the task of contributing to the construction of knowledge, the identification of problems, the definition of possible solutions and the approval of choices. It can meet in plenary session or in the form of thematic and/or territorial tables according to the specific needs of the process.

[Add members]

- Management Board: is the institutional body made up of public entities adhering to the Wetland Contract. This body undertakes to direct, instruct and validate the work of the Basin Assembly and the Technical Secretariat. It has the task of supervising the decision-making process as well as of promoting the diffusion of the initiative in the territory, identifying and informing the interested parties, guaranteeing the communication and transfer of information between the actors of the process, promoting and organize the project activities.

[Add members]

- Technical Secretariat: is the operating body supporting the Management Board and the Basin Assembly. It has the task of carrying out all the technical steps for the construction of the cognitive, evaluation and decision-making framework, including the collection of data and information, the development of plans and projects, the adoption of diagnostic tools, the technical analysis processing and evaluations, drafting of project documents (including the Action Plan). It also has the task of designing and conducting the facilitation in the Basin Assembly and the Territorial Labs. It performs the role of technical project secretariat, managing the timing and general organization of the process, as well as managing communication activities. It plays a role of scientific setting of the works and validation of the results. Due to the articulation of the issues affecting the wetland systems, this body should be made up of technical experts of different disciplinary backgrounds, with proven experience in matters of importance for the specific context of reference.

[Add members]

Art. 5 – General obligation of the subscribers

Under this Agreement, the subscribers undertake:

- to pursue with commitment and synergy all the regulation already foreseen by European, national and regional regulations aiming at pursuing the environmental quality objectives for the *[insert the pilot wetland]*;
- to act on the basis of the objectives contained in art. 1 of this Agreement;
- to immediately implement the Action Plan, contributing to its revision where necessary;
- to integrate strategies and objectives of the Wetland Contract, as well as the interventions and actions foreseen by the Action Plan in sector/territorial planning according to specific competences and operating tools;

Art. 6 – Action Plan

The subscribers of this Agreement undertake to develop the following activities included in the attached Action Plan:

- *[Add the list of actions]*

Each of the aforementioned actions is described in detail in the Action Plan attached.

Art. 7 – Role of the actors responsible for the implementation of the Action Plan

Among the subscribers, the parties responsible for the implementation of the Action Plan are those responsible for the effective realisation of each specific action as required by the Action Plan itself.

The Management Board, having acknowledged of the Action Plan and of the actors identified by it, acts as guarantor of the roles assumed.

The subscribers of this Agreement undertake to assume their respective roles, as defined in the attached Action Plan, and to contribute to the realisation of the actions for the parts of their competence.

Art. 8 – Resources

This Wetland Contract represents an instrument that makes up the interests of a territory in compliance with specific expertise, providing a strategic vision to the ordinary policies of each of the actors involved. It also represents the tool through which to integrate and orient resources and the economic planning of the territory.

In this sense, participation in the Wetland Contract commits all subscribers to achieve the shared objectives referred to in art. 1, each with their own competences, responsibilities and resources. In particular, the parties responsible for the implementation of the Action Plan must guarantee financial support for the actions for which they have responsibility.

If this commitment is not possible through their own financial instruments, they must take an active part - with the support of the Technical Secretariat - in identifying and accessing the most suitable sources of funding to fund the specific actions.

They also undertake to integrate the interventions of the Action Plan within their multi-year planning tools in order to identify, where possible, ad hoc financial resources to be allocated in the future to the planned interventions.

These commitments represent the first financial nucleus towards which other resources otherwise identified can catalyze in the future. In general, all subscribers undertake to support the Action Plan in the context of their financial resources by directing and identifying, where possible, elements of reward and priority for the actions of the Contract within their budget resources.

In the case of intangible actions that involve the use of only human resources, the underwriters ensure the availability of human resources within their structures to the extent and within the timeframe to be defined specifically. The financial capability foreseen by this Agreement and by the relative Action Plan pursuant to art. 6 can be summarized as follows:

Subscribers	Available funds	Funds to be mobilized	TOTAL Budget
<i>[add as many rows as needed]</i>			

TOTAL			
--------------	--	--	--

Art.9 – Deadlines/timing

The subscribers of this Agreement undertake to respect the deadlines set in the attached Action Plan. The deadlines/timing may be modified in relation to the updates and revisions that the Action Plan may undergo in accordance with the provisions of the following art. 11.

Actions	Start	End
<i>[Action name]</i>		
<i>[add as many rows as needed]</i>		

Art. 10 – Tools and implementation methods

The actions envisaged in the Action Plan and those that will be subsequently defined and agreed in future updates can be carried out, when deemed necessary, also through the activation of specific implementation tools envisaged by current legislation, including program agreements for the execution of works of particular relevance.

The contents of these implementation tools must acknowledge the Wetland Contract and in particular the adequacy of the intervention with respect to the general and detailed objectives of this process.

Art. 11 – Monitoring and updating

The Action Plan is a dynamic plan and can be updated and integrated periodically in the subsequent stages of the Wetland Contract implementation. In fact, the Management Board can review the Action Plan and this Agreement on the basis of the monitoring activities. Any changes to the Agreement and / or Action Plan are authorized by the Management Board which will bring them to the attention of the Basin Forum when it considers to represent substantial changes to these documents.

The Technical Secretariat monitors the implementation of the Wetland Contract and provides to the Management Board information on the progress and effectiveness of the process with respect the achievement of the objectives agreed. Periodic reports (at least one a year) on the progress of the actions will be drafted by the Technical Secretariat, and if necessary, it will prepare specific reports.

Art. 12 – Procedures of new adhesion of public and private subscribers

This Contract is open to the new public, private and Non-profit Organizations subscribers, upon written request to the *[Add the body in charge of the coordination/promotion of the Wetland Contract].*

The Management Board evaluates the membership proposals specifying the contribution of each subject with reference to the activities envisaged by the Action Plan.

Art. 13 – Non-fulfilment and revocation

Failure to implement, verify and monitor the Action Plan envisaged by art. 6 due to a fact attributable to the implementing parties gives rise to non-fulfilment. In the above hypothesis, the person in charge of the Agreement denounces the nature of the default by analytical registered letter and, due to its seriousness, assigns a suitable term for late compliance, if this is still useful.

In case of further non-compliance or failure to adapt to any indications of the responsible person, the Agreement manager activates the procedures for the withdrawal of the loan due to the ownership of the funds.

Art. 14 – Withdrawal

The subscribers can withdraw, with a motivated measure approved by the competent body.

The Management Board acknowledges the withdrawal, making sure that the conditions indicated above are respected.

ANNEXES:

- Action Plan
- ...

Date .././....

Read and signed

The contracting parties

.....
.....

REPORT OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT

Comunità Riviera Friulana

Marano Lagoon

Deliverable 4.3.4 – English summary

Final Version date: 02.08.2021

Notes:

1) A.4.3 Drafting the Wetland Contract

The activity aims at implementing and subscribing the one Wetland Contract in each target area through the following progressive steps:

- identifying the institutional management bodies for the Wetlands Contracts (Coordinating Committee / Management Board and Technical Secretariat);
- developing of Territorial Labs for the participated governance;
- defining mid-long term strategic scenarios;
- sharing and assessing the strategic scenarios;
- drafting the Action Plan and subscription of the formal agreement of the Wetland Contract during the Local Final Conference (press conference).

The actors subscribing the Contract will be committed of: (i) acting in the frame of valorising of the subsidiarity principle, in respect of every actor's competences; (ii) activating all the partnership tools; (iii) keep working and monitoring the process even after the project end.

2) D.4.3.4 Wetland Contract

The WP4 final deliverable will be the protocol of the Wetland Contract itself, containing the defined action plan (all objectives, activities and stakeholders' responsibilities to be carried out, timing and financing planned). It will be subscribed by the key stakeholders during the Local Final Conference.

3) This template has been developed by UNICAM (University of Camerino). It is inspired by and coordinated with the documentation elaborated in the Project WETNET financed under Interreg MED Cooperation Programme to increase information share, data and opportunities of confrontation.



Authors: Gabriele Pitacco

REPORT OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT

(deliverable 4.3.4 – English summary)

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ANNEX 1. TEMPLATE OF THE ACTION PLAN

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A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Chapter number and name		Contents
A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	I. Overview	UTI Riviera Bassa Friulana / Comunità Riviera Friulana held a series of participatory events from February 2020 to February 2021 involving various stakeholders, including: Autorità di Bacino Distrettuale delle Alpi Orientali, Regione Autonoma Friuli Venezia Giulia, PromoTurismoFVG, Università di Trieste - Dipartimento di Ingegneria e Architettura, Comune di Marano Lagunare, Comune di Carlino, Comune di Latisana, Comune di Lignano Sabbiadoro, Comune di Muzzana del Turgnano, Comune di Palazzolo dello Stella, Comune di Pocenia, Comune di Porpetto, Comune di Precenicco, Comune di Ronchis, Comune di San Giorgio di Nogaro, Associazione Valle del Cormor, Gruppo Passaggio a Nord Ovest Carlino Marano Muzzana, Associazione Casoneri, leading to the development of the Action Plan and the subscription of the Wetland Contract of Marano Lagoon by the key actors.

B. REPORT OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT

This section scopes are:

- to describe the local regulatory and legal framework of the Wetland Contract
- to identify the stakeholders who signed the Wetland Contract Agreement
- to identify the coordinator and the management system of the Wetland Contract
- to describe the foreseen actions: typology, actors involved in the implementation, financial resources, timing
- to evaluate the process listing success factors and criticality

Chapter number and name	Contents
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<p>B. REPORT</p>	<p>I. Introduction:</p>	<p>This report focused on Marano Lagoon, a vulnerable and delicate area that needs non-variable water thicknesses, so as not to compromise and modify the ecology; stresses that water levels are closely linked to climate change and consequently the lagoon requires continuous observations.</p> <p>This brackish wetland originated following the deposits of the Isonzo and Tagliamento rivers, the phenomena of subsidence and the deposit of sand and silt by sea currents. The tributary rivers Stella, Cormor and Aussa-Corno flow into it, contributing to the supply of sediments and fresh water. Located south-west of the city of Marano Lagunare, the mouths of the Stella river represent the only example in the Adriatic of a delta in the lagoon environment. The coastline is represented by a series of islands that create the southern border of the lagoon with the Adriatic Sea. The total lagoon area, estimated at 160 sq km, develops along an arched progression parallel to the coast line for about 32 km. The saline wedge penetrates the water courses that flow into the lagoon for at least another 4-5 km from their mouth. The contribution of fresh water accounts for 70-80% on the Marano lagoon. A complex ecosystem which, on the one hand, receives the waters from the rivers of the drainage basin and, on the other hand, communicates with the sea through the tidal mouths. continuous modeling of the seabed and the hydrodynamic equilibrium of the lagoon environment. The balance of the transformations of the salt marshes is negative in the most recent period, with accentuated erosion phenomena. Among these the main forcing seems to be subsidence (in particular the local one deriving from a compaction of clayey sediment and peat), followed by the transit of boats and natural wave motion. The growth processes, where present, are mostly attributable to the fluvial inputs of the Marano basin. The geo-morphological characteristics of the area have been largely modified by the action of man who has gradually recovered, through reclamation for agricultural or industrial uses, environments previously characterized by swamps that served as a link between the mainland and the sea.</p>
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		<p>Process to the Action Plan</p> <p>UTI Riviera Bassa Friulana / Comunità Riviera Friulana held a series of participatory events from February 2020 to February 2021 involving various stakeholders, including: Autorità di Bacino Distrettuale delle Alpi Orientali, Regione Autonoma Friuli Venezia Giulia, PromoTurismoFVG, Università di Trieste - Dipartimento di Ingegneria e Architettura, Comune di Marano Lagunare, Comune di Carlino, Comune di Latisana, Comune di Lignano Sabbiadoro, Comune di Muzzana del Turgnano, Comune di Palazzolo dello Stella, Comune di Pocenia, Comune di Porpetto, Comune di Precenicco, Comune di Ronchis, Comune di San Giorgio di Nogaro, Associazione Valle del Cormor, Gruppo Passaggio a Nord Ovest Carlino Marano Muzzana, Associazione Casoneri, leading to the development of the Action Plan and the subscription of the Wetland Contract of Marano Lagoon by the key actors.</p>
	<p>II. Legal framework and methodology:</p>	<p>In the Italian legal system, negotiated programming “accordo di programmazione negoziata” is defined by law n.662 / 1996, article 2 paragraph 203 letter a), as “<i>regulation agreed between public entities or between the competent public entity and the public or private party or parties for implementation of different interventions, referring to a single development purpose, which require an overall assessment of the activities of competence</i>”, within the regions and other local bodies. Through negotiated planning, therefore, local authorities and other stakeholders operating in the area pursue development objectives as coordinated and harmonious as possible.</p> <p>Directive 2000/60 / EC on the protection of water, which identifies the hydrographic basin as the correct reference unit for the management of water resources, provides for “the active participation of all interested parties in the implementation of the Basin Management Plans hydrographic “(art. 14) and identifies the” negotiated environmental agreements “(Annex VI, part S, point IV) among the additional measures</p>

		<p>that Member States may decide to adopt within each river basin district in the context the program of measures (as per art. 11, par. 4);</p> <p>Directive 2007/60 / EC for the establishment of "a framework for the assessment and management of flood risks aimed at reducing the negative consequences for human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activities connected with floods within the Community "(art. 1), which provides for the encouragement of the" active participation of interested parties in the elaboration, review and updating of flood risk management plans "(art. 10). in a coordinated manner, where appropriate, with the participation envisaged by the aforementioned Directive 2000 / 60/CE (art. 9);</p> <p>the Legislative Decree 152/2006 ss.mm.ii. and Legislative Decree 49/2010 which implemented the aforementioned Directives in Italy;</p> <p>Law 662/1996 containing "Measures to rationalize public finance" which introduces (art. 2, c. 203) "Negotiated Programming", as such meaning the "regulation agreed between public entities or between the competent public entity and the o the public or private parties for the implementation of different interventions, referring to a single development purpose, which require an overall assessment of the activities under their responsibility ";</p> <p>the Water Management Plan of the Hydrographic District of the Eastern Alps, adopted by Resolution of the Institutional Committee of the Isonzo, Tagliamento, Livenza, Piave and Brenta-Bacchiglione River Basin Authority, of 24 February 2010, n. 1, with which it is envisaged among the additional measures for achieving the quality objectives set by the Water Framework Directive that the competent authorities promote, according to pre-established programs, "technical tables with the competent administrations or consultation tables with stakeholders , aimed at activating inclusive processes, participatory paths, river contracts, etc.) with the aim of encouraging information, accountability, and sharing of the choices made and the activities of the plan "(annex 7, point 1.1);</p>
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		<p>The law of 28 December 2015, n. 221, which contains measures relating to the protection of nature and sustainable development, environmental assessments, energy, green purchases, waste management and reclamation, defense of the soil and water resources (so-called environmental link). In particular, article 59 which governs river contracts, inserting article 68 - bis to Legislative Decree 152/2006 (the so-called Environmental Code): "These contracts contribute to the definition and implementation of planning tools at the river basin and sub-basin level, as voluntary strategic and negotiated planning tools that pursue the protection, correct management of water resources and enhancement of river territories, together with safeguarding from hydraulic risk, contributing to the local development of these areas";</p> <p>The national strategy for adaptation to Climate Change - Ministry of the Environment in Annex 3: Proposals for action, which inserts the following point: "Encourage participatory forms for the management of resources, also including the" River Contracts "," Contracts di Lago "and" Groundwater Contracts ";</p> <p>The Regional Law of 29 April 2015, n. 11 "Organic discipline on soil protection and water use" which defines and structures the negotiated planning process of the River Contracts (articles 12 and 15);</p> <p>The Regional Council Resolution n. 1448/2016, with which the FVG Region adhered to the National Charter of the CdF, starting the promotion and support activities for the diffusion of the CdF on the regional territory</p> <p>The Atlas of the objectives for the dissemination of river, lake and coast contracts in the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region, an Atlas that provides a unitary and organic support, easy to consult, offering local authorities and communities, indications and knowledge elements for the drafting of the CdF (in this regard, the two main documents to refer to in addition to the Regional Atlas are therefore the Dossier Plans and Programs and a Collection of examples of operational documents as per material published in full on the institutional site of the FVG Region);</p>
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		<p>Methodology</p> <p>The Atlas of the objectives for the dissemination of river, lake and coast contracts in the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region adopted by Regional Law defines the steps and methodology for the Contract.</p> <p>The steps and therefore the documents that make up the contract are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Memorandum of Understanding - Preliminary cognitive analysis - Strategic Document - Action Program - River/Lake/Coast/wetland contract
	<p>III. Subscribers:</p>	<p>The contract has been discussed and agreed between</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Authority (District basin authority of the Eastern Alps) 1 Region (Friuli Venezia Giulia Region) 2 Regional bodies (PromoTurismoFVG, ARPA FVG) 1 Supra-municipal body (Comunità Riviera Friulana) 11 Municipalities (Carlino, Latisana, Lignano Sabbiadoro, Marano Lagunare, Muzzana del Turgnano, Palazzolo dello Stella, Pocenia, Porpetto, Precenicco, Rivignano Teor, Ronchis e San Giorgio di Nogaro) 1 university (University of Trieste) 3 schools (Istituto Comprensivo “Cuore dello Stella” di Rivignano Teor, Istituto Comprensivo Palazzolo dello Stella, Istituto Comprensivo “Università Castrense” di San Giorgio di Nogaro)

		<p>3 intermediate bodies (LEGACOOOP FVG, GAC-FLAG, Assonautica)</p> <p>9 associations (WWF-Italia, Gruppo PASSAGGIO A NORD OVEST, ASSOCIAZIONE VALLE DEL CORMOR, Italia Nostra, Pro Loco Muzzana, Associazione Archeoscuola, RipuliAmoci, Associazione Menti Libere di Lignano Sabbiadoro, Legambiente FVG)</p> <p>6 companies and privates (NET SpA, Bilancia di Bepi, GLAMPING TENUTA REGINA, RETE BIKE FVG - SOCIETA' COOPERATIVA, AZIENDA - MOTONAVE GEREMIA, IN BICI IN FRIULI)</p> <p>and has been signed by the key stakeholders.</p>
	<p>IV. Management system</p>	<p>The signatories of this Agreement undertake, respecting the competences of each one, to operate within a framework of strong enhancement of the principle of subsidiarity, activating all the partnership tools useful for the full achievement of the shared objectives.</p> <p>This Wet Area Agreement represents the useful tool to put this new approach to action on the territory into effect. The process of construction of the Wet Area Contract is based on the comparison and negotiation between all the stakeholders involved with the aim of activating environmental redevelopment actions shared in the decision modalities. It is based on an interactive approach, to guarantee the consensus and the feasibility of the actions, and is configured as a voluntary agreement between public and private subjects aimed at defining objectives, intervention strategies, actions to be activated and competences.</p> <p>In this sense, the underwriters undertake to intervene in this process with all the structures and interests of competence, guaranteeing the legitimacy of the instrument within their own policies and activities.</p> <p>The signatories undertake to keep the Lagoon Contract Assembly and the Control Room operational, represented by the Conference of Territorial Policies of the Friulian Riviera Community, activating, if necessary, appropriate Technical Operational Tables, such as the Conferences of the Councilors of the Friulian Riviera Community (as provided for by Article 9 of the Community Statute) to support the implementation of specific</p>

		<p>phases of the implementation of the Action Program, using its own internal resources or external resources.</p> <p>The Control Room must meet at least once every six months and the Lagoon Contract Assembly must meet at least once every year and check the implementation status of the action program in relation to the state of the Marano Lagoon system, providing for identify any need or opportunity to update this agreement and its annexes.</p> <p>All the other subscribers of this Wet Area Contract undertake to make the necessary skills available to support the implementation of the Action Program.</p>
	<p>V. Specific objectives</p>	<p>The wetland contract must be understood as a voluntary act of commitment shared by various public and private entities, interested in various capacities in the creation of a governance tool that, on the model of the "River Contract", systematizes effective solutions for the improvement and the protection of the lagoon, wetlands, waterways and the territories connected to them, taking into account the public interests, economic repercussions, social values and environmental sustainability that characterize them.</p> <p>The main objectives of the Wet Area Agreement identified in the Document of Intent of the Wet Area Agreement set out in Annex 2 and forming an integral part of this agreement have as their object:</p> <p>1. TOURISM AND TRADITIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhancement of identity elements and traditions also from a tourist point of view; - Contribute to greater coordination and homogeneity in the promotion of the lagoon area, also in terms of landscape, use, economic development and slow tourism; - Enhancement of slow and conscious mobility. <p>2. FISHING, HEALTH, BIODIVERSITY AND RESERVES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contribute to the improvement of water quality; - Protection of biodiversity (defense of dunes and avifauna, embankments, sandbanks, coastal banks, phanerogams dynamics; - Salinity of the lagoon, depth of the main and secondary channels

		<p>3. Enhancement, promotion and development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Activate and guarantee a process of public participation and sharing on issues related to the lagoon and the landscape in order to share choices and strategies; - Tourist enhancement of the lagoon and the territory and accessibility and usability of the lagoon also through slow and conscious mobility; - Re-acquisition from an identifying point of view of the lagoon and the territory by the local community as an element that can be used both from a recreational, naturalistic and cultural point of view; - Contribute to the integration between the use of the lagoon, including economic and tourist ones <p>The scenario of the Wet Area Contract, referring to a medium-long term time horizon, which integrates the objectives of district planning and more generally of a large area, with the local development policies of the territory, emerged within the path participatory for the drafting of the Wet Area Contract of the Marano Lagoon, identified in the Strategic Document of the Wet Area Contract reported in Annex 3 and forming an integral part of this agreement, has defined the following strategic areas:</p> <p>STRATEGIC AREA A - GOVERNANCE</p> <p>We are in 2030; the Wet Area Contract for the Marano Lagoon is a consolidated reality and has contributed to the qualitative and quantitative improvement of the water resource, associated with a new management model for the entire lagoon and drainage basin.</p> <p>The territory was enhanced through shared actions between the various public and private subjects and the local community. The Wet Area Contract of the Marano Lagoon is an effective tool that continues to bring all the public and private entities of the territory around the table. The Marano Lagoon, together with the others, have become not only local resources, but represent an added value on which to invest for the whole Region.</p> <p>Recognizing this value, a series of interventions for improvement and resolution of some critical issues have been activated, starting from the back-coast areas and the lagoon drainage basin, in order to limit potentially dangerous events for the lagoon itself.</p>
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		<p>STRATEGIC AREA B - SLOW MOBILITY</p> <p>In 2030 there are new services to promote a slow and eco-sustainable use of the territory, such as, among other things, new cycle paths, electric boats, widespread recharging points and new methods for nature tourism.</p> <p>Both existing and new cycle paths are coordinated with each other and integrated into large area planning, with innovative forms of management that also involve users and private individuals.</p> <p>Navigability in general, both in the lagoon and in the rivers, is establishing itself as an alternative and integrated mode of mobility in a multi / inter-modal perspective, creating a "network of continuity" within the territory, also in relation to the diffusion of electric, both for bicycles and boats.</p> <p>Nautical traffic is limited in quantity and speed, good rules of conduct and navigation are widespread and users are informed and sensitive to the subject.</p> <p>Services have been set up that allow companies to invest in the nautical sector of inland waterways navigation. The offer of these particular forms of tourism are more structured, with the possibility to book and organize activities in a simple way.</p> <p>STRATEGIC AREA C - SUSTAINABLE TOURISM</p> <p>In 2030, an environmental and natural enhancement of the prestigious areas was achieved, commensurate with the estimated load capacity of the same. Tourism is eco-sustainable and based on an experiential qualitative model. The eco-sustainable, experiential and wellness-related offers are continuous, integrated and organized.</p> <p>Living the lagoon environment means ensuring respect for the parts of integral protection, in a synergistic way with a "slow and gentle" tourism, integrated between the environment, nature, typical products and small hospitality, which has allowed the creation of new forms of economy.</p> <p>Tourism represents an economic integration even for those who lived only by fishing.</p> <p>There has been an increasing attention to the tourist offer; the existing infrastructures have been integrated and others have been built. New</p>
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		<p>technologies, internet, and national and European communication, have made it possible to make these environments better known, with information on what to do and where to go. The receptive structures guarantee access to everyone, even the disabled.</p> <p>Some little-known and reachable areas have been enhanced, also estimating the load capacity of the environments and limiting their use.</p> <p>STRATEGIC AREA D - GEOMORPHOLOGY</p> <p>In 2030, new water and sediment management models were implemented.</p> <p>Interventions have been prepared to safeguard the dynamics of the lagoon and ecological connections, together with a new management of sediments entering from the mountain and from the mouths.</p> <p>Excavation and maintenance works have been carried out on the canals, including the reconstitution and protection of the Barene, Velme and Mote dei Casoni. The management of the material excavated from the canals and in the lagoon has a clear and simple process that allows the creation of new sandbanks.</p> <p>The mouth of the Stella is safeguarded and the problems of water pollution, deriving from the rivers of the drainage basin, have been solved; the best quality and quantity of water has favored the conservation and enhancement of native species, counteracting the spread of non-native ones.</p> <p>STRATEGIC AREA F - BIODIVERSITY</p> <p>The Wet Area Contract has contributed not only to adaptability, but also to a shared implementation of the Lagoon Management Plan.</p> <p>It has sensitized boaters and users in general, contributed to the reduction of anthropic disturbance to the nesting of the species to be protected, to the use of a path and cycle network compatible with the protected areas, to a rationalization of landings.</p> <p>It has favored the protection and restoration of important habitats for birdlife, the protection of dunes, the morphodynamics of sandy banks and barrier islands, the morphological recovery of existing and eroded sandbanks, the reconstruction of tidal plains and salt marshes.</p> <p>STRATEGIC AREA G - TRAINING</p>
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		<p>The university plays an active role in research and scientific dissemination for the knowledge of the lagoon in its various components. New skills are also developed in the university field, specific courses for new environmental challenges, implementation of new aspects of territorial planning involving undergraduates and graduates.</p> <p>The territory is communicated and made known to residents, tourists and the new generations. Environmental education and information play an important role in the re-appropriation of places by local communities, also in an active and concrete way. Future plans, programs and regulations take into account what emerges from the wetland contract for their improvement.</p> <p>A concrete sign of the awareness of one's own territory, starting from school and future generations, is the signing of a "territorial pact" which establishes the enhancement of an educating community, aware of the richness of its own territory, and of the strong link between the territory itself, the local community and the new generations.</p> <p>During the participatory process, the strategic areas and general objectives indicated were deepened and translated into specific objectives achievable through a mosaic of coordinated actions identified in the Action Plan of the Wet Area Agreement, referred to in Article 6, reported in the annex 4 and forming an integral part of this agreement.</p>																							
	<p>VI. Actions: List</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Actions</th> <th colspan="5">Environmental components</th> </tr> <tr> <th>BD</th> <th>WQ</th> <th>ES</th> <th>PL</th> <th>Other (indicate)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>A1. Extend the Lagoon Contract and integrate it with the river contracts of the tributaries of the drainage basin</td> <td>x</td> <td>x</td> <td>x</td> <td>x</td> <td>governance</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A2. Transfer the knowledge of the INTERREG Italy-Croatia CREW pilot project to contribute to the coordination for the creation of a</td> <td>x</td> <td>x</td> <td>x</td> <td>x</td> <td>governance</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Actions	Environmental components					BD	WQ	ES	PL	Other (indicate)	A1. Extend the Lagoon Contract and integrate it with the river contracts of the tributaries of the drainage basin	x	x	x	x	governance	A2. Transfer the knowledge of the INTERREG Italy-Croatia CREW pilot project to contribute to the coordination for the creation of a	x	x	x	x	governance
Actions	Environmental components																								
	BD	WQ	ES	PL	Other (indicate)																				
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A2. Transfer the knowledge of the INTERREG Italy-Croatia CREW pilot project to contribute to the coordination for the creation of a	x	x	x	x	governance																				

		control room and coordination of the River Contracts					
		A3. Definition and activation of a governance model of the wetland contract for the continuation of activities after the conclusion of the INTERREG Italy-Croatia CREW project	x	x	x	x	governance
		A4. Implementation and updating of knowledge and environmental data	x	x	x	x	governance
		B1. Feasibility study for the construction of a cycle-pedestrian ring, a "North West Passage", which safely connects the historic centers of the Municipalities of Carlino, Marano Lagunare and Muzzana del Turgnano to the surrounding natural environment					mobility
		B2. Creation of interchange micro-hubs					mobility
		B3. Promotion of the cycle-river park					mobility
		B4. Coordination of sustainable mobility by means of large area planning tools					mobility
		B5. shared governance path for the maintenance of cycle-tourist routes					mobility
		B6. Design on a supra-municipal scale for the expansion of the actions envisaged by the Interreg Italy-Croatia S.U.T.R.A.					mobility

		C1. Mapping of sustainable tourism activities already present and active in the area					Slow tourism
		C2. Qualification of the tourist offer and promotion of excellence					Slow tourism
		C3. Promote the Marano Lagoon system as a sustainable destination					Slow tourism
		C4. Development of activities that integrate fishing / aquaculture and tourism services, including nature, crafts and / or teaching					Slow tourism
		D1. Integrate the geomorphological study of the Marano Lagoon with sedimentological and geochemical characterization and analysis in order to define homogeneous areas of intervention that can serve as a pre-characterization for the reconstruction of the salt marshes		x			
		D2. Activities of dissemination and awareness of the "GOOD RULES IN THE LAGOON" and monitoring and reporting of the correct application of the rules of conduct for environmental protection in the lagoon and rivers related to it		x			
		E1. Communicate and raise awareness of the effects of		x			

		discharges in tributaries and effects on the lagoon					
		E2. Raise awareness among citizens on the importance of completing sewerage and wastewater treatment infrastructures and connecting household drains		x			
		E3. Promote the sustainable use of plant protection products (pesticides / fungicides)		x			
		E4. Mitigation of the effects of the spreading of livestock manure (slurry / manure) and of sewage sludge in agriculture		x			
		F1. Carry out training and information activities and awareness-raising activities on anthropic nesting disturbances	x				
		F2. Identification and definition of bird nurseries and communication on the rules for their protection	x				
		G1. Signing of a Framework Agreement for the implementation of didactic, applied research and cultural activities. Final local event, training of young people in River / Lagoon / Wet Area Contracts through workshops and / or summerschools and / or university activities					educational

		G2. Census and mapping of training initiatives and educational paths proposed by Reserves, Associations, Bodies and Schools, aimed at coordinating initiatives in the area and their joint promotion					educational
		G3. Experiential workshops aimed at children on the themes of landscape, biodiversity and environmental education					educational
		G4. Lagoon clean-up: clean water, plastic out. A clean and plastic-free Marano Lagoon and its territory.		x			educational
VII. Actions: Typology	<p>VII.a Concrete Actions (Topics: e.g. biodiversity, water, air, landscape, ...)</p> <p>Mobility</p> <p>B1. Feasibility study for the construction of a cycle-pedestrian ring, a "North West Passage", which safely connects the historic centers of the Municipalities of Carlino, Marano Lagunare and Muzzana del Turgnano to the surrounding natural environment</p> <p>B2. Creation of interchange micro-hubs</p> <p>B3. Promotion of the cycle-river park</p> <p>B4. Coordination of sustainable mobility by means of large area planning tools</p> <p>B5. shared governance path for the maintenance of cycle-tourist routes</p> <p>B6. Design on a supra-municipal scale for the expansion of the actions envisaged by the Interreg Italy-Croatia S.U.T.R.A.</p> <p>Slow Tourism</p> <p>C1. Mapping of sustainable tourism activities already present and active in the area</p> <p>C2. Qualification of the tourist offer and promotion of excellence</p>						

		<p>C3. Promote the Marano Lagoon system as a sustainable destination</p> <p>C4. Development of activities that integrate fishing / aquaculture and tourism services, including nature, crafts and / or teaching</p> <p>Biodiversity</p> <p>F2. Identification and definition of bird nurseries and communication on the rules for their protection</p>
		<p>VII.b Communication Actions</p> <p>D2. Activities of dissemination and awareness of the "GOOD RULES IN THE LAGOON" and monitoring and reporting of the correct application of the rules of conduct for environmental protection in the lagoon and rivers related to it</p> <p>E1. Communicate and raise awareness of the effects of discharges in tributaries and effects on the lagoon</p> <p>E2. Raise awareness among citizens on the importance of completing sewerage and wastewater treatment infrastructures and connecting household drains</p> <p>E3. Promote the sustainable use of plant protection products (pesticides / fungicides)</p> <p>E4. Mitigation of the effects of the spreading of livestock manure (slurry / manure) and of sewage sludge in agriculture</p> <p>F1. Carry out training and information activities and awareness-raising activities on anthropic nesting disturbances</p> <p>G2. Census and mapping of training initiatives and educational paths proposed by Reserves, Associations, Bodies and Schools, aimed at coordinating initiatives in the area and their joint promotion</p> <p>G3. Experiential workshops aimed at children on the themes of landscape, biodiversity and environmental education</p> <p>G4. Lagoon clean-up: clean water, plastic out. A clean and plastic-free Marano Lagoon and its territory.</p>
		<p>VII.c Monitoring Actions</p> <p>A4. Implementation and updating of knowledge and environmental data</p>
		<p>VII.d Governance Actions</p>

		<p>A1. Extend the Lagoon Contract and integrate it with the river contracts of the tributaries of the drainage basin</p> <p>A2. Transfer the knowledge of the INTERREG Italy-Croatia CREW pilot project to contribute to the coordination for the creation of a control room and coordination of the River Contracts</p> <p>A3. Definition and activation of a governance model of the wetland contract for the continuation of activities after the conclusion of the INTERREG Italy-Croatia CREW project</p>									
		<p>VII.e Other Actions</p> <p>Knowledge</p> <p>D1. Integrate the geomorphological study of the Marano Lagoon with sedimentological and geochemical characterization and analysis in order to define homogeneous areas of intervention that can serve as a pre-characterization for the reconstruction of the salt marshes</p> <p>G1. Signing of a Framework Agreement for the implementation of didactic, applied research and cultural activities. Final local event, training of young people in River / Lagoon / Wet Area Contracts through workshops and / or summerschools and / or university activities</p>									
	<p>VIII. Actions: Stakeholders involved in the implementation</p>	<p>How many private and public stakeholders have been engaged in the implementation of the actions?</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="576 1290 1453 1807"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="576 1290 879 1335">Action</th> <th data-bbox="879 1290 1166 1335">Private</th> <th data-bbox="1166 1290 1453 1335">Public</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="576 1335 879 1592">A1. Extend the Lagoon Contract and integrate it with the river contracts of the tributaries of the drainage basin</td> <td data-bbox="879 1335 1166 1592"></td> <td data-bbox="1166 1335 1453 1592">14</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="576 1592 879 1807">A2. Transfer the knowledge of the INTERREG Italy-Croatia CREW pilot project to contribute to the</td> <td data-bbox="879 1592 1166 1807"></td> <td data-bbox="1166 1592 1453 1807">14</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Action	Private	Public	A1. Extend the Lagoon Contract and integrate it with the river contracts of the tributaries of the drainage basin		14	A2. Transfer the knowledge of the INTERREG Italy-Croatia CREW pilot project to contribute to the		14
Action	Private	Public									
A1. Extend the Lagoon Contract and integrate it with the river contracts of the tributaries of the drainage basin		14									
A2. Transfer the knowledge of the INTERREG Italy-Croatia CREW pilot project to contribute to the		14									

		coordination for the creation of a control room and coordination of the River Contracts		
		A3. Definition and activation of a governance model of the wetland contract for the continuation of activities after the conclusion of the INTERREG Italy-Croatia CREW project	18	19
		A4. Implementation and updating of knowledge and environmental data		14
		B1. Feasibility study for the construction of a cycle-pedestrian ring, a "North West Passage", which safely connects the historic centers of the Municipalities of Carlino, Marano Lagunare and Muzzana del Turgnano to the surrounding natural environment	1	5
		B2. Creation of interchange micro-hubs		4

		B3. Promotion of the cycle-river park		4
		B4. Coordination of sustainable mobility by means of large area planning tools	7	14
		B5. shared governance path for the maintenance of cycle-tourist routes		14
		B6. Design on a supra-municipal scale for the expansion of the actions envisaged by the Interreg Italy-Croatia S.U.T.R.A.		14
		C1. Mapping of sustainable tourism activities already present and active in the area	7	14
		C2. Qualification of the tourist offer and promotion of excellence	7	14
		C3. Promote the Marano Lagoon system as a sustainable destination	6	1
		C4. Development of activities that integrate fishing / aquaculture and tourism services,	8	3

		including nature, crafts and / or teaching		
		D1. Integrate the geomorphological study of the Marano Lagoon with sedimentological and geochemical characterization and analysis in order to define homogeneous areas of intervention that can serve as a pre-characterization for the reconstruction of the salt marshes		14
		D2. Activities of dissemination and awareness of the "GOOD RULES IN THE LAGOON" and monitoring and reporting of the correct application of the rules of conduct for environmental protection in the lagoon and rivers related to it	3	14
		E1. Communicate and raise awareness of the effects of discharges in tributaries and effects on the lagoon		15

		E2. Raise awareness among citizens on the importance of completing sewerage and wastewater treatment infrastructures and connecting household drains		15
		E3. Promote the sustainable use of plant protection products (pesticides / fungicides)		15
		E4. Mitigation of the effects of the spreading of livestock manure (slurry / manure) and of sewage sludge in agriculture		15
		F1. Carry out training and information activities and awareness-raising activities on anthropic nesting disturbances	1	14
		F2. Identification and definition of bird nurseries and communication on the rules for their protection	2	14

		G1. Signing of a Framework Agreement for the implementation of didactic, applied research and cultural activities. Final local event, training of young people in River / Lagoon / Wet Area Contracts through workshops and / or summerschools and / or university activities	1	15
		G2. Census and mapping of training initiatives and educational paths proposed by Reserves, Associations, Bodies and Schools, aimed at coordinating initiatives in the area and their joint promotion	6	17
		G3. Experiential workshops aimed at children on the themes of landscape, biodiversity and environmental education	9	15
		G4. Lagoon clean-up: clean water, plastic out. A clean and	7	18

		plastic-free Marano Lagoon and its territory.		
IX. Actions: Financial resources	Action	Budget	Financial resources	
	Concrete Actions	undisclosed	to be retrieved	
	Communication Actions	undisclosed	to be retrieved	
	Monitoring Actions	undisclosed	to be retrieved	
	Governance Actions	undisclosed	to be retrieved	
	Other...	undisclosed	to be retrieved	
X. Actions: Workplan	Action	Start	End	
		2021	2026	
XI. Other	<p>The signatories of this Agreement undertake, respecting the competences of each one, to operate within a framework of strong enhancement of the principle of subsidiarity, activating all the partnership tools useful for the full achievement of the shared objectives.</p> <p>This Wet Area Agreement represents the useful tool to put this new approach to action on the territory into effect. The process of construction of the Wet Area Contract is based on the comparison and negotiation between all the stakeholders involved with the aim of activating environmental redevelopment actions shared in the decision modalities. It is based on an interactive approach, to guarantee the consensus and the feasibility of the actions, and is configured as a voluntary agreement between public and private subjects aimed at defining objectives, intervention strategies, actions to be activated and competences.</p> <p>In this sense, the underwriters undertake to intervene in this process with all the structures and interests of competence, guaranteeing the legitimacy of the instrument within their own policies and activities.</p> <p>The signatories undertake to keep the Lagoon Contract Assembly and the Control Room operational, represented by the Conference of Territorial Policies of the Friulian Riviera Community, activating, if necessary, appropriate Technical Operational Tables, such as the Conferences of the Councilors of the Friulian Riviera Community (as provided for by Article 9 of the Community Statute) to support the implementation of specific</p>			

		<p>phases of the implementation of the Action Program, using its own internal resources or external resources.</p> <p>The Control Room must meet at least once every six months and the Lagoon Contract Assembly must meet at least once every year and check the implementation status of the action program in relation to the state of the Marano Lagoon system, providing for identify any need or opportunity to update this agreement and its annexes.</p> <p>All the other subscribers of this Wet Area Contract undertake to make the necessary skills available to support the implementation of the Action Program.</p>
C. EVALUATION		<p>Weaknesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 - First contract to be signed in the region <p>Strength:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Synergy with the Lagoon management plan - Cooperation with the regional bodies in creating a permanent table for River/Lake/Coast/Wetland contracts
D. APPENDICES		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wetland Contract (in local language) signed by key actors includes Memorandum of Understanding, Preliminary cognitive analysis, Strategic Document and Action Program

ANNEX 1. TEMPLATE OF THE ACTION PLAN

The Action Plan is the collection of all the actions foreseen by the Wetland Contract, analysing for each action: objective, stakeholders’ responsibilities, timing, financing.

NOTE: Please translate the following table into your local language to describe each action and develop the Action Plan, and then attach it to the “Report of the Wetland Contract”. This template is a guide for organizing your Action Plan, so if you consider it necessary you can also add more information.

Action X*	
Title	
Specific Objective	
Typology	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Action <input type="checkbox"/> Communication action <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring action <input type="checkbox"/> Governance action <input type="checkbox"/> Other action
Brief description	[500 characters]
Location	[indicate the area affected by the specific action]
Scope of intervention	[indicate the aim of the intervention]
Expected Results	[indicate the expected results and benefits the action aims to]
Coordinator	[Actors / actuators involved and the respective obligations and commitments. Include the contact person]
Other actors involved	[Other actors / actuators involved and the respective obligations and commitments]
Timing/Workplan	[Implementation times and procedures]
Budget	[Necessary human and economic resources]
Available funds/financial resources	[Funds already available and appointed resources]
Financial resources to be mobilized/financial resources	[Funds to be mobilized and possible resources]

[*Duplicate the table as needed]

ANNEX 2. TEMPLATE OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT AGREEMENT

The actors (both public and private) subscribing the Wetland Contract will be committed of: (i) acting in the frame of valorising of the subsidiarity principle, in respect of every actor's competences; (ii) activating all the partnership tools; (iii) keep working and monitoring the process even after the project; (iv) realizing the interventions/actions identified in the Action Plan.

NOTE:

- 4) The following is a general model of Wetland Contract Agreement in which the partner can base its own draft. Editing styles for legal documents differ notably from one Country to another, and the standard we have used here is based on the Italian one (drawing on the River Contract Agreement developed in Piedmont and Lombardy Regions). The partner can take the basic ideas and edit it as necessary in the style most appropriate to its own Country's regulatory framework.
- 5) Please translate the following template into your local language and then attach it to the "Report of the Wetland Contract".
- 6) The partners from the same Country are encourage to cooperate in order to translate the template and adapt it to its National regulatory framework in a coherent way.

WETLAND CONTRACT FOR [insert the pilot wetland]

Given that:

[In the introduction, indicate the definition and purposes of the Wetland Contract tool, highlighting the regulatory and planning framework in which it is inserted. Below are some statements of the general principles on which the process is based]

- The Wetland Contract is a negotiated programming process for the governance of a specific wetland system, which allows to coordinate far-reaching interventions regarding the protection of the environment, the protection of water resources, the enhancement of the territory and the prevention of hydrogeological risk, combining competences and optimizing resources.
- The Wetland Contract implementation process is based on the participation and negotiation between all the actors and citizens involved, with the aim of activating environmental and territorial development projects. In fact, the Wetland Contract is configured as a voluntary agreement between local authorities and other public and private entities with which objectives, intervention strategies, actions to be activated and competences are defined. In this sense, it is an interactive approach that guarantee the consent and feasibility of the actions. The involvement of all possible users/stakeholders

of the wetland system (protected areas managers, production sector, Municipalities, trade associations, citizens' associations) allows to share objectives, stimulating and promoting virtuous behaviour and committing to actions that are jointly approved.

- The Wetland Contract is an instrument consistent with the provisions of the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC), adopted by the European Community with the general objective of protecting, improving and restoring the quality of all internal surface waters, transitional waters, coastal and groundwater.

- *[Add National and regional framework references]*

**ALL THIS PREMISED AND CONSIDERED
the following is stipulated
WETLAND CONTRACT AGREEMENT
FOR *[insert the pilot wetland]*
among:
*[Add the list of the subscribers]***

Table of contents:

Art.1 – Purposes and objectives

Art.2 – Territorial scope of intervention

Art. 3 – Methodology

Art.4 – Management of the Wetland Contract implementation

Art. 5 – General obligation of the subscribers

Art. 6 – Action Plan

Art. 7 – Role of the actors responsible for the implementation of the Action Plan

Art. 8 – Resources

Art.9 – Deadlines/timing

Art. 10 – Tools and implementation methods

Art. 11 – Monitoring and updating

Art. 12 – Procedures of new adhesion of public and private subscribers

Art. 13 – Non-fulfilment and revocation

Art. 14 – Withdrawal

ANNEX Action Plan

Art.1 – Purposes and objectives

The Wetland Contract pursues the main objectives of the following European environmental directives: Habitat Directive 1992/43/EC; Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC; Floods Directive 2007/60/EC; Birds Directive 2009/147/EC; Marine Strategy Framework Directive 2008/56/CE.

The Wetland Contract for *[insert the pilot wetland]* contributes to the implementation of the Interreg IT-HR CREW project (Coordinated Wetland management in Italy-Croatia cross border region).

This Agreement aims at the realization of a shared Action Plan, concerning the territorial area of *[insert the pilot wetland]*, on which to converge interventions related to different policies to be integrated mutually, pursuing at the same time the objectives of administrative simplification and the effectiveness, efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the actions envisaged.

The specific objectives to be pursued for the wetland system of ... *[insert the pilot wetland]* are those specified below, in accordance with national and regional planning policies, which for relevance and complexity require an integrated approach over a large area.

- *[Add specific objectives]*

This Agreement commits its subscribers - who adhere to it on a voluntary basis - to achieve the above objectives, each for their own competences and responsibilities and through the commitment of their financial resources.

Art.2 – Territorial scope of intervention

[Add the territorial scope of intervention including a short description and a map highlighting the boundaries]

Art. 3 – Methodology

The subscribers share the principle that only through a synergic and strong action of all the stakeholders, both public and private, the trend towards territorial/environmental degradation of wetland systems can be reversed and the objectives of their sustainable development adequately pursued.

To this end, the subscribers undertake, in compliance with the competences of each one, to operate within a framework of strong enhancement of the principle of subsidiarity by activating all the partnership tools useful for the full achievement of the shared objectives.

The Wetland Contract implementation foreseen the development of a multistage process, as follows:

8. Definition of a structured and integrated knowledge base, shared and updatable, on the state of the target area (strengths / weaknesses from the environmental and socio-economic point of view) and the risks / opportunities connected to it, as well as the framework of the programmatic tools (existing plans, programs, projects);
9. Establishment of the governance structure that has the task of coordinating the Wetland Contract process and - if necessary - sharing the main common objectives signing a Memorandum of Understanding by local key stakeholders;
10. Identification – through the organization of several Territorial Labs (participative planning workshops) – of concerted future scenario, a strategic vision to be adopted, capable of coordinating various planning tools and adopting the principles of sustainable development,
11. Development of an Action Plan that establishes the priority actions, the roles and the methods for implementing the strategy and a plan to monitor its actual implementation;
12. Signature of the Wetland Contract as a formal commitment document to carry out the actions developed and shared in the participated path;
13. Realization of the activities foreseen in the Action Plan;
14. Monitoring of the activities and the effectiveness of the Wetland Contract process.

Art.4 – Management of the Wetland Contract implementation

The governance structure of the Wetland Contract is composed by three management bodies:

- Basin Assembly: is the body of public participation extended to the entire Community of the territory under the competence of the wetland system, in which all public and private subjects can participate. It has the task of contributing to the construction of knowledge, the identification of problems, the definition of possible solutions and the approval of choices. It can meet in plenary session or in the form of thematic and/or territorial tables according to the specific needs of the process.

[Add members]

- Management Board: is the institutional body made up of public entities adhering to the Wetland Contract. This body undertakes to direct, instruct and validate the work of the Basin Assembly and the Technical Secretariat. It has the task of supervising the decision-making process as well as of promoting the diffusion of the initiative in the territory, identifying and informing the interested parties, guaranteeing the communication and transfer of information between the actors of the process, promoting and organize the project activities.

[Add members]

- Technical Secretariat: is the operating body supporting the Management Board and the Basin Assembly. It has the task of carrying out all the technical steps for the construction of the cognitive, evaluation and decision-making framework, including the collection of data and information, the development of plans and projects, the adoption of diagnostic tools, the technical analysis processing and evaluations, drafting of project documents (including the Action Plan). It also has the task of designing and conducting the facilitation in the Basin Assembly and the Territorial Labs. It performs the role of technical project secretariat, managing the timing and general organization of the process, as well as managing communication activities. It plays a role of scientific setting of the works and validation of the results. Due to the articulation of the issues affecting the wetland systems, this body should be made up of technical experts of different disciplinary backgrounds, with proven experience in matters of importance for the specific context of reference.

[Add members]

Art. 5 – General obligation of the subscribers

Under this Agreement, the subscribers undertake:

- to pursue with commitment and synergy all the regulation already foreseen by European, national and regional regulations aiming at pursuing the environmental quality objectives for the *[insert the pilot wetland]*;
- to act on the basis of the objectives contained in art. 1 of this Agreement;
- to immediately implement the Action Plan, contributing to its revision where necessary;
- to integrate strategies and objectives of the Wetland Contract, as well as the interventions and actions foreseen by the Action Plan in sector/territorial planning according to specific competences and operating tools;

Art. 6 – Action Plan

The subscribers of this Agreement undertake to develop the following activities included in the attached Action Plan:

- *[Add the list of actions]*

Each of the aforementioned actions is described in detail in the Action Plan attached.

Art. 7 – Role of the actors responsible for the implementation of the Action Plan

Among the subscribers, the parties responsible for the implementation of the Action Plan are those responsible for the effective realisation of each specific action as required by the Action Plan itself.

The Management Board, having acknowledged of the Action Plan and of the actors identified by it, acts as guarantor of the roles assumed.

The subscribers of this Agreement undertake to assume their respective roles, as defined in the attached Action Plan, and to contribute to the realisation of the actions for the parts of their competence.

Art. 8 – Resources

This Wetland Contract represents an instrument that makes up the interests of a territory in compliance with specific expertise, providing a strategic vision to the ordinary policies of each of the actors involved. It also represents the tool through which to integrate and orient resources and the economic planning of the territory.

In this sense, participation in the Wetland Contract commits all subscribers to achieve the shared objectives referred to in art. 1, each with their own competences, responsibilities and resources. In particular, the parties responsible for the implementation of the Action Plan must guarantee financial support for the actions for which they have responsibility.

If this commitment is not possible through their own financial instruments, they must take an active part - with the support of the Technical Secretariat - in identifying and accessing the most suitable sources of funding to fund the specific actions.

They also undertake to integrate the interventions of the Action Plan within their multi-year planning tools in order to identify, where possible, ad hoc financial resources to be allocated in the future to the planned interventions.

These commitments represent the first financial nucleus towards which other resources otherwise identified can catalyze in the future. In general, all subscribers undertake to support the Action Plan in the context of their financial resources by directing and identifying, where possible, elements of reward and priority for the actions of the Contract within their budget resources.

In the case of intangible actions that involve the use of only human resources, the underwriters ensure the availability of human resources within their structures to the extent and within the timeframe to be defined specifically. The financial capability foreseen by this Agreement and by the relative Action Plan pursuant to art. 6 can be summarized as follows:

Subscribers	Available funds	Funds to be mobilized	TOTAL Budget
<i>[add as many rows as needed]</i>			

TOTAL			
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Art.9 – Deadlines/timing

The subscribers of this Agreement undertake to respect the deadlines set in the attached Action Plan. The deadlines/timing may be modified in relation to the updates and revisions that the Action Plan may undergo in accordance with the provisions of the following art. 11.

Actions	Start	End
<i>[Action name]</i>		
<i>[add as many rows as needed]</i>		

Art. 10 – Tools and implementation methods

The actions envisaged in the Action Plan and those that will be subsequently defined and agreed in future updates can be carried out, when deemed necessary, also through the activation of specific implementation tools envisaged by current legislation, including program agreements for the execution of works of particular relevance.

The contents of these implementation tools must acknowledge the Wetland Contract and in particular the adequacy of the intervention with respect to the general and detailed objectives of this process.

Art. 11 – Monitoring and updating

The Action Plan is a dynamic plan and can be updated and integrated periodically in the subsequent stages of the Wetland Contract implementation. In fact, the Management Board can review the Action Plan and this Agreement on the basis of the monitoring activities. Any changes to the Agreement and / or Action Plan are authorized by the Management Board which will bring them to the attention of the Basin Forum when it considers to represent substantial changes to these documents.

The Technical Secretariat monitors the implementation of the Wetland Contract and provides to the Management Board information on the progress and effectiveness of the process with respect the achievement of the objectives agreed. Periodic reports (at least one a year) on the progress of the actions will be drafted by the Technical Secretariat, and if necessary, it will prepare specific reports.

Art. 12 – Procedures of new adhesion of public and private subscribers

This Contract is open to the new public, private and Non-profit Organizations subscribers, upon written request to the *[Add the body in charge of the coordination/promotion of the Wetland Contract].*

The Management Board evaluates the membership proposals specifying the contribution of each subject with reference to the activities envisaged by the Action Plan.

Art. 13 – Non-fulfilment and revocation

Failure to implement, verify and monitor the Action Plan envisaged by art. 6 due to a fact attributable to the implementing parties gives rise to non-fulfilment. In the above hypothesis, the person in charge of the Agreement denounces the nature of the default by analytical registered letter and, due to its seriousness, assigns a suitable term for late compliance, if this is still useful.

In case of further non-compliance or failure to adapt to any indications of the responsible person, the Agreement manager activates the procedures for the withdrawal of the loan due to the ownership of the funds.

Art. 14 – Withdrawal

The subscribers can withdraw, with a motivated measure approved by the competent body.

The Management Board acknowledges the withdrawal, making sure that the conditions indicated above are respected.

ANNEXES:

- Action Plan
- ...

Date .././....

Read and signed

The contracting parties

.....
.....

REPORT OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT

Public institution for the management
of protected natural areas of
Dubrovnik-Neretva County

Neretva River Delta

Deliverable 4.3.4 – English summary

Final version date: 20/07/2021

Notes:

1) A.4.3 Drafting the Wetland Contract

The activity aims at implementing and subscribing the one Wetland Contract in each target area through the following progressive steps:

- identifying the institutional management bodies for the Wetlands Contracts (Coordinating Committee / Management Board and Technical Secretariat);
- developing of Territorial Labs for the participated governance;
- defining mid-long term strategic scenarios;
- sharing and assessing the strategic scenarios;
- drafting the Action Plan and subscription of the formal agreement of the Wetland Contract during the Local Final Conference (press conference).

The actors subscribing the Contract will be committed of: (i) acting in the frame of valorising of the subsidiarity principle, in respect of every actor's competences; (ii) activating all the partnership tools; (iii) keep working and monitoring the process even after the project end.

2) D.4.3.4 Wetland Contract

The WP4 final deliverable will be the protocol of the Wetland Contract itself, containing the defined action plan (all objectives, activities and stakeholders' responsibilities to be carried out, timing and financing planned). It will be subscribed by the key stakeholders during the Local Final Conference.

3) This template has been developed by UNICAM (University of Camerino). It is inspired by and coordinated with the documentation elaborated in the Project WETNET financed under Interreg MED Cooperation Programme to increase information share, data and opportunities of confrontation.



Authors: Public institution for the management of protected natural areas of Dubrovnik-Neretva County

REPORT OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT

(deliverable 4.3.4 – English summary)

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- VII. Actions: Typology
- VIII. Actions: Stakeholders involved in the implementation
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- X. Actions: Timing/workplan
- XI. Other

C. EVALUATION

D. APPENDICES

ANNEX 1. TEMPLATE OF THE ACTION PLAN

ANNEX 2. TEMPLATE OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT AGREEMENT

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Chapter number and name		Contents
A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	I. Overview	<p>The Public institution for the management of protected natural areas of Dubrovnik-Neretva County (PIDNC) led a participatory process in 2016, 2017, 2020 and 2021 involving various stakeholders. The result of these meetings and workshops is the Action plan, which is incorporated in the “Wetland Contract for the preservation of the Neretva River Delta”. The Wetland Contract is signed by 19 key actors, which are the main stakeholders in the Neretva River Delta. They have committed to 46 unique activities aimed at preserving the biodiversity of Neretva Delta. The signature of the Wetland contract is a result of the long-lasting collaboration between the PIDNC and local stakeholders. Moreover, the Wetland Contract proved to be enormous added value to the future Neretva Delta Natura 2000 management plan.</p> <p>The management structure of the Wetland Contract consists of one governing body that will monitor the implementation of activities - the Stakeholder Forum. The Forum will be led and coordinated by the PIDNC. The Territorial Labs posed as an invaluable platform for different stakeholders to understand the roles of other organizations in preserving biodiversity in the Neretva Delta and reach common solutions for certain problems. More important, organizing Territorial labs in the form of stakeholder workshops, gave the participants a sense of ownership of the activities which are included in the Action plan of the Wetland Contract.</p>

B. REPORT OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT

This section scopes are:

- to describe the local regulatory and legal framework of the Wetland Contract

- to identify the stakeholders who signed the Wetland Contract Agreement
- to identify the coordinator and the management system of the Wetland Contract
- to describe the foreseen actions: typology, actors involved in the implementation, financial resources, timing
- to evaluate the process listing success factors and criticality

Chapter number and name		Contents
B. REPORT	I. Introduction:	<p>Due to its location, climate and water richness, the Neretva River Delta, with a total area of about 20.000 ha, is one of the most valuable wetland areas in Croatia.</p> <p>It is the largest river mouth in the country and is one of the few remaining wetlands in Europe, consisting of remnants of Mediterranean wetlands with preserved coastal lagoons. Particularly prominent are reedbeds where many endangered species of animals live.</p> <p>In the area of the Neretva Delta, six geographically defined areas with a total area of 1.624 ha are protected with the Nature Protection Act (OG 80/13, 15/18, 14/19, 127/19).</p> <p>The delta has also been declared an area of the Natura 2000 ecological network of particular importance to the European Union as a Special Protection Area (SPA) and a Site of Community Importance (SCI), with a total area amounting to about 23.800 ha.</p> <p>The Neretva River Delta is internationally also recognized as a Ramsar Area – a wetland of international importance which expands over 12.742 ha.</p> <p>Due to the area’s great biodiversity values, the Public Institution for the management of protected natural areas of Dubrovnik-Neretva County (PIDNC) held a series of Territorial Labs in the target area involving various stakeholders, including: public institutions, counties’ representatives, civil society organizations, schools, universities, business support organizations and small and medium enterprises. All of this was done with the aim to create an Action plan and sign a Wetland Contract, in which these stakeholders state their determination to preserve the Neretva River Delta. The Wetland Contract was signed on 15th July 2021 in Metković.</p>

	<p>II. Legal framework and methodology:</p>	<p>Wetland Contracts can be defined as shared commitment acts by different public and private subjects, in various capacities interested in water bodies, for environmental restoration and socio-economic regeneration of water systems. It should be emphasized that the Wetland Contract does not constitute a new planning act or a new decision-making level, but rather brings the specific strategies and competences of the stakeholders involved towards a governance process, respecting the specificities and autonomies, with a flexible approach.</p> <p>At EU level, no legislative instruments reflect the figure of the Wetland Contract tool. However, the Wetland Contract pursues the main objectives of the following European environmental directives: Habitat Directive 1992/43/EC; Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC; Floods Directive 2007/60/EC; Birds Directive 2009/147/EC; Marine Strategy Framework Directive 2008/56/CE.</p> <p>In Croatia, the Nature Protection Act (OG no. 80/13, 15/18, 14/19, 127/19) defines the approach to conservation of threatened habitats, including wetlands. There are several overlapping layers of protection for Neretva Delta – the area includes 6 special reserves (national protected area (PA) category – 5 ornithological reserves and 1 ornithological-ichthyological reserve), 2 Natura 2000 sites (1 SPA and 1 SCI) and Ramsar designation as a wetland of international importance. The Croatian Government has set up the institutional framework for protected areas management. Regions (counties) establish public institutions for the management of protected areas (PA) (both national PA categories and Natura 2000 sites), hence there is the Public Institution of the Dubrovnik-Neretva County (PIDNC) that is in charge of PA management of Neretva Delta (https://www.zastita-prirode-dnz.hr/).</p> <p>Regulatory framework for the management of Natura 2000 sites in Croatia consists of the 2 regulations – one for the SPAs (already</p>
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		<p>adopted, OG 25/20, 38/20) and one for the SCIs (in preparation). These regulations are adopted by the Government of Croatia.</p> <p>Concerning methodology, the Territorial Labs were held in 2016 and 2017 in scope of the development of the Management plan for the Natura 2000 site Neretva Delta. The methodology used then is in compliance with the one in the Wetland Toolkit. Additionally, a series of meetings between the PIDNC and local stakeholders was held in 2020 and 2021 to determine the exact actions which are listed in the Action plan.</p>
	<p>III. Subscribers:</p>	<p>The City of Metković committed to promotion of natural values of Neretva Delta in various events it will organize and to have regular meetings with PIDNC concerning the preservation of the Neretva River Delta.</p> <p>The City of Opuzen committed to promotion of natural values of Neretva Delta in various events and promotional materials. They also committed to joint promotion of selective tourism development in the Neretva Delta and branding of local agricultural products. They also pledged to promote composting and collection of agricultural waste among farmers, as well as educating them on the protocol on how to report injured or killed strictly protected birds. They have also committed to organize clean-up actions in the area. The PIDNC and the City will have regular meetings concerning the preservation of the area.</p> <p>The City of Ploče has committed to promotion of natural values of the Neretva Delta in various events and promotional materials. They also committed to joint promotion of selective tourism development in Neretva Delta. They committed to jointly educate farmers on the protocol on how to report injured or killed strictly protected birds. They have also committed to organize clean-up actions in the area and help with the eradication of invasive alien species. The PIDNC and the City will have regular meetings concerning the preservation of the area.</p> <p>The Municipality of Kula Norinska has committed to promotion of natural values of the Neretva Delta in various events it will organize, as</p>

		<p>well as through promotional material. They also committed to joint promotion of selective tourism development in the Neretva Delta. They committed to jointly educate farmers on the protocol on how to report injured or killed strictly protected birds. The County and PIDNC will have regular meetings concerning the preservation of the Neretva River Delta.</p> <p>The Municipalities of Zažablje and Pojezerje have committed to promotion of natural values of the Neretva Delta in various events they will organize, as well as through promotional material. They also committed to joint promotion of selective tourism development in the Neretva Delta, which includes birdwatching and needed infrastructure for it. They committed to jointly educate farmers on the protocol on how to report injured or killed strictly protected birds.</p> <p>The Tourist board of the City of Metković and Tourist board of the City of Ploče have committed to promote natural values of Neretva Delta in various events they will organize, as well as through promotional material. They also committed to joint promotion of selective tourism development in Neretva Delta and branding of local agricultural products.</p> <p>The County police have committed to jointly tackle illegal killing of birds in the Neretva Delta, as well as reedbed wildfires.</p> <p>Hrvatske vode (Croatia's water management authority) has committed to collaborate on eradicating invasive alien species, as well as collecting and sharing data on water quality.</p> <p>Hrvatske šume (Croatia's forestry management authority) have committed to improve habitats for certain bird species on the Neretva River Mouth and to preserve grassland habitats. They have also agreed to establish preventive wildfire measures jointly with the PIDNC.</p> <p>The Counties Fire Brigade has committed to establish joint preventive measures to tackle wildfires in the reedbeds of Neretva Delta. They have also committed to keep track of the number of wildfires and exact percentage of surface they effect.</p> <p>The Regional Development Agency Dubrovnik-Neretva County – DUNEA has committed to provide expert advisory to the PIDNC in the</p>
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		<p>preparation, application and implementation of projects which are co-financed by the European Union.</p> <p>The Hutovo Blato Nature Park from Bosnia and Herzegovina has committed to tackle invasive alien species, illegal bird killing and reedbed wildfires jointly with the PIDNC. Also, they committed to having regular meetings and to jointly submit projects aimed at nature protection. The two institutions will also work on the proclamation of the Man and Biosphere Program (UNESCO) in the Neretva River Delta</p> <p>The Agency for watershed of the Adriatic sea from Bosnia and Herzegovina and the PIDNC have agreed to jointly eradicate invasive alien species and organize clean-up actions on the Neretva river.</p> <p>Association Biom, Croatia's BirdLife partner, has committed to establish joint anti-poaching monitoring with the PIDNC, as well as performing joint advocacy activities to ensure law enforcement on the ground when it comes to illegal killing of birds. They have also committed to conduct bird monitoring in the area, as well as propose measures for their preservation. The PIDNC and Biom will jointly improve the nesting habitats for certain bird species. They will also collaborate on education of local stakeholders concerning bird conservation in the area.</p> <p>WWF Adria has committed to provide advisory to the PIDNC in the preparation, application and implementation of projects co-financed by the European Union. They have also committed to collaborate on water protection topics and to promote news concerning Neretva Delta on their social media and website.</p> <p>The Association Baštinik will collaborate with the PIDNC on preserving speleological habitats in the Neretva Delta area, as they will collect and pay for water quality analysis.</p> <p>The Association Brkata sjenica has committed to improve the habitats for certain bird species. They will also cooperate with HEP (the national energy company) to encourage the construction of their infrastructure in a way that prevents collisions and electrocution of birds.</p>
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	<p>IV. Management system</p>	<p>The management structure of the Wetland Contract consists of one governing body that will monitor the implementation of activities in the Action plan - the Stakeholder Forum.</p> <p>The Stakeholder Forum shall consist of all subscribers of the Wetland Contract. The main task of the Stakeholder Forum is to contribute to building knowledge about the Neretva Delta area, identifying threats to biodiversity and defining possible solutions in accordance with their competencies. The body may meet in plenary session or in the form of thematic meetings, in accordance with the specific needs of the implementation of the Action plan.</p> <p>The PIDNC undertakes to direct and coordinate the work of the Stakeholder Forum, promote the Wetland Contract for the preservation of the Neretva Delta Area, as well as ensure communication and transfer of information between the subscribers.</p>																							
	<p>V. Specific objectives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Valuable habitats and species, especially wetland and marine coastal habitats, have been preserved. Decisions in other sectors influencing nature preservation are made together with the nature protection sector. The local community understands the importance of preserving natural values and the resources of the area are used sustainably. The PIDNC is recognized in the local community as the key institution for biodiversity management. 																							
	<p>VI. Actions: List</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="555 1379 970 1496" rowspan="2">Actions</th> <th colspan="5" data-bbox="970 1379 1404 1429">Environmental components</th> </tr> <tr> <th data-bbox="970 1429 1034 1496">BD</th> <th data-bbox="1034 1429 1106 1496">WQ</th> <th data-bbox="1106 1429 1169 1496">ES</th> <th data-bbox="1169 1429 1233 1496">PL</th> <th data-bbox="1233 1429 1404 1496">Other (indicate)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="555 1496 970 1664">1. Carry out reedbed bird monitoring and provide proposals for their conservation (Association Biom)</td> <td data-bbox="970 1496 1034 1664">X</td> <td data-bbox="1034 1496 1106 1664"></td> <td data-bbox="1106 1496 1169 1664"></td> <td data-bbox="1169 1496 1233 1664"></td> <td data-bbox="1233 1496 1404 1664"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="555 1664 970 1753">2. Improve habitats for endangered bird species in</td> <td data-bbox="970 1664 1034 1753">X</td> <td data-bbox="1034 1664 1106 1753"></td> <td data-bbox="1106 1664 1169 1753"></td> <td data-bbox="1169 1664 1233 1753"></td> <td data-bbox="1233 1664 1404 1753"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Actions	Environmental components					BD	WQ	ES	PL	Other (indicate)	1. Carry out reedbed bird monitoring and provide proposals for their conservation (Association Biom)	X					2. Improve habitats for endangered bird species in	X				
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2. Improve habitats for endangered bird species in	X																								

		Neretva Delta (Associations Biom and Brkata sjenica)					
		3. Collaborate on various topics of nature protection, especially conservation of ornithofauna (Association Biom)	X				
		4. Dismantle illegal hunting infrastructures in the Neretva delta (Association Biom)				X	
		5. Conduct joint monitoring of bird poaching (Association Biom)				X	
		6. Cooperate to tackle illegal bird killing in Neretva Delta (Association Biom, County police, Hutovo Blato Nature Park)	X				
		7. Support the establishment of the „Youth Nature Protectors“ program on the Neretva delta (Association Biom)				X	
		8. Collaborate in raising public and children's awareness on environmental and nature protection (Association Biom)	X				
		9. Jointly encourage changes in legislation and its application, in order to reduce the scope of poaching in ornithological reserves (Association Biom)	X			X	

		10. Jointly encourage the implementation of the ban on the use of lead ammunition in wetland habitats (Association Biom)		X			
		11. Apply for projects focused on nature conservation (Association Biom, Nature Park Hutovo Blato)	X				
		12. Keep records of the number of fires and burned areas coverage (County Fire Brigade)			X		
		13. Establish joint measures to prevent intentional wildfires in reedbed areas (County Fire Brigade, County police)				X	
		14. Conduct frequent monitoring with the aim to prevent intentional wildfires in reedbed areas (County Fire Brigade, County police)				X	
		15. Collaborate on tackling reedbed wildfires (Hutovo Blato Nature Park)	X				
		16. Organize clean-up actions, taking into account that it is necessary to leave deposits of natural origin (City of Opuzen, City of Ploče, Hutovo Blato Nature Park, Agency for watershed of the Adriatic sea)	X				
		17. Collaborate on public awareness activities on the	X				

		topic of nature protection and the promotion of intangible cultural heritage (Cities of Opuzen, Ploče and Metković, Metković Tourist Board, Ploče Tourist Board, Counties of Zažablje, Kula Norinska and Pojezerje)					
		18. Collaborate in the development and distribution of educational materials about natural values of the Neretva Delta (Cities of Opuzen and Ploče, Metković Tourist Board, Ploče Tourist Board, Counties of Zažablje, Kula Norinska and Pojezerje, DUNEA)	X				
		19. Collaborate on the development of selective tourism in Neretva Delta (Cities of Opuzen and Ploče, Counties of Kula Norinska and Pojezerje)			X		
		20. Collaborate on the development and improvement of visitor infrastructure in the Neretva Delta, aimed at wildlife watching (City of Ploče, Metković Tourist Board, Ploče Tourist Board, Counties of Zažablje, Kula Norinska and Pojezerje)			X		
		21. Encourage the branding and marketing of local Natura 2000 ecological network			X		

		products (City of Opuzen, Municipality of Pojezerje)					
		22. Encourage composting and the improvement of the agriculture waste collection system among farmers (City of Opuzen, Municipality of Pojezerje)		X			
		23. Educate farmers on the protocol when finding bird nests, injured or dead animals (Cities of Opuzen and Ploče, Municipalities of Kula Norinska, Zažablje and Pojezerje)	X				
		24. Cooperation on wildlife guided tours in the Neretva delta (Cities of Opuzen and Ploče, Metković Tourist Board, Ploče Tourist Board, Municipalities of Kula Norinska, Zažablje and Pojezerje)			X		
		25. Organize regular meetings with the City of Opuzen, related to nature protection activities				X	
		26. Organize regular meetings with the City of Ploče, related to nature protection activities				X	
		27. Organize regular meetings with the City of Metković, related to nature protection activities				X	

		28. Organize regular meetings with the Municipality of Pojezerje, related to nature protection activities				X	
		29. Organize regular meetings with the Municipality of Kula Norinska, related to nature protection activities				X	
		30. Organize regular meetings with the Regional Development Agency Dubrovnik-Neretva County DUNEA	X				
		31. Organize regular meetings with Hutovo Blato Nature Park, related to nature protection				X	
		32. Collaborate in carrying out the eradication of selected invasive alien species (City of Ploče, Croatian Waters, Hutovo Blato Nature Park, Agency for watershed of the Adriatic sea)	X				
		33. Support and participate in an educational campaign on permitted fishing gear and sustainable fishing (City of Ploče)	X				
		34. Collect data on water quality (Croatian Waters)		X			
		35. Collaborate on the analysis of water quality (Croatian Waters, Association Brštanik)		X			

		36. Cooperate in the eradication of species <i>Myriophyllum heterophyllum</i> i <i>Egeria densa</i> (Croatian Waters)	X				
		37. Cooperate in the implementation of the Programme of water maintenance (protection against harmful effects of water) (Croatian Waters)	X				
		38. Cooperate with HEP (the national energy company) and encourage the construction of their infrastructure in a way that prevents collisions of birds on high-voltage transmission lines and electrocution of birds on medium-voltage transmission lines (Association Brkata sjenica)	X				
		39. Collaborate on the removal of explosives from speleological objects (County Police)	X				
		40. Cooperate in providing expert advisory in the preparation, application and implementation of projects co-financed by the European Union (DUNEA, WWF Adria)				X	
		41. Cooperate on the proclamation of the Man and Biosphere Program (UNESCO) in the Neretva River Delta (Hutovo Blato Nature Park)			X		

		42. Establish vegetation along the Galičak lagoon, in order to provide a suitable habitat for birds (Croatian Forestry authority)	X				
		43. Collaborate on wildfire preventive measures (Croatian Forestry authority)	X				
		44. Collaborate on grassland preservation (Hrvatske šume - Croatian Forestry authority)	X				
		45. Collaborate on monitoring of the Water Maintenance Programme (WWF Adria)		X			
		46. Collaborate on promotion of the natural values of the Neretva Delta (WWF Adria)	X				
	VII. Actions: Typology	<p>VII.a Concrete Actions (Topics: e.g. biodiversity, water, air, landscape, ...)</p> <p>Concrete activities in the Action plan include improving the habitats for certain bird species in the Neretva Delta, as well as dismantling illegal hunting infrastructure which is a threat to bird species, especially in the ornithological reserves. Certain stakeholders have also committed to tackle reedbed wildfires and illegal killing of birds in the area. Several stakeholders have committed to organize clean-up actions in certain areas of the Neretva Delta, while taking into account that it is necessary to leave deposits of natural origin. One of the activities is also to jointly eradicate invasive alien plant species, both terrestrial and aquatic ones. Croatian Waters and the PIDNC will collaborate on the implementation of the water maintenance plan for Neretva Delta. Several stakeholders have also obliged to collaborate on the development and improvement of visitor infrastructure for wildlife watching in the Neretva Delta.</p>					

		<p>Stakeholders who will take part in concrete activities are: City of Opuzen, City of Ploče, Croatian Waters, Tourist Board Metković, Tourist Board Ploče, Municipality Zažablje, Municipality Pojezerje, Municipality Kula Norinska, Counties Police, Hutovo Blato Nature Park, Agency for watershed of the Adriatic sea, Associations Biom, Baštinik and Brkata sjenica.</p> <p>VII.b Communication Actions</p> <p>Certain communication actions in the Action plan are aimed at the tourism sector. These activities include organizing joint public awareness events for nature protection and the promotion of intangible cultural heritage. The stakeholders have also committed to develop and/or distribute educational materials about the natural values of the area. Furthermore, several stakeholders have obliged to collaborate on the development of selective forms of tourism, such as birdwatching tourism, ecotourism, gastro tourism, etc. WWF Adria will also promote the Neretva Delta area on its social media and website.</p> <p>Several communication actions are aimed towards the agriculture sector. Agriculture is the main driver of the economy in the area, however it is also one of the biggest threats to biodiversity. Thus, one activity is aimed to improve the system of collecting waste from agricultural production and composting among farmers. Another activity will support branding and marketing of local Natura 2000 ecological network products. This could potentially lead to better product placement on the market. Also, one activities includes education of farmers on the protocol when finding bird nests, injured or dead animals.</p> <p>One activity is aimed at the fishing sector and includes an educational campaign on permitted fishing gear with the City of Ploče.</p> <p>An activity with Association Biom is aimed at organizing education for the public and children on different topics of nature protection.</p> <p>The PIDNC will hold regular yearly meetings on the topic of nature protection with the cities of Ploče, Opuzen and Metković, as well as</p>
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		<p>with the municipalities of Kula Norinska and Pojezerje, Hutovo Blato Nature Park and the Regional agency DUNEA.</p> <p>The PIDNC will also collaborate with WWF Adria on promoting water quality of the area.</p> <p>Stakeholders who will take part in communication activities are: City of Opuzen, City of Ploče, Tourist Board Metković, Tourist Board Ploče, Municipality Zažablje, Municipality Pojezerje, Municipality Kula Norinska, Croatian Waters, WWF Adria and Association Biom.</p> <hr/> <p>VII.c Monitoring Actions</p> <p>Certain monitoring actions are aimed at monitoring the water quality in the Neretva Delta (biological, hydromorphological and basic physicochemical parameters). These activities include collecting and sharing data on water quality from competent institutions and joint analysis of water, especially in speleological objects.</p> <p>Association Biom, the Counties police and PIDNC will jointly monitor the scope of bird poaching in Neretva Delta, one of the main threats for biodiversity in the area. Association Biom will also conduct monitoring of reedbed bird species and propose measures for their conservation.</p> <p>Along with the Counties Fire Brigade and Counties Police, PIDNC will conduct frequent monitoring of reedbed areas, with the aim to prevent intentional wildfires. The Counties Fire Brigade will also keep track of the number of these fires and determine their scope, i.e. burnt area coverage.</p> <p>Stakeholders who will take part in monitoring activities are: Croatian Waters, Association Biom and Baštinik, Counties Fire Brigade and Counties Police.</p> <hr/> <p>VII.d Governance Actions</p> <p>A governance activity was set to establish joint preventive measures to tackle wildfires in the reedbeds of Neretva Delta, along with the</p>
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		<p>Counties Police and Fire Brigade. Reed fires threaten the whole biodiversity in the ornithological reserves of Neretva Delta. In addition, reedbed fires are often inaccessible for extinguishing by the land and air forces need to be used to stop the fires.</p> <p>Also, the Hutovo Blato Nature Park and PIDNC will collaborate on the proclamation of the Man and Biosphere UNESCO programme in the Neretva River Delta.</p> <p>Stakeholders who will take part in governance activities are: Counties police, Counties Fire Brigade and Hutovo Blato Nature Park.</p> <hr/> <p>VII.e Other Actions</p> <p>Association Biom will support the establishment of the „Youth Nature Protectors“ programme on the Neretva delta. The aim of this program is to raise the level of awareness among young people about the importance of preserving nature. The goal is for them to be actively involved in biodiversity conservation. Biom will organize an educational activity for the PIDNC concerning this programme in 2021.</p> <p>Two advocacy activities are also foreseen with Biom. One is to jointly encourage changes in legislation and its application, in order to reduce the scale of poaching in the ornithological reserves of Neretva Delta. The other one is to jointly encourage the implementation of the ban on the use of lead ammunition in wetland habitats. The use of this type of ammunition in wetlands has been banned since 2010 in Croatia, however during field activities it was discovered that lead ammunition is used in the wetland habitats of the Neretva Delta. At the same time, perpetrators who use lead ammunition have never been sanctioned. Biom and PIDNC will jointly encourage the implementation of this ban.</p> <p>The PIDNC will also collaborate with several stakeholders on developing further projects aimed at nature protection.</p> <p>Stakeholders who will take part in other activities are: Association Biom, WWF Adria, Hutovo blato Nature Park and DUNEA.</p>
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	<p>VIII. Actions: Stakeholders involved in the implementation</p>	<p>How may private and public stakeholders have been engaged in the implementation of the actions?</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Action</th> <th>Private</th> <th>Non-profit</th> <th>Public</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Concrete Actions</td> <td>0</td> <td>3</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Communication Actions</td> <td>0</td> <td>2</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Monitoring Actions</td> <td>0</td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Governance Actions</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other...</td> <td>0</td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Action	Private	Non-profit	Public	Concrete Actions	0	3	12	Communication Actions	0	2	12	Monitoring Actions	0	1	2	Governance Actions	0	0	2	Other...	0	1	1
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	<p>IX. Actions: Financial resources</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Action</th> <th>Budget</th> <th>Financial resources</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Concrete Actions</td> <td>1.566.766 Euro and staff time of stakeholders</td> <td>County, state, private foundations</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Communication Actions</td> <td>15.666 Euro and staff time of stakeholders</td> <td>County, state, private foundations</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Monitoring Actions</td> <td>Staff time of stakeholders</td> <td>County, state, private foundations</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Governance Actions</td> <td>Staff time of stakeholders</td> <td>County, state</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other...</td> <td>Staff time of stakeholders</td> <td>County, state, private foundations</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Action	Budget	Financial resources	Concrete Actions	1.566.766 Euro and staff time of stakeholders	County, state, private foundations	Communication Actions	15.666 Euro and staff time of stakeholders	County, state, private foundations	Monitoring Actions	Staff time of stakeholders	County, state, private foundations	Governance Actions	Staff time of stakeholders	County, state	Other...	Staff time of stakeholders	County, state, private foundations						
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	<p>X. Actions: Workplan</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Action</th> <th>Start</th> <th>End</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Action 1</td> <td>1/2021</td> <td>6/2022</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Action 2 (Biom)</td> <td>1/2021</td> <td>12/2022</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Action 2 (NGO Brkata sjenica)</td> <td>2021</td> <td>2029</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Action 3</td> <td colspan="2">Continuously</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Action	Start	End	Action 1	1/2021	6/2022	Action 2 (Biom)	1/2021	12/2022	Action 2 (NGO Brkata sjenica)	2021	2029	Action 3	Continuously										
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		Action 5	1/2021	6/2022
		Action 6	Continuously	
		Action 7	4/2021	6/2022
		Action 8	Continuously	
		Action 9	Continuously	
		Action 10	Continuously	
		Action 11	Continuously	
		Action 12	Continuously	
		Action 13	Continuously	
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		Action 35	Continuously
		Action 36	Continuously
		Action 37	Continuously
		Action 38	2021 2029
		Action 39	Continuously
		Action 40	Continuously
		Action 41	Continuously
		Action 42	Continuously
		Action 43	Continuously
		Action 44	Continuously
		Action 45	Continuously
		Action 46	Continuously
	XI. Other	At the beginning of the contract we have added an introductory part explaining the biodiversity values of the Neretva Delta and protection status according to national law. We have also added an explanation that the Wetland contract is a voluntary agreement, as well as explained how it fulfils EU legislation.	

		<p>The Wetlands contract was adapted mainly in the Art.4 – Management of the Wetland Contract implementation. The management structure of the Contract includes only one body – the Stakeholder forum, whose work will be coordinated by the PIDNC.</p> <p>Also, the Action plan is placed in the Appendix of the Contract due to it containing 46 activities and is exhaustive.</p>
C. EVALUATION		<p>The commitment to 46 activities by 19 stakeholders is a result of the long-lasting collaboration between the PIDNC and local stakeholders in the Neretva Delta. Almost all of the activities in the Action plan are activities which the PIDNC has put in the Neretva Delta management plan (i.e. result of the 3rd Territorial Lab). Thus, the stakeholders were familiar with these activities even before the Action plan drafting process started. However, with this Wetland Contract they have made a real commitment for these activities to be fulfilled once the Management plan is endorsed at the beginning of 2022. Thus, the Wetland Contract proved to be enormous added value to the future Neretva Delta Natura 2000 management plan.</p> <p>One of the obstacles while drafting the Action plan was to get exact financial costs of performing the activities. However, most of these activities are indeed only staff time from certain stakeholders and no additional expenses occur. Also, local elections were held in May 2021, thus articulating the exact activities which became a part of the Action plan was mostly done in June 2021.</p> <p>The Territorial Labs posed as an invaluable platform for different stakeholders to understand the roles of other organizations in preserving biodiversity in the Neretva Delta and reach common solutions for certain problems. They were also a great opportunity for networking among participants. More important, organizing Territorial labs in the form of stakeholder workshops, gave the participants a sense of ownership of the activities which will be included in the Action plan of the Wetlands Contract.</p>
D. APPENDICES		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action plan in local language • Photos from Wetland Contract signing ceremony • Press releases from Wetland Contract signing ceremony

REPORT OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT

“Natura Histrica” - Public Institution
for the Management of Protected
Natural Areas in Istria County
Special Ornithological Reserve Palud - Palù

Deliverable 4.3.4 – English summary

Final version

date: 30.07.2021

Notes:

1) A.4.3 Drafting the Wetland Contract

The activity aims at implementing and subscribing the one Wetland Contract in each target area through the following progressive steps:

- identifying the institutional management bodies for the Wetlands Contracts (Coordinating Committee / Management Board and Technical Secretariat);
- developing of Territorial Labs for the participated governance;
- defining mid-long term strategic scenarios;
- sharing and assessing the strategic scenarios;
- drafting the Action Plan and subscription of the formal agreement of the Wetland Contract during the Local Final Conference (press conference).

The actors subscribing the Contract will be committed of: (i) acting in the frame of valorising of the subsidiarity principle, in respect of every actor's competences; (ii) activating all the partnership tools; (iii) keep working and monitoring the process even after the project end.

2) D.4.3.4 Wetland Contract

The WP4 final deliverable will be the protocol of the Wetland Contract itself, containing the defined action plan (all objectives, activities and stakeholders' responsibilities to be carried out, timing and financing planned). It will be subscribed by the key stakeholders during the Local Final Conference.

3) This template has been developed by UNICAM (University of Camerino). It is inspired by and coordinated with the documentation elaborated in the Project WETNET financed under Interreg MED Cooperation Programme to increase information share, data and opportunities of confrontation.



Authors: Svjetlana Lupret-Obradović

REPORT OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT

(deliverable 4.3.4 – English summary)

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A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Chapter number and name		Contents
A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	I. Overview	Public Institution Natura Histrica boosted a participatory process from April 2020 to June 2021 involving various stakeholders, leading to the development of the Action Plan and the subscription of the Wetland Contract for Special Ornithological Reserve Palud - Palù by 17 key actors. There are also 6 non-subscribing members of the stakeholder forum, which will support and participate in the activities.

B. REPORT OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT

This section scopes are:

- to describe the local regulatory and legal framework of the Wetland Contract
- to identify the stakeholders who signed the Wetland Contract Agreement
- to identify the coordinator and the management system of the Wetland Contract
- to describe the foreseen actions: typology, actors involved in the implementation, financial resources, timing
- to evaluate the process listing success factors and criticality

Chapter number and name		Contents
B. REPORT	I. Introduction:	<p>Pilot Area</p> <p>Special Ornithological Reserve Palud – Palù is a small coastal lagoon near the City of Rovinj, Istria County, Croatia, proclaimed in 2001. Its area is 226 hectares, with water body being maximum 18 hectares. It is basically a shallow brackish wetland with highly variable ecological conditions (temperature, salinity, oxygen levels). Some 240 bird species have been recorded over the years, with some endangered and strictly protected species starting to nest there in recent years (<i>Himantopus himantopus</i> (VU), <i>Tadorna tadorna</i>). Although small, Palud has a great significance for spring and autumn migrations, serving as a resting and feeding point for many species (herons, sandpipers, ducks...).</p>

		<p>Palud has a specific hydrology. There is not any freshwater spring or stream feeding the wetland, but the freshwater is drained through the slightly uplift karst terrain. Salt water intrusion is present in the southernmost parts of the wetland, but there is also a canal, connecting Palud to the sea, dig out at the beginning of the 20th century. Detailed hydrological survey of the area was never conducted.</p> <p>During the summer extreme salinity of the water is recorded. The bottom of the lagoon is covered by thick sediment.</p> <p>Overall biodiversity of the area is very high due to variety of habitats – besides the wetland itself, there are oak forests and their degradation stages, supralittoral, agricultural land (vineyards, olive groves), and a number of ecotones (hedges etc.), but the systematic survey of habitats was never conducted. On the rocky coast ichnofossils (imprints of dinosaur steps) can be found. There are significant archaeological and cultural values in the area.</p> <p>Ornithological Reserve is partly a part of the Significant landscape <i>Rovinjnsko priobalje i otoci</i>, and is completely within the Natura 2000 SCI <i>Šire rovinjsko područje</i>.</p> <p>The process of eutrophication is going on, as all the traditional management practices inside the wetland are stopped several decades ago. This might also be enhanced by climate changes causing higher temperatures each summer, changing salinity and ecological conditions. Being bordered by the sea on the western side, Palud is also very attractive summer destination for numerous tourist and domestic inhabitants, coming there by cars, motorcycles etc., so the area is under the serious seasonal pressure of the high number of tourists.</p> <p>Very recently (in July 2021), another threat was recorded – the blue crab (<i>Callinectes sapidus</i>), which could possess a serious threat to the lagoon ecosystem.</p> <p>The process of development of the Action Plan and the subscription of the Wetland Contract</p> <p>The process started in April 2020 by preliminary Analysis of the current state and stakeholders in the Palud area. Originally, a series of territorial</p>
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		<p>labs with stakeholders were planned, but due to COVID-19 pandemics, only the first one was held „live“, in July 2020. The „SWOT“ analysis was done, and on the basis of the results, trend scenario developed. The second Lab was held partly live (with small group of local stakeholders), but mostly via on-line questionnaires – the goal was to identify possible activities, as proposed by the stakeholders. During the winter 2020-21 several meetings were held with individual stakeholders or stakeholder groups in order to strengthen a dialogue and start solving concrete problems.</p> <p>Third and fourth territorial labs were held on-line in April 2021, via 4 on-line sessions. Activities and the ways of their implementation were discussed, as well as future management structure and future cooperation and communication.</p> <p>Formal signing of the Wetland Contract was organized in July 2021.</p>
	<p>II. Legal framework and methodology:</p>	<p>Legal framework</p> <p>In Croatia there is no regulation connected exclusively to the wetlands or wetland management. Wetland Contract for Palud is in line with goals set up in national regulations dealing with environment and nature protection, water management and public participation. The most important of these is a Nature protection Act (NN 80/2013, 15/2018, 14/2019, 127/2019), which sets up an obligation for the Public Institution to pass the 10-year management plan for the area, with the emphasis on the participatory approach and stakeholder involvement. Area of Palud is not included in any major local Water management plans.</p> <p>The Contract is also in line with European regulations – Water Framework Directive, Habitat Directive, Birds Directive, Floods Directive, Marine Strategy Framework Directive.</p> <p>Methodology</p> <p>Following steps were conducted:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Preliminary analysis of the area

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Strategic vision and mid-term scenario 3. Action plan 4. Management structure 5. Signing of the <i>Wetland Contract</i> <p>Further steps are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Implementation of the activities 7. Monitoring of the efficiency of the process
	<p>III. Subscribers:</p>	<p>Wetland Contract has been agreed upon by altogether 23 stakeholders. Seventeen stakeholders signed the contract, and 6 of them are included in the stakeholder forum as members but are not the signees of the contract.</p> <p>Wetland Contract was signed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public Institution Natura Histrica - Istrian County (Regione Istriana) - City of Rovinj (Grad Rovinj – Città di Rovigno) - University Juraj Dobrila in Pula - Agency for Public Health of Istria County - Archaeological Museum of Istria - Tourist Board of the City of Rovinj-Rovigno - Tourist board of the Municipality of Bale–Valle - Tourist board of the Municipality of Kanfanar - Museum of the City of Rovinj–Rovigno - Association BIOM (national level) - Hunting association Rovinj (local level) - Individuals : Margherita Bodi, Olja Fazlović, Ingrid Hrga, Ernesto Tiani, Louie Thomas Taylor <p>Other members of the Contract:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development - State Inspectorate - Croatian Water Agency - Croatian academy of science and art - Department of ornithology - Institute for agriculture and tourism Poreč - Engineering Faculty in Rijeka

	<p>IV. Management system</p>	<p>Management System of the Wetland Contract for Palud – Palù consists of three bodies – Stakeholder Forum, Management Board and Technical Secretariat.</p> <p>The roles of the each one are as follows:</p> <p>1.) Stakeholder Forum Consists of all stakeholders involved in implementation of the Action plan. Its task is to contribute and help to build-up the knowledge of the Palud area, define the threats and find out possible solutions. This body will meet on plenary sessions or work in thematic groups, related to specific aspects of the Action plan. Stakeholder forum meets at least three times a year and more often if needed.</p> <p>2.) Management Board Consists of the elected stakeholders - signees of the Contract, which represent the stakeholder structure. Its task is to set up guidelines for, consult and co-ordinate the work of the Stakeholder forum and Technical Secretariat. Its role is to promote the activities of the action plan and of the Wetland Contract itself, and to assure communication and information transfer among the stakeholders and signees. Composition and the members of the Board are defined by the Stakeholder Forum. Management Board meets bi-monthly in general and more often if needed.</p> <p>3.) Technical Secretariat It is an operational body whose main task is the implementation of the action plan of the Contract. It supports Management Board and Stakeholder forum and assures smooth information flow between the three bodies. It organizes and leads the stakeholder forum meetings. It gives the framework for decision making, collects scientific data and other relevant information on the area, develops activities, projects and plans for the area. Technical Secretariat is made of the employees of the Public Institution Natura Histrica, appointed by the director of the institution.</p>
	<p>V. Specific objectives</p>	<p>There are seven specific objectives of the Contract for the Palud area, falling under three main themes:</p> <p>A) Environment (okoliš – O)</p>

		<p>O1. Preserved biodiversity O2. Improved ecological conditions and water quality O3. Protected cultural heritage</p> <p>B) Management (upravljanje – U) U1. Improved visitor infrastructure U2. Improved management of the area</p> <p>C) Socio-economic development (razvoj – R) R1. Recognized potential for sustainable tourism and agriculture R2. Improved visibility of Palud as a visitor destination</p> <p>In addition, two horizontal objectives were defined during participatory process, these are: H1. Improved cooperation among the sectors on different levels and cooperation iwth local inhabitants and private sector H2. Raised financing of common activities through EU funds</p>																																																																	
	VI. Actions: List	<p>There are altogether 17 actions defined by the Action plan:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="555 1115 1407 1832"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Actions</th> <th colspan="5">Environmental components</th> </tr> <tr> <th>BD</th> <th>WQ</th> <th>ES</th> <th>PL</th> <th>Other (indicate)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>MANAGEMENT (U)</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>U1-1. Signalization, information and interpretive tables</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>X</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>U1-2. Management of internal roads</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>U1-3. Improved parking system</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>U2-1. Analysis of possibilities for intelligent surveillance system</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>X</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>U2-2. Resolving property issues, illegal building and other illegal activities</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>X</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>ENVIRONMENT (O)</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>O1-1. Defining of research activities needed to assess biodiversity status</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>X</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>O1-2. Survey of wild boar population status ion Palud and its wider area</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>X</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Actions	Environmental components					BD	WQ	ES	PL	Other (indicate)	MANAGEMENT (U)						U1-1. Signalization, information and interpretive tables				X		U1-2. Management of internal roads	X	X	X			U1-3. Improved parking system	X	X	X	X		U2-1. Analysis of possibilities for intelligent surveillance system				X		U2-2. Resolving property issues, illegal building and other illegal activities				X		ENVIRONMENT (O)						O1-1. Defining of research activities needed to assess biodiversity status	X			X		O1-2. Survey of wild boar population status ion Palud and its wider area	X			X	
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		O2-1. Defining of research activities needed to assess ecological status of water and sediment		x	x	x	
		O2-2. Analysis of hydrological status of Palud and its wider area	x	x			
		O2-3. Production of technical documentation for the regulation of water flow in and out of the wetland and water level regulation	x		x		
		O3-1. Identification and assessment of the status of cultural and historical heritage, and of possibilities of its protection and restoration				x	
		SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (R)					
		R1-1. Analysis of potential for development of agritourism	x	x		x	
		R1-2. Valorisation of cultural heritage and analysis of possibilities of sustainable management				x	
		R2-1. Stronger inclusion of Palud into tourist offer			x	x	
		R2-2. Producing marketing strategy			x	x	
		R2-3. Informing and education of local inhabitants about Palud values	x	x		x	
		R2-4. Promotion material production and distribution (in cooperation with stakeholders)				x	
	VII. Actions: Typology	VII.a Concrete Actions (Topics: e.g. biodiversity, water, air, landscape, ...) There are five concrete actions in the action plan: Management (U) U1-1. Signalization, information and interpretive tables U1-2. Management of internal roads U1-3. Improved parking system Environment (O) O2-3. Production of technical documentation for the regulation of water flow in and out of the wetland and water level regulation					

		<p>O3-1. Identification and assessment of the status of cultural and historical heritage, and of possibilities of its protection and restoration</p>						
		<p>VII.b Communication Actions There are four Communication actions in the action plan: Socio-economic development (R) R2-1. Stronger inclusion of Palud into tourist offer R2-2. Producing marketing strategy R2-3. Informing and education of local inhabitants about Palud values R2-4. Promotion material production and distribution (in cooperation with stakeholders)</p>						
		<p>VII.c Monitoring Actions There are four monitoring actions in the action plan: Environment (O) O1-1. Defining of research activities needed to assess biodiversity status O1-2. Survey of wild boar population status on Palud and its wider area O2-1. Defining of research activities needed to assess ecological status of water and sediment O2-2. Analysis of hydrological status of Palud and its wider area</p>						
		<p>VII.d Governance Actions There are two management actions in the action plan: Management (U) U2-1. Analysis of possibilities for intelligent surveillance system U2-2. Resolving property issues, illegal building and other illegal activities</p>						
		<p>VII.e Other Actions Socio-economic development (R) R1-1. Analysis of potential for development of agritourism R1-2. Valorisation of cultural heritage and analysis of possibilities of sustainable management</p>						
	<p>VIII. Actions: Stakeholders involved in the implementation</p>	<p>How may private and public stakeholders have been engaged in the implementation of the actions?</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="555 1713 1396 1803"> <thead> <tr> <th>Action</th> <th>Private</th> <th>Public</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Concrete Actions</td> <td>/</td> <td>10</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Action	Private	Public	Concrete Actions	/	10
Action	Private	Public						
Concrete Actions	/	10						

		Communication Actions	/	13
		Monitoring Actions	1	13
		Governance Actions	1	3
		Other...	1	9
	IX. Actions: Financial resources	Action	Budget	Financial resources
		Concrete Actions	136.667	PI Natura Histrica City of Rovinj-Rovigno
		Communication Actions	33.333	PI Natura Histrica
		Monitoring Actions	45.333	PI Natura Histrica
		Governance Actions	14.000	PI Natura Histrica City of Rovinj-Rovigno
		Other...	20.000	PI Natura Histrica City of Rovinj-Rovigno
	X. Actions: Workplan	Action	Start	End
		U1-1. Signalization, information and interpretive tables	2021	2023
		U1-2. Management of internal roads	2021	2026
		U1-3. Improved parking system	2021	2023
		U2-1. Analysis of possibilities for intelligent surveillance system	2021	2022
		U2-2. Resolving property issues, illegal building and other illegal activities	2021	2023
		O1-1. Defining of research activities needed to assess biodiversity status	2021	2023
		O1-2. Survey of wild boar population status ion Palud and its wider area	2022	2023
		O2-1. Defining of research activities needed to assess	2021	2026

		ecological status of water and sediment		
		O2-2. Analysis of hydrological status of Palud and its wider area	2021	2026
		O2-3. Production of technical documentation for the regulation of water flow in and out of the wetland and water level regulation	2022	2023
		O3-1. Identification and assessment of the status of cultural and historical heritage, and of possibilities of its protection and restoration	2023	2025
		R1-1. Analysis of potential for development of agritourism	2021	2024
		R1-2. Valorisation of cultural heritage and analysis of possibilities of sustainable management	2022	2024
		R2-1. Stronger inclusion of Palud into tourist offer	2021	2026
		R2-2. Producing marketing strategy	2022	2023
		R2-3. Informing and education of local inhabitants about Palud values	2021	2026
		R2-4. Promotion material production and distribution (in cooperation with stakeholders)	2021	2026
	XI. Other	<p>We applied several minor changes to the process and the text of the Wetland contract for Palud:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The step of establishing the management structure was moved towards the second part of the process, primarily due to changes in the methodology imposed by the COVID-19 pandemics. Nevertheless, Public institution served as a coordinator for the process, thus fulfilling the role of Technical secretariat. - The article 10 (Tools and implementation methods), was left out from the agreement, because it wasn't concrete enough 		

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tables and lists that are already described in the detail in the action plan, were left out of the agreement, for the purpose of clarity
<p>C. EVALUATION</p>		<p>In general, the whole process can be described as a successful one. It laid the ground for future better management of the area.</p> <p>This is especially important because the management plan and internal regulation on protection of the Special Ornithological Reserve Palud have not yet been realized. These are obligatory documents, so the biggest value of the Wetland Contract is that it established communication between stakeholders on different levels so we expect future actions to run more smoothly.</p> <p>Main obstacle to the process was COVID-19 pandemics, which prevented us from having all territorial labs held “alive” and more intensive contacts with stakeholders. It was overcome by switching to on-line communication, but for the process of this kind, taking into account that for many stakeholders this was the first time that they encounter this kind of participatory approach, it would have been better if we could have classical face-to-face meetings and territorial labs.</p> <p>Also, towards the end of the process, several major stakeholders showed a bit of a concern regarding the financial part of the Contract. This was also mainly induced by the COVID-19 crisis, which forced numerous public stakeholders to reduce the amounts of money for their activities. Therefore, they felt a bit reluctant to sign a contract with financial obligations for a 5-year period. It was overcome by explaining that the whole process is very adaptive, so in the case of crisis, the activities of the action plan will have to be adapted too.</p> <p>Other difficulties were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Negative attitude of local residents (partly) to the whole process; some of them decided not to sign the contract - General lack of trust to Public Institution - Lack of quality communication between Public institution and stakeholders in the past <p>Among main strengths of the process itself were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Synergy and positive attitude created between the stakeholders - New ideas emerging during the process - Variety of stakeholders involved (institutional, NGOs, individuals/locals)

D. APPENDICES	Enclosed are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="555 432 1332 504">1. <i>Sporazum za močvarno područje Palud – Palù</i> - Wetland Contract for wetland Palud - Palù<li data-bbox="555 515 1385 586">2. <i>Palud – raznolikost u malom /Palù – Diversità in Miniatura</i> - Action Plan<li data-bbox="555 598 1401 669">3. Results from the 1st territorial LAB – SWOT analysis and Trend scenario), <i>in Croatian</i>
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REPORT OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT

Veliko i Malo blato

NATURA JADERA

Deliverable 4.3.4 – English summary

Final version Date: 19.06.2021.

Notes:

1) A.4.3 Drafting the Wetland Contract

The activity aims at implementing and subscribing the one Wetland Contract in each target area through the following progressive steps:

- identifying the institutional management bodies for the Wetlands Contracts (Coordinating Committee / Management Board and Technical Secretariat);
- developing of Territorial Labs for the participated governance;
- defining mid-long term strategic scenarios;
- sharing and assessing the strategic scenarios;
- drafting the Action Plan and subscription of the formal agreement of the Wetland Contract during the Local Final Conference (press conference).

The actors subscribing the Contract will be committed of: (i) acting in the frame of valorising of the subsidiarity principle, in respect of every actor's competences; (ii) activating all the partnership tools; (iii) keep working and monitoring the process even after the project end.

2) D.4.3.4 Wetland Contract

The WP4 final deliverable will be the protocol of the Wetland Contract itself, containing the defined action plan (all objectives, activities and stakeholders' responsibilities to be carried out, timing and financing planned). It will be subscribed by the key stakeholders during the Local Final Conference.

3) This template has been developed by UNICAM (University of Camerino). It is inspired by and coordinated with the documentation elaborated in the Project WETNET financed under Interreg MED Cooperation Programme to increase information share, data and opportunities of confrontation.



Authors:

Natura Jadera

AB OVO I.t.d.

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ANNEX 1. TEMPLATE OF THE ACTION PLAN

ANNEX 2. TEMPLATE OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT AGREEMENT

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Chapter number and name		Contents
A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	I. Overview	<p>Natura Jadera boosted a participatory process in time period of September 2020. to February 2021., involving various stakeholders, leading to the development of the Action Plan and the subscription of the Wetland Contract for Veliko i Malo blato localities by 4 key actors: Natura Jadera, Hunters Alliance of Zadar County, Tourist board of Poveljana Municipality and Association “Volim Vlačići”.</p> <p>This Wetland contract is a nonbinding document aiming to steer the development of Velik i Malo blato localities to a recognizable regional ornithological reserve in the next 3-5 years.</p>

B. REPORT OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT

This section scopes are:

- to describe the local regulatory and legal framework of the Wetland Contract
- to identify the stakeholders who signed the Wetland Contract Agreement
- to identify the coordinator and the management system of the Wetland Contract
- to describe the foreseen actions: typology, actors involved in the implementation, financial resources, timing
- to evaluate the process listing success factors and criticality

Chapter number and name		Contents
B. REPORT	I. Introduction:	<p>Veliko i Malo blato localities have been recognized as a protected ornithological reserve for 32 years. Its area includes a total of 461.69 ha located on the island of Pag. The reserve is also uncommon because of the karst landscape of the area – the wetland area surrounded by reed offers a huge variety of accessible food resources for transiting birds. As such, it’s an ideal place for bird watching activities.</p> <p>This Action Plan was developed following a number of meetings and discussions with interested regional stakeholders. As the locality is still</p>

		<p>of interest to various parties unrelated to its natural preservation one of the first issues discussed was how to keep reaffirming it as an ornithological reserve. By being a recognizable part of the regional identity, aspirations are that more investment can be drawn in, in a long term scenario. To keep developing Veliko i Malo blato as a part of regional activity several soft activities were proposed, each concerning limitations of interested stakeholders and developmental plans to maintain the good practices.</p> <p>These activities are further discussed in the Action plan, and involve engagement from Natura Jadera, Zadar County, Tourist Board Poveljana, Hunters Alliance of Zadar County and regional public associations like Volim Vlašići.</p>
	<p>II. Legal framework and methodology:</p>	<p>The Wetland contract will be compliant to Article 1 and Article 4 of Directive 000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a framework for community action in the field of water policy. The Directive was adopted by the European Community with the general objective of protecting, improving and restoring the quality of all forms of water (surface, ground, land and transitional).</p> <p>Within the Croatian legislation, the Wetland contract is in accordance with the Nature Protection Act (OG No. 80/13, 15/18, 14/19, 127/19). Veliko i Malo blato are ornithological reserves, and this Law defines: planning and organization in nature protection; use of natural resources and appropriate assessment, maintenance of biological diversity, protection of geodiversity; defines the types of protected areas and their management.</p> <p>Furthermore, in the Environmental Protection Act (OG 80/13, 153/13, 78/15, 12/18, 118/18) wetlands are indirectly mentioned in Article 24, which defines the protection of freshwater ecological systems as part of the protection of water resources as components of the human environment. Also, Article 25 describes the protection of the sea and the protection of coastal areas.</p> <p>The reserve is also the area of ecological networks HR4000004 Velo i Malo blato, therefore the Regulation on the ecological network and the</p>

		<p>competencies of public institutions for the management of ecological network areas has also been applied to this Agreement.</p> <p>The Wetland contract is also in line with the strategic goals of Zadar County, more precisely, Measure 1.4. Reduced tourism seasonality and the increased quality of tourist facilities, sub-measure 1.4.3. Development of specific forms of tourism; Measure 2.1. Improved system of environmental and nature protection, sub-measures 2.1.2. Sustainable use and valorization of natural heritage and 2.1.5. Support for the conservation of Natura 2000 species and habitats.</p>
	III. Subscribers:	<p>Natura Jadera is the key stakeholder for this contract as it deals with administrative and operative level on Veliko i Malo blato reserve.</p> <p>Tourist Board of Poveljana Municipality is a public institution operating at local level which Veliko i Malo blato are a part of. As its interest is to improve the touristic offer on the local level, Touristic Board Poveljana will work on visibility of the ornithological reserve to make it an important aspect of regional identity.</p> <p>Hunters Alliance of Zadar County will make sure that further preservation activities are implemented in the section of hunting on the locality.</p> <p>Association Volim Vlačići will contribute to the Contract by reaching the local population through educative material and activities. The association will work with the regional schools to promote the reserve and strengthen its regional identity and visibility.</p> <p>Zadar County is a regional self-governmental institution and can offer support for small scale innovation developments</p>
	IV. Management system	<p>Natura Jadera as the institution has the capacities to both monitor the preservation activities on the locality and support the general development of the Veliko i Malo blato reserve. In that regard it will be heavily involved in the coordination. Regarding the specifics of visibility and information dissemination Tourist Board of Poveljana Municipality will be engaged as the key stakeholder for that, while Hunters Alliance will assist in nature preservation and data gathering. Finally, Natura Jadera will be an intermediary between the public institutions and local</p>

		<p>stakeholders with the aim of engaging local community in the development of locality.</p> <p>- Management Board</p> <p>The Management Board will include members of Tourist Board Povljana and Natura Jadera. As Natura Jadera will monitor and implement activities specified in the Action plan, Tourist Board Povljana will disseminate the information and promote the activities.</p> <p>Natura Jader staff members will be most involved in monitoring the implementation of the Wetland contract, due to the fact that it has the most human capacity to do so. Specifically, Natura Jadera will ensure that director Damir Perić, expert manager Morana Bačić and chief nature conservationist Zoran Božić communicate future activities with the signatories of the Contract, as well as all other interested stakeholders. Natura Jadera provides a framework for decision-making, collects scientific data and other relevant information about the area, develops activities, projects and plans, and serves as a cross-sectorial facilitator.</p>																							
	V. Specific objectives	<p>Specific objective is to improve the development of Veliko i Malo Blato as an ornithological reserve important as a natural wealth and heritage of Zadar County. The aim is to encourage cooperation between the Public Institution Natura Jader with selected stakeholders from Zadar County through the implementation of activities listed in the Action Plan. Specifically, the aim is to preserve the reservation to a highest degree.</p>																							
	VI. Actions: List	<p>[List the actions included in the action plan and the corresponding environmental components concerned. Mark with "X": BD biodiversity; WQ water quality; ES ecosystem services; PL protection level; other)</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="555 1581 1407 1807"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Actions</th> <th colspan="5">Environmental components</th> </tr> <tr> <th>BD</th> <th>WQ</th> <th>ES</th> <th>PL</th> <th>Other (indicate)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Raising the touristic visibility</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>x</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Raising the regional awareness</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>x</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Actions	Environmental components					BD	WQ	ES	PL	Other (indicate)	1. Raising the touristic visibility					x	2. Raising the regional awareness				x	
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1. Raising the touristic visibility					x																				
2. Raising the regional awareness				x																					

		3. Reduction of poaching and other harmful activities				x	
		4. Ensuring that educational materials are available for interested public					x
VII. Actions: Typology	VII.a Concrete Actions (Topics: e.g. biodiversity, water, air, landscape, ...)						
	<p>VII.b Communication Actions</p> <p>A1. Tourist Board Povljana will ensure that the information relating to activities on Veliko i Malo blato localities are disseminated through their web portal among apartment renters, interested tourists and other stakeholders.</p> <p>A2. Local communities will be involved through workshops and engagement initiated at the ground level by Association Volim Vlačići. In that way participation in nature preservation will be developed in the long term. Zadar County will support educational and promotional activities by yearly co-financing materials for activities related to development of Veliko i Malo blato.</p>						
	<p>VII.c Monitoring Actions</p> <p>A3. Given that there are still poaching activities at the location of Veliko i Mali Blato, the Zadar County Hunting Association will promote activities to raise awareness about protected animal species in the location among its members. The distribution of lead shot will also be monitored within the Alliance. More frequent visits to the reserve aim to reduce illegal activities at the site.</p>						
	<p>VII.d Governance Actions</p> <p>A4. Natura Jadera will ensure that the Wetland contract and any other interested stakeholder do not endanger the reserve ecosystem by their activities. Specifically, Natura Jadera will monitor the influx of tourists at the site, their impact on the ecosystem and will be responsive in planning a sustainable tourism offer.</p>						
	VII.e Other Actions						

	VIII. Actions: Stakeholders involved in the implementation	How may private and public stakeholders have been engaged in the implementation of the actions?																		
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		Action 3	2022.	2024.																
Action 4	2021.	December 2024.																		
	XI. Other	As the reserve is not a large location, majority of the activities coordination will be by the Natura Jadera. This decision was made to ensure the most efficient way to communicate any issues or potential developments among the interested stakeholders as any more administrative bodies or responsibilities would make the workload																		

		harder and slow down the progression of activities. The activities thus rely on the institutions as well as the designated personnel, thus keeping in mind when their work contracts expire.
C. EVALUATION		<p>[This section contains the conclusions of the Wetland Contract process and explains any problems and obstacles encountered and what elements concurred to the success of the process.]</p> <p>The biggest issue is maintaining a balance between sustainable development and not affecting the reserve in any harmful way. To that end, activities were planned firstly to preserve the location and to strengthen its position in the region, with the aim of monitoring the development to decide how can the future investments and priorities be thought of.</p>
D. APPENDICES		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wetland Contract in local language signed by key actors (Sporazum o močvarnom staništu Veliko i Malo blato) - Action Plan (Akcijski plan)

REPORT OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT

Agency for Occupation and Development in North Barese / Ofantina Area Ofanto River

Deliverable 4.3.4 – English summary

Final version date: 01.08.2021

Notes:

1) A.4.3 Drafting the Wetland Contract

The activity aims at implementing and subscribing the one Wetland Contract in each target area through the following progressive steps:

- identifying the institutional management bodies for the Wetlands Contracts (Coordinating Committee / Management Board and Technical Secretariat);
- developing of Territorial Labs for the participated governance;
- defining mid-long term strategic scenarios;
- sharing and assessing the strategic scenarios;
- drafting the Action Plan and subscription of the formal agreement of the Wetland Contract during the Local Final Conference (press conference).

The actors subscribing the Contract will be committed of: (i) acting in the frame of valorising of the subsidiarity principle, in respect of every actor's competences; (ii) activating all the partnership tools; (iii) keep working and monitoring the process even after the project end.

2) D.4.3.4 Wetland Contract

The WP4 final deliverable will be the protocol of the Wetland Contract itself, containing the defined action plan (all objectives, activities and stakeholders' responsibilities to be carried out, timing and financing planned). It will be subscribed by the key stakeholders during the Local Final Conference.

3) This template has been developed by UNICAM (University of Camerino). It is inspired by and coordinated with the documentation elaborated in the Project WETNET financed under Interreg MED Cooperation Programme to increase information share, data and opportunities of confrontation.



Authors:

- Marco Barone
- Flavio Michele Ceci

REPORT OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT

(Deliverable 4.3.4 – English summary)

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- VII. Actions: Typology
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- X. Actions: Timing/workplan
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C. EVALUATION

D. APPENDICES

ANNEX 1. TEMPLATE OF THE ACTION PLAN

ANNEX 2. TEMPLATE OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT AGREEMENT

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Chapter number and name		Contents
A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	I. Overview	PTNBO boosted a participatory process in September and October 2020 involving various stakeholders, leading to the development of the Action Plan and the preparation of a Wetland Contract of the Ofanto River, containing the key results of the participatory process, duly elaborated, and transformed into programmatic measures. Despite the strong commitment of all territorial entities, Covid-19 emergency has had a serious impact upon project activities, resulting in a significant shift of the project priorities and – most of all – realistic objectives.

B. REPORT OF THE WETLAND CONTRACT

This section scopes are:

- to describe the local regulatory and legal framework of the Wetland Contract
- to identify the stakeholders who signed the Wetland Contract Agreement
- to identify the coordinator and the management system of the Wetland Contract
- to describe the foreseen actions: typology, actors involved in the implementation, financial resources, timing
- to evaluate the process listing success factors and criticality

Chapter number and name		Contents
B. REPORT	I. Introduction:	<p>The Wetland Contract of the Ofanto River is designed to cover the 'Landscape Area 4 / Ofanto' as its territorial reference system (as defined by the current PPTR of Regione Puglia), integrated with a portion of the territory of the area of the river included in the territory of the Municipalities of Melfi, Lavello and Montemilone.</p> <p>According to this geographical context, the participatory activities of the Wetland Contract process were placed in a crucial circumstantial framework for the entire reference territory of the river basin, which</p>

		<p>sees the construction of the Ofanto Regional Park Plan and which in its interregional dimension includes parts of the hydrographic basin falling within the province of Potenza, opening interesting scenarios of cooperation between public entities, that matches with the intrinsic meaning of the WC, in the sense of a tool for triggering territorial impulses within a system. Going beyond the administrative limitation, the river is the place for verifying the sustainability of the choices and for strategies of development. The circumstance is even more significant if we consider the start of the drafting of the Basilicata Regional Landscape Plan and the role that the WC could assume for the mending of portions of regional borders, pending the validity of the Regional Territorial Landscape Plan in Puglia.</p> <p>In this perspective, participatory activities were inserted as an instrument of territorial drive by investing not only the competent bodies and administrations, but the entire community of the valley, in the assumption of co-responsibility and promotion of a shared Action Plan, aimed at addressing the environmental problems of the river basin in the context of its local development.</p> <p>The participatory activities took place under the impulse of the Province of BAT, assisted by the technical scientific coordination committee, and in collaboration with the technical secretariat of the WC, and have materialized with the establishment of 5 thematic tables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nature - Infrastructure - Agriculture - Tourism and Green Economy - Governance <p>As a result, a large set of co-designed actions and work hypotheses have been synthesized and developed in a programmatic manner, and signed by the WC participant, together with their relative financial coverage.</p>
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	<p>II. Legal framework and methodology:</p>	<p>A methodology defined in the Wetland Contract Toolkit was used to identify and operate in compliance with the local legal framework.</p> <p>Main Relevant National and EU Frameworks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dir. 1992/43/CE "Habitat" • Dir. 2000/60/CE Water Framework • Dir. 2007/60/CE • EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030 • PN Adattamento ai Cambiamenti Climatici (PNACC) • LIFE TP/IP 2021-2027 • Contratto istituzionale di sviluppo D.Lgs. n. 88/2011 <p>Main Relevant District Frameworks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Piano di Gestione Acque del Distretto Appennino Meridionale (PGA); • Piano di Gestione Rischio di Alluvioni del Distretto Appennino Meridionale (PGRA); • Piano di Bacino Stralcio per l'Assetto Idrogeologico (PAI); <p>Relevant Regional and Province Frameworks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Piano di Tutela delle Acque (PTA) della Regione Puglia • Piano Paesaggistico Territoriale Regionale (PPTR) della Puglia • Piano Territoriale di Coordinamento Provinciale della Provincia di Foggia (PTCP) • Piano Territoriale di Coordinamento Provinciale della Provincia di Barletta Andria Trani (PTCP), • Piano Strutturale Provinciale (PSP) della Provincia di Potenza, • Piano Regionale della Mobilità Ciclistica (PRMC) • Piano della mobilità ciclistica provinciale (upcoming - PMCP)
	<p>III. Subscribers:</p>	<p>n/a</p>

	<p>IV. Management system</p>	<p>Basin Assembly</p> <p>A body of public participation extended to the entire Community of the territory under the competence of the wetland system, in which all public and private subjects can participate. It has the task of contributing to the construction of knowledge, the identification of problems, the definition of possible solutions and the approval of choices. It can meet in plenary session or in the form of thematic and/or territorial tables according to the specific needs of the process.</p> <p>Management Board</p> <p>PTNBO is coordinating the full set of action and the management of the contract and will setup a contract management office within its premises. The Management Board is the institutional body made up of public entities adhering to the Wetland Contract. This body undertakes to direct, instruct and validate the work of the Basin Assembly and the Technical Secretariat. It has the task of supervising the decision-making process as well as of promoting the diffusion of the initiative in the territory, identifying and informing the interested parties, guaranteeing the communication and transfer of information between the actors of the process, promoting and organize the project activities.</p> <p>Technical Secretariat</p> <p>the operating body supporting the Management Board and the Basin Assembly. It has the task of carrying out all the technical steps for the construction of the cognitive, evaluation and decision-making framework, including the collection of data and information, the development of plans and projects, the adoption of diagnostic tools, the technical analysis processing and evaluations, drafting of project documents (including the Action Plan). It also has the task of designing and conducting the facilitation in the Basin Assembly and the Territorial Labs. It performs the role of technical project secretariat, managing the timing and general organization of the process, as well as managing communication activities. It plays a role of scientific setting of the works and validation of the results. Due to the articulation of the issues</p>
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		affecting the wetland systems, this body should be made up of technical experts of different disciplinary backgrounds, with proven experience in matters of importance for the specific context of reference.	
	V. Specific objectives	<p>PILLAR G</p>	<p>O.G.A1.1 – State-of-the-art of the current, past and upcoming plans for the area;</p> <p>O.G.A1.2 – Coordination, synthesis and overlapping assessment of the existing plans;</p> <p>O.G.A1.3 – Renew the purpose of the 2014’s agreement and produce a synergic interaction with the new Wetland Contract of the Ofanto River.</p> <p>O.G.A2.1 – Implement a digitally accessible database of tangible and intangible projects insisting of the Ofanto Valley area;</p> <p>O.G.A2.2 – Streamline financing and cooperation among stakeholders</p> <p>O.G.A3.1 – Grant extension of the ZEA I.394 subjective eligibility</p>
		<p>PILLAR E</p>	<p>O.E.A1.1 – Restoration of the natural expansion capacity of the river</p>

			<p>O.E.A2.1 – Sustainable management of the floodplain areas and control</p> <p>O.E.A3.1 – Reactivate natural management of sediments</p> <p>O.E.A3.2 – Counteract retreat of the river mouth and coastline</p> <p>O.E.A4.1 – Verify progress of individual actions, with a specific view to measure potential significant and negative environmental impacts;</p> <p>O.E.A4.2 – Standardize the set of project’s indicators, in compliance with EU best practices;</p> <p>O.E.A4.3 – Actively involve local stakeholders in the monitoring actions;</p>
		PILLAR D	<p>O.D.A1.1 – Training protocol for the ‘Food Districts’</p> <p>O.D.A2.1 – Optimize and provide interoperability for the existing cycling infrastructure “Ciclovia Valle dell’Ofanto”;</p> <p>O.D.A2.2 – Design, contract and build new cycling infrastructure, expanding the existing assets;</p>

			<p>O.D.A3.1 – Field assessment of financial sustainability of new revenue streams and long-term investments</p> <p>O.D.A4.1 – Achieve a perception of the Ofanto Valley as a unitary system</p>
	VI. Actions: List	<p>GOVERNANCE</p> <p>G.A1. Coordination of Existing Plans, Programmes and Projects</p> <p>G.A2. Ofanto Cluster Data Hub</p> <p>G.A3. Advocacy for ZEA I.394 extension</p> <p>ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>E.A1. River Restoration – SUB.1 Remodeling of the alluvial plain near the mouth</p> <p>E.A2. River Restoration – SUB.2 Cleaning of floodplain areas in the park and mouth</p> <p>E.A3. River Restoration – SUB.3 Construction of islands connected to the riverbed</p> <p>E.A4 Participated Monitoring</p> <p>DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>D.A1. Training protocol for the ‘Food Districts’</p> <p>D.A2. Integrated Territorial Investments – SUB.2 Cycling Network</p> <p>D.A3. Integrated Territorial Investments – SUB.2 Pilot for the Renewable Energy</p> <p>D.A4. Re-branding of the “Ofanto Cluster”</p>	
	VII. Actions: Typology	<p>VII.a Concrete Actions</p> <p>Concrete actions foreseen in the WC are mostly attaining to the ENVIRONMENT and the DEVELOPMENT pillar. For the former, under the general category of “River Restoration”, 3 concrete actions were selected during the participatory process, indicated as SUB 1, 2 and 3,</p>	

		<p>all attaining to interventions deemed necessary by the enlarged stakeholder community involved in the participatory process.</p> <p>Under the DEVELOPMENT pillar, 3 more actions are foresees, collectively identified as “Integrated Territorial Investments”, with 3 more SUB. The investments are both in knowledge and training (SUB.1) and in tangible results (SUB. 2 and SUB. 3).</p> <hr/> <p>VII.b Communication Actions</p> <p>One large, focused and strategic communication action has been foreseen for the WC, aimed at a radical re-branding of the river area – as a need that strongly emerged from the participatory process. The activity will also embed smaller and more targeted dissemination actions.</p> <hr/> <p>VII.c Monitoring Actions</p> <p>Monitoring action are collected into E.A4, with a set of specific indicators attached to the contract (Annex 2- KPI).</p> <hr/> <p>VII.d Governance Actions</p> <p>Governance actions developed for the WC are aimed at a set of three simultaneous objectives. First, to develop an updated and digitally accessible database for the Ofanto cluster projects, both material and immaterial. This asset is not an objective <i>per se</i>, but rather a necessary step to configure the WC and its governing body as a decision-hub for the area, able to provide vision and competences for local initiatives. Third, a set of advocacy and institutional actions have been foreseen, in order to grant continuity and meaning to previously approved plans, as well as advocate some specific legislative provisions for the Ofanto area.</p> <hr/> <p>VII.e Other Actions</p> <p>n/a</p>
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C. EVALUATION	Despite local stakeholders cooperative and proactive approach to the participatory activities, the process that led to the creation of the Wetland Contract and its knowledge base has been seriously impacted by Covid-19 emergency, and consequent deep change of the configuration of the project and its realistic objectives.
D. APPENDICES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annex 1. Action Programme - Annex 2. – KPI - Annex 3. – Financial Summary - Annex 4 – Wetland Contract

ANNEX 1

ACTION PROGRAMME

WETLAND CONTRACT OF THE OFANTO RIVER

Agenzia per l'Occupazione e lo Sviluppo dell'Area Nord Barese Ofantina
Patto Territoriale

FOREWORDS

This document, as an integral part of the "Wetland Contract of the Ofanto River", is the result of a co-design work between local stakeholders, authorities, and institutions, and was developed within the

CREW project "Coordinated Wetland management in Italy-Croatia Cross Border Region", co-financed by the 2014-2020 Interreg VA Italy-Croatia CBC Programme.

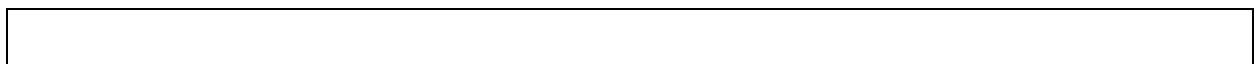
The Wetland Contract has a defined validity of 3 years, upon expiry of which, based on the results of the monitoring, it will be possible to update the contract or approve a new one. The Action Program is composed of actions corresponding to three strategic pillars selected during the co-designing phase:

- **Pillar G:** GOVERNANCE
- **Pillar E:** ENVIRONMENT
- **Pillar D:** ECONOMIC & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

For each of the three strategic pillars, single actions are here reported together with their specifications in relation to the specific objectives to which they contribute, the territorial area involved, the coordinator, promoter and main implementer and the other parties involved, the timing of implementation of the action, an estimate of the total resources to be found with the relative sources of financing.

As clearly emerged during the co-designing process, one of the core issues of the area is the compatibility between existing, past, and upcoming planning. For this reason, a special attention has been put into analysing the relationship between our Wetland Contract and other plans, programmes and project belonging to the Ofanto River area, to understand possible overlaps and build strategically upon common objectives.

Marco Barone



PILLAR G – GOVERNANCE

Action 1	
Title	Coordination of Existing Plans, Programmes and Projects
Specific Objective	<p>O.G.A1.1 – State-of-the-art of the current, past and upcoming plans for the area;</p> <p>O.G.A1.2 – Coordination, synthesis and overlapping assessment of the existing plans;</p> <p>O.G.A1.3 – Renew the purpose of the 2014’s agreement and produce a synergic interaction with the new Wetland Contract of the Ofanto River.</p>
Typology	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Action <input type="checkbox"/> Communication action <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring action <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Governance action <input type="checkbox"/> Other action
Brief description	<p>As clearly emerged during the participatory co-designing phase, local stakeholders have expressed the will of reconfirming the purpose and potential of a series of existing and past plans developed for the Ofanto Valley, with particular attention to the 2014’s agreement, which still has a significant and untapped strategic potential and could constitute a strong basis for territorial advocacy both at the national and EU levels.</p> <p>The scope is to tackle the progressive loss of significant of territorial pacts, ensuring institutional continuity, as well to participate with the widest possible set of instruments to the definition of transregional actions and programs in the new European programming 2021- 2027 that the three involved Regions are defining.</p>
Location/scope of intervention	Provinces of Barletta-Andria-Trani, Foggia, Potenza, Avellino
Coordinator	PTNBO

Other actors involved	Province of Barletta-Andria-Trani, Province of Foggia, Province of Potenza, Province of Avellino, Regione Puglia, Regione Basilicata, Regione Campania.
Timing/Workplan	<p>T.G.A1.1 - Produce a joint note of 4 Provinces and local corresponding Prefectures for the involvement of the regions and the Presidency of the Council of Ministers for the activation of a research team;</p> <p>T.G.A1.2 – Follow-up on the note, and perform an advocacy action as necessary; schedule and set-up the meeting;</p> <p>T.G.A1.3 – Staff the research team with internal resources, draw a 6-month calendar for the works, further define the features of the output (approx. 45 pages, bilingual ITA/ENG);</p>
Budget	1 man-month, and 3 more man-months upon completion of T.A1.2, staffed internally / 15.000€
Available funds/financial resources	n/a
Financial resources to be mobilized/financial resources	15.000€
Relationship to existing plans, programmes and projects	No significant relationship

Action 2	
Title	Ofanto Cluster Data Hub
Specific Objective	<p>O.G.A2.1 – Implement a digitally accessible database of tangible and intangible projects insisting of the Ofanto Valley area;</p> <p>O.G.A2.2 – Streamline financing and cooperation among stakeholders</p>

Typology	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Action <input type="checkbox"/> Communication action <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring action <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Governance action <input type="checkbox"/> Other action
Brief description	<p>The territorial dimension of the Wetland Contract should be used as a leverage for the potential sources of national and European funding. This action pursues the convergence of coordinated large spending areas in European funds, also in relation to the Recovery Fund, toward the Wetland Contract as a governance body in itself.</p> <p>To achieve this, as stakeholders who took part participatory process asked, a first systematization of the tangible and intangible projects related to the area is deemed necessary, accompanied by an assessment of each project's impact on the river habitats. A database of projects of high strategic value contained in an "Ofanto Cluster Data Hub" could be set up in a cost-effective manner, by utilizing internal technical resources offered by the contract partners.</p> <p>Furthermore, as a secondary result, the creation of a digitally based Ofanto Cluster could help tackle the unacceptance of local agricultural stakeholders and the lack of long-term and strategic institutional planning that has hindered the construction of an innovative dialogue for the sustainable protection of floodplain areas.</p>
Location/scope of intervention	Ofanto Valley
Coordinator	PTNBO
Other actors involved	Regione Puglia, Province of BAT, Province of Avellino, Province of Foggia, Province of Potenza
Timing/Workplan	<p>T.G.A2.1 – Selection of an IT provider by EU open call; writing of a wireframe, choice of coding tools and plug-ins, validation with partners. Restricted testing of the platform.</p> <p>T.G.A2.2 – Selection of projects to be included in the database (approx. time span 1995-2021), with an internal shortlist for each Regione compiled by appointed experts; writing of standardized documentation</p>

	for each project, upload of the material and public deployment of the data hub.
Budget	12 man-months / staffed internally & externally / 55.000€
Available funds/financial resources	n/a
Financial resources to be mobilized/financial resources	55.000€
Relationship to existing plans, programmes and projects	No significant relationship

Action 3	
Title	Advocacy for ZEA I.394 extension
Specific Objective	O.G.A3.1 – Grant extension of the ZEA I.394 subjective eligibility
Typology	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Action <input type="checkbox"/> Communication action <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring action <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Governance action <input type="checkbox"/> Other action
Brief description	<p>Building upon the recent debate on the ZEA extension to all protected areas established pursuant to Law n. 394, going further than their originally envisaged application to national parks only, the Action 3 pursues an advocacy action toward the competent Ministries.</p> <p>Further than that, the identification and setup of training protocols for "food districts" has direct implications on the establishment of the ZEA, with possible advantageous taxation and incentives for economic actions based on sustainability, and will be object of a specific Action within Pillar D.</p>

Location/scope of intervention	Ofanto Valley
Coordinator	PTNBO
Other actors involved	Regione Puglia, Regione Basilicata, Regione Campania, Province of BAT, Province of Avellino, Province of Foggia, Province of Potenza
Timing/Workplan	<p>T.G.A3.1 – Elaboration of an advocacy dossier to sustain the request for extension of the l. 394</p> <p>T.G.A3.2 – Request signed by the partners, addressed to Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri and Ministero dell’Ambiente.</p>
Budget	2 man-months / staffed internally / 5.000€
Available funds/financial resources	n/a
Financial resources to be mobilized/financial resources	5.000€
Relationship to existing plans, programmes and projects	No significant relationship.

PILLAR E – ENVIRONMENT

Action 1	
Title	River Restoration – SUB.1 Remodeling of the alluvial plain near the mouth
Specific Objective	O.E.A1.1 – Restoration of the natural expansion capacity of the river
Typology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concrete Action <input type="checkbox"/> Communication action <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring action <input type="checkbox"/> Governance action <input type="checkbox"/> Other action
Brief description	<p>The mouth of the river Ofanto is traditionally subject to strong setback due to numerous contributing causes, among which the presence of 9 dams and crossbeams along the entire river basin.</p> <p>As developed in the participatory sessions, this site-specific action contains a technical intervention to widen the footprint of the watercourse with the excavation of valleys in the terraced areas.</p>
Location/scope of intervention	Ofanto Valley – Mouth of the River Ofanto
Coordinator	PTNBO
Other actors involved	Province of BAT, Managing Body of the Ofanto Park, Regione Puglia Sez. Risorse Idriche, AIPIN - Associazione italiana per l'Ingegneria Naturalistica, Consorzio Pro Ofanto, Consorzio di Bonifica Terre d'Apulia, Istituto di Ricerca sulle acque del Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (IRSA-CNR), Centro Italiano per la Riquilificazione Fluviale (CIRF)
Timing/Workplan	<p>T.E.A1.1 – Preparatory works: deliberation, contracting, feasibility study, design, proposal to open calls or other funding sources.</p> <p>T.E.A1.2 – Execution of the project according to the specific funding rules;</p>
Budget	48 man-months / 335.000€

Available funds/financial resources	n/a
Financial resources to be mobilized/financial resources	335.000€
Relationship to existing plans, programmes and projects	The action is highly consistent with the measure 1.8 of the PLI ('Programmi Locali Integrati') developed by the managing body of the Parco Naturale Regionale del Fiume Ofanto. More specifically, the SUB.1 item represent a portion of the intervention foreseen for the river mouth re-qualification, which includes upscaling works to the hydraulic manufacts already installed in the area.

Action 2	
Title	River Restoration – SUB.2 Cleaning of floodplain areas (park and river mouth)
Specific Objective	O.E.A2.1 – Sustainable management of the floodplain areas and control
Typology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concrete Action <input type="checkbox"/> Communication action <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring action <input type="checkbox"/> Governance action <input type="checkbox"/> Other action
Brief description	<p>As developed in the participatory sessions, this site-specific action contains a technical intervention to remove trees belonging to agricultural crops from the floodplain areas.</p> <p>The intervention might virtually extend to at least two large areas of the river (i.e., park area and river mouth), which are consistently interested by the issue.</p> <p>In a participative logic, the intervention will actively include representative of the local agricultural value chain, by the piloting of an internally developed concession regime for the floodplain areas for agricultural use.</p>

Location/scope of intervention	Ofanto Valley – Mouth of the River and Park Area
Coordinator	PTNBO
Other actors involved	Province of BAT, Managing Body of the Ofanto Park, Regione Puglia Sez. Risorse Idriche, AIPIN - Associazione italiana per l'Ingegneria Naturalistica, Consorzio Pro Ofanto, Consorzio di Bonifica Terre d'Apulia, Istituto di Ricerca sulle acque del Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (IRSA-CNR), Centro Italiano per la Riquilificazione Fluviale (CIRF)
Timing/Workplan	T.E.A2.1 – Preparatory works: deliberation, contracting, feasibility study, design, proposal to open calls or other funding sources. T.E.A2.2 – Execution of the project according to the specific funding rules;
Budget	20 man-months / 155.000€
Available funds/financial resources	n/a
Financial resources to be mobilized/financial resources	155.000€
Relationship to existing plans, programmes and projects	The action is highly consistent with measures contained in the PLI ('Programmi Locali Integrati') developed by the managing body of the Parco Naturale Regionale del Fiume Ofanto, and more specifically with floodplain areas selected in measures 1.1., 1.2, 1.3, 1.4 (all belonging to the park area) and 1.8 (belonging to the river mouth area).

Action 3	
Title	River Restoration – SUB.3 Construction of islands connected to the riverbed
Specific Objective	O.E.A3.1 – Reactivate natural management of sediments O.E.A3.2 – Counteract retreat of the river mouth and coastline

Typology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concrete Action <input type="checkbox"/> Communication action <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring action <input type="checkbox"/> Governance action <input type="checkbox"/> Other action
Brief description	As developed in the participatory sessions, this site-specific action contains a technical intervention to build islands connected to the riverbed for morphodynamical purposes. The goal is to reactivate the natural management of sediments, which represents a critical issue.
Location/scope of intervention	Ofanto Valley
Coordinator	PTNBO
Other actors involved	Province of BAT, Managing Body of the Ofanto Park, Regione Puglia Sez. Risorse Idriche, AIPIN - Associazione italiana per l'Ingegneria Naturalistica, Consorzio Pro Ofanto, Consorzio di Bonifica Terre d'Apulia, Istituto di Ricerca sulle acque del Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (IRSA-CNR), Centro Italiano per la Riquilificazione Fluviale (CIRF)
Timing/Workplan	<p>T.E.A3.1 – Preparatory works: deliberation, contracting, feasibility study, design, proposal to open calls or other funding sources.</p> <p>T.E.A3.2 – Execution of the project according to the specific funding rules;</p>
Budget	80 man-months / 380.000€
Available funds/financial resources	n/a
Financial resources to be mobilized/financial resources	380.000€
Relationship to existing plans, programmes and projects	No significant relationship

Action 4	
Title	Participated Monitoring
Specific Objective	<p>O.E.A4.1 – Verify progress of individual actions, with a specific view to measure potential significant and negative environmental impacts;</p> <p>O.E.A4.2 – Standardize the set of project’s indicators, in compliance with EU best practices;</p> <p>O.E.A4.3 – Actively involve local stakeholders in the monitoring actions;</p>
Typology	<p>Concrete Action</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Communication action</p> <p>• Monitoring action</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Governance action</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other action</p>
Brief description	<p>The monitoring activity will take place through the measurement of a set of specific indicators (for a detailed view of indicators, please refer to Annex 2 – KPI), and is budgeted for 12 months, beginning together with the 3rd year of contract’s execution.</p> <p>Monitoring allows to evaluate the achievement of the expected objectives on target species and habitat, and possibly help to redefine the operational strategies as we proceed.</p> <p>Local stakeholders – and more specifically, representatives of the agricultural value chain and civic associations – must be actively involved into monitoring action and assigned with accessible tasks not requiring professional skills. This is crucial to enhance trust and mutual cooperation between the involved institutions and their local community.</p>
Location/scope of intervention	Ofanto Valley
Coordinator	PTNBO
Other actors involved	Province of BAT, Consorzio Pro Ofanto, Consorzio di Bonifica Terre d’Apulia
Timing/Workplan	T.E.A4.1 – Open call for professional operators, shortlist, contracting; open call for civic operators, contracting.

	<p>T.E.A4.2 – Detailed monitoring plan; further definition of indicators included in Annex 2- KPI;</p> <p>T.E.A4.3 – Execution of monitoring activities, final reporting from professional operators; continued complementary monitoring for civic operators;</p>
Budget	35 man-months / €190.000
Available funds/financial resources	n/a
Financial resources to be mobilized/financial resources	190.000€
Relationship to existing plans, programmes and projects	The action is consistent with the 2019's plan developed by Regione Puglia and the managing body of the park, as "Asse VI – Azione 6.5 – Sub. 6.5.a", with specific regard to the monitoring actions. In addition, the Wetland Contract also foresees an active involvement of selected local stakeholders, in an auxiliary role to the professional operators involved in the monitoring activities.

PILLAR D – ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Action 1	
Title	Integrated Territorial Investments – SUB.1 Food District Training
Specific Objective	O.D.A1.1 – Training protocol for the ‘Food Districts’
Typology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concrete Action <input type="checkbox"/> Communication action <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring action <input type="checkbox"/> Governance action <input type="checkbox"/> Other action
Brief description	<p>The identification and setup of training protocols for "food districts" has direct implications on the establishment of the ZEA, with possible advantageous taxation and incentives for economic actions based on sustainability.</p> <p>This action foresees the development and execution of a targeted course for managing staff of the food districts. The contents of the course will be defined in a structured co-creation workshop involving all the D.A1 partners. The training protocol will be organized according to industry-standard methodologies and performed jointly by internal staff of the partners and – where necessary – an externally contracted professional.</p> <p>The trainees will be selected with a public call for the expression of interest. Whether limited seats will be available, trainees from entities who participated to the CREW co-design process will have precedence. No costs for the training will be bear by the trainees.</p>
Location/scope of intervention	Ofanto Valley
Coordinator	PTNBO
Other actors involved	CIHEAM Istituto Agronomico Mediterraneo, Regione Puglia, Regione Basilicata, Regione Campania, Province of BAT, Province of Avellino, Province of Foggia, Province of Potenza.

Timing/Workplan	<p>T.D.A1.1 – Definition of the syllabus, in co-creation workshop by the partners;</p> <p>T.D.A1.2 – Execution of the course (2 iterations, approx. 30-50 ppl each)</p>
Budget	9 man-months / 45.000€
Available funds/financial resources	n/a
Financial resources to be mobilized/financial resources	45.000€
Relationship to existing plans, programmes and projects	No significant relationship.

Action 2	
Title	Integrated Territorial Investments – SUB.2 Cycling Network
Specific Objective	<p>O.D.A2.1 – Optimize and provide interoperability for the existing cycling infrastructure “Ciclovia Valle dell’Ofanto”;</p> <p>O.D.A2.2 – Design, contract and build new cycling infrastructure, expanding the existing assets;</p>
Typology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concrete Action <input type="checkbox"/> Communication action <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring action <input type="checkbox"/> Governance action <input type="checkbox"/> Other action
Brief description	<p>After shared assessment of the themes of hospitality and services linked to the itinerary promoted by the park, the participatory process highlighted the cycling network as a cost-efficient and priority option</p> <p>The action foresees optimization of existing infrastructure – with specific regard to intramodality / interoperability, as well as contracting and building of brand-new ones, including a bicycle repair shop.</p>

	Overall, the action aims at enhancing and optimizing the existing Ciclovía Valle dell'Ofanto as well as applying and piloting a transferable protocol for the maintenance of embankments with hybrid supra-embankment tracks (cycle-pedestrian).
Location/scope of intervention	Ofanto Valley
Coordinator	PTNBO
Other actors involved	Agenzia Regionale Strategica per la Sviluppo Ecosostenibile del Territorio (ASSET), Soprintendenza Archeologia Belle Arti e Paesaggio BAT e Foggia, Regione Puglia, Province of BAT, Province of Foggia
Timing/Workplan	<p>T.D.A2.1 – Open call and contracting for works: optimize and provide interoperability for the existing cycling infrastructure.</p> <p>T.D.A2.2 – Open call and contracting for works: design, contract and build new cycling infrastructure.</p>
Budget	90 man-months / 825.000€
Available funds/financial resources	n/a
Financial resources to be mobilized/financial resources	425.000€
Relationship to existing plans, programmes and projects	The action is consistent with the projects developed within the “Programmi Locali Integrati” by the managing body of the park, with regards to the areas interested by the Ciclovía Valle dell'Ofanto. More specifically, relevant sections of the plan can be found in measures from 1.1 to 1.9.

Action 3

Title	Integrated Territorial Investments – SUB.3 Pilot for the Renewable Energy
Specific Objective	O.D.A3.1 – Field assessment of financial sustainability of new revenue streams and long-term investments
Typology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concrete Action <input type="checkbox"/> Communication action <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring action <input type="checkbox"/> Governance action <input type="checkbox"/> Other action
Brief description	<p>A new plan for the local production of renewable energy in the Ofanto Cluster area, with specific regard to the mouth of the river, and to pilot application of selected experimental technologies within NETs (i.e. <i>Negative Emission Technologies</i>).</p> <p>The plan will include a specific section on EU funding, and a state-of-the-art on public-funded NETs project, in order to create synergies with existing project and achieve funding for the Ofanto pilot.</p>
Location/scope of intervention	Ofanto Valley
Coordinator	PTNBO
Other actors involved	Agenzia Regionale Strategica per la Sviluppo Ecosostenibile del Territorio (ASSET), Regione Puglia, Province of BAT
Timing/Workplan	<p>T.D.A3.1 – Planning in accordance with the PPTR;</p> <p>T.D.A3.2 – Proposal design, state-of-the-art research;</p> <p>T.D.A3.2 – Application for pilot funding;</p>
Budget	8 man-months / 35.000€
Available funds/financial resources	n/a
Financial resources to be mobilized/financial resources	35.000€

Relationship to existing plans, programmes and projects	The action is designed to be compliant with the Renewables Guidelines of the Regione Puglia PPTR.
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Action 4	
Title	Re-branding of the "Ofanto Cluster"
Specific Objective	O.D.A4.1 – Achieve a perception of the Ofanto Valley as a unitary system;
Typology	<p>Concrete Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication action <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring action <input type="checkbox"/> Governance action <input type="checkbox"/> Other action
Brief description	Through a newly developed branding strategy, including innovative and digital elements and additional targets, the participatory process highlighted the need of framing the area of the hydrographic basin and the valley as a unitary system for the identification of a tourist brand entirely built within the physiographic dimension of the river as a natural / cultural settlement, aggregating landscape, artistic and enogastronomic elements.
Location/scope of intervention	Ofanto Valley
Coordinator	PTNBO
Other actors involved	Regione Puglia, Regione Basilicata, Regione Campania, Consorzio Pro Ofanto, Assemblea di Bacino CdF Alto Ofanto.
Timing/Workplan	<p>T.D.A4.1 – Summarize the crucial elements of the communication plan, contract an external professional or set up a team of internal resources;</p> <p>T.D.A4.2 – Kickstart campaign, 12 months, mixed media, with a special attention to the social media discourse upon environmentalism, sustainable tourism, cultural tourism.</p>
Budget	12 man-months / 100.000€
Available funds/financial resources	n/a

Financial resources to be mobilized/financial resources	100.000€
Relationship to existing plans, programmes and projects	No significant relationship

ANNEX 2

KPI & MONITORING

WETLAND CONTRACT OF THE OFANTO RIVER

Agenzia per l'Occupazione e lo Sviluppo dell'Area Nord Barese Ofantina
Patto Territoriale

PILLAR G – GOVERNANCE

Action 1 - Coordination of Existing Plans, Programmes and Projects

O.G.A1.1	- n. of previous and current projects documented
O.G.A1.2	- n. of meetings
O.G.A1.3	- n. of entities signing the joint note to the Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri; - n. of discussion tables with the Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri; - n. of participating entities to the discussion table;

Action 2 - Ofanto Cluster Data Hub

O.G.A2.1	- n. of projects selected and uploaded on the digital repository of the Ofanto Cluster - n. of unique visitors over 12 months on the digital platform of the Ofanto Cluster
O.G.A2.2	- n. of projects re-worked or adapted for new financing opportunities / institutional requests or presentations; - amount of financing granted under direct EISF instruments, or PNNR national instruments, over the course of 24 months;

Action 3 - Advocacy for ZEA I.394 extension

O.G.A3.1	- n. of institutional meetings with the Ministry of Environment; - subjective extension granted under I.394
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PILLAR E – ENVIRONMENT

Action 1 - River Restoration – SUB.1 Remodeling of the alluvial plain near the mouth

O.E.A1.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - n. of tonnes of debris removed from terraced areas - overall surface of intervention (mq)
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Action 2 - River Restoration –SUB.2 Cleaning of floodplain areas

O.E.A2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - n. of tonnes of debris removed from the floodplain area - overall surface of intervention (mq)
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Action 3 - River Restoration – SUB.3 Construction of islands connected to the riverbed

O.E.A3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - n. of islands connected to the riverbed created - overall surface of intervention (mq) - qualitative indication of the sediments issue after 12 months from implementation
O.E.A3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - qualitative indication of the retreat issue after 12 months from implementation

Action 4 - Participated Monitoring

O.E.A4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - n. of assessment conducted
O.E.A4.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - inclusion of a micro-plastic KPI in the set of indicators

	- inclusion of other KPIs developed in relation to the 2030-SDG or other key-EU agendas
O.E.A4.3	- n. of local stakeholders responding to the open call - n. of local stakeholders actually participating in the monitoring - man/months local stakeholders have committed after project completions

PILLAR D – ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Action 1 - Integrated Territorial Investments – SUB.1 Food District Training

O.D.A1.1	- n. of trainees - % of attendance - % of satisfaction (measured by questionnaires after 15days from implementation)
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Action 2 - Integrated Territorial Investments – SUB.2 Cycling Network

O.D.A2.1	- n. of cycling pathways completed - km of cycling pathways requalified - n. interoperability nodes - % of satisfaction of users (measured by questionnaires after 6 months from implementation)
O.D.A2.2	- km of new cycling pathways designed - km of new cycling pathways built

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - cost-efficiency (€/km) - % of satisfaction of users (measured by questionnaires after 6 months from implementation)
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Action 3 - Integrated Territorial Investments – SUB.2 Pilot for the Renewable Energy

O.D.A3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - n. of piloting technologies applied; - n. of plants; - qualitative assessment of their financial sustainability;
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Action 4 - Re-branding of the “Ofanto Cluster”

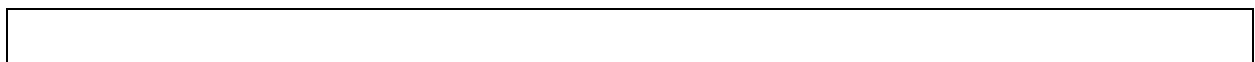
O.D.A4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - n. of campaigns; - n. of stakeholders reached; - n. of unique visitors reached; - % variance in the target groups; - % of positive feedback to the new visual identity after 15 days from the first draft;
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ANNEX 3

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

WETLAND CONTRACT OF THE OFANTO RIVER

Agenzia per l'Occupazione e lo Sviluppo dell'Area Nord Barese Ofantina
Patto Territoriale



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

PILLAR	ACTION		COORDINATOR	COST	GRANTED (Y/N)	SOURCE
G	G1	Coordination of Existing Plans, Programmes and Projects	PTNBO	15.000,00 €	N	See matrix below, TAB. 1
	G2	Ofanto Cluster Data Hub	PTNBO	55.000,00 €	N	-
	G3	Advocacy for ZEA I.394 extension	PTNBO	5.000,00 €	N	-
				75.000,00€		
E	E1	River Restoration – SUB.1 Remodeling of the alluvial plain near the mouth	PTNBO	335.000,00 €	N	See matrix below, TAB. 1
	E2	River Restoration – SUB.2 Cleaning of floodplain areas in park and river mouth	PTNBO	355.000,00 €	N	-
	E3	River Restoration – SUB.3 Construction of islands connected to the riverbed	PTNBO	380.000,00 €	N	-
	E4	Participated Monitoring	PTNBO	190.000,00€	N	-
				1.260.000,00€		

D	D1	Integrated Territorial Investments – SUB.1 Food District Training	PTNBO	45.000,00 €	N	<i>See matrix below, TAB. 1</i>
	D2	Integrated Territorial Investments – SUB.2 Cycling Network	PTNBO	625.000,00	N	
	D3	Integrated Territorial Investments – SUB.3 Pilot for the Renewable Energy	PTNBO	35.000€	N	
	D4	Re-branding of the “Ofanto Cluster”	PTNBO	100.000€	N	
					805.000,00€	
			TOTAL COSTS	2.140.000,00€		

FUNDING MATRIX

The matrix visually represents which activities (G,E,D) are eligible under the selected funding options.

- A full dot indicates full compliance between the action *as is* and the selected funding source
- A hollow dot represents partial compliance between the project and source, with some adjustments to be made to make it fully eligible (e.g., add international partners, reduce budget, integrate into larger proposals, etc.)

FUNDING SOURCE	G1	G2	G3	E1	E2	E3	E4	D1	D2	D3	D4
LIFE Traditional Projects				●	●	●					
LIFE Integrated Projects				○	○	○					
INTERREG (IPA CBC or MED)	○	○					○			○	○
URBACT (Networks + UIA)									○		
Regional resources (POs)	●		●				●	●	●	●	●
National resources (Ministries)		●									
CEF Connecting Europe Facilities		○							○		
Horizon Europe										○	

ANNEX 4

WETLAND CONTRACT

OFANTO RIVER

PTNBO

Agenzia per l'Occupazione e lo Sviluppo dell'Area Nord Barese Ofantina
Patto Territoriale

WETLAND CONTRACT FOR THE OFANTO RIVER

Given that:

- The Wetland Contract is a negotiated programming process for the governance of a specific wetland system, which allows to coordinate far-reaching interventions regarding the protection of the environment, the protection of water resources, the enhancement of the territory and the prevention of hydrogeological risk, combining competences and optimizing resources.
- The Wetland Contract implementation process is based on the participation and negotiation between all the actors and citizens involved, with the aim of activating environmental and territorial development projects. In fact, the Wetland Contract is configured as a voluntary agreement between local authorities and other public and private entities with which objectives, intervention strategies, actions to be activated and competences are defined. In this sense, it is an interactive approach that guarantee the consent and feasibility of the actions. The involvement of all possible users/stakeholders of the wetland system (protected areas managers, production sector, Municipalities, trade associations, citizens' associations) allows to share objectives, stimulating and promoting virtuous behaviour and committing to actions that are jointly approved.
- The Wetland Contract is an instrument consistent with the provisions of the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC), adopted by the European Community with the general objective of protecting, improving and restoring the quality of all internal surface waters, transitional waters, coastal and groundwater.

**ALL THIS PREMISED AND CONSIDERED
the following is stipulated
WETLAND CONTRACT AGREEMENT
FOR THE OFANTO RIVER
among:**

See "Subscribers" section

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- Art.1 – Purposes and objectives
 - Art.2 – Territorial scope of intervention
 - Art. 3 – Methodology
 - Art.4 – Management of the Wetland Contract implementation
 - Art. 5 – General obligation of the subscribers
 - Art. 6 – Action Plan
 - Art. 7 – Role of the actors responsible for the implementation of the Action Plan
 - Art. 8 – Resources
 - Art.9 – Deadlines/timing
 - Art. 10 – Tools and implementation methods
 - Art. 11 – Monitoring and updating
 - Art. 12 – Procedures of new adhesion of public and private subscribers
 - Art. 13 – Non-fulfilment and revocation
 - Art. 14 – Withdrawal
- ANNEX Action Plan

Art.1 – Purposes and objectives

The Wetland Contract pursues the main objectives of the following European environmental directives: Habitat Directive 1992/43/EC; Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC; Floods Directive 2007/60/EC; Birds Directive 2009/147/EC; Marine Strategy Framework Directive 2008/56/CE.

The Wetland Contract for The Ofanto River contributes to the implementation of the Interreg IT-HR CREW project (Coordinated Wetland management in Italy-Croatia cross border region).

This Agreement aims at the realization of a shared Action Plan, concerning the territorial area of the Ofanto River, on which to converge interventions related to different policies to be integrated mutually, pursuing at the same time the objectives of administrative simplification and the effectiveness, efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the actions envisaged.

The specific objectives to be pursued for the wetland system of the Ofanto River are those specified below, in accordance with national and regional planning policies, which for relevance and complexity require an integrated approach over a large area.

PILLAR G	<p>O.G.A1.1 – State-of-the-art of the current, past and upcoming plans for the area;</p> <p>O.G.A1.2 – Coordination, synthesis and overlapping assessment of the existing plans;</p> <p>O.G.A1.3 – Renew the purpose of the 2014’s agreement and produce a synergic interaction with the new Wetland Contract of the Ofanto River.</p> <p>O.G.A2.1 – Implement a digitally accessible database of tangible and intangible projects insisting of the Ofanto Valley area;</p> <p>O.G.A2.2 – Streamline financing and cooperation among stakeholders</p> <p>O.G.A3.1 – Grant extension of the ZEA I.394 subjective eligibility</p>
PILLAR E	<p>O.E.A1.1 – Restoration of the natural expansion capacity of the river</p> <p>O.E.A2.1 – Sustainable management of the floodplain areas and control</p> <p>O.E.A3.1 – Reactivate natural management of sediments</p>

	<p>O.E.A3.2 – Counteract retreat of the river mouth and coastline</p> <p>O.E.A4.1 – Verify progress of individual actions, with a specific view to measure potential significant and negative environmental impacts;</p> <p>O.E.A4.2 – Standardize the set of project’s indicators, in compliance with EU best practices;</p> <p>O.E.A4.3 – Actively involve local stakeholders in the monitoring actions;</p>
PILLAR D	<p>O.D.A1.1 – Training protocol for the ‘Food Districts’</p> <p>O.D.A2.1 – Optimize and provide interoperability for the existing cycling infrastructure “Ciclovia Valle dell’Ofanto”;</p> <p>O.D.A2.2 – Design, contract and build new cycling infrastructure, expanding the existing assets;</p> <p>O.D.A3.1 – Field assessment of financial sustainability of new revenue streams and long-term investments</p> <p>O.D.A4.1 – Achieve a perception of the Ofanto Valley as a unitary system</p>

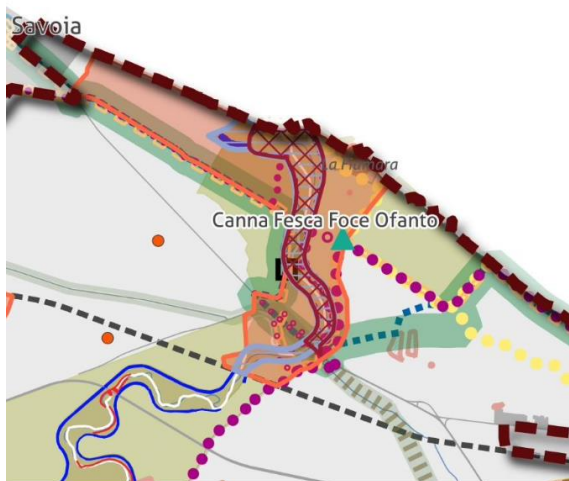
This Agreement commits its subscribers - who adhere to it on a voluntary basis - to achieve the above objectives, each for their own competences and responsibilities.

Art.2 – Territorial scope of intervention

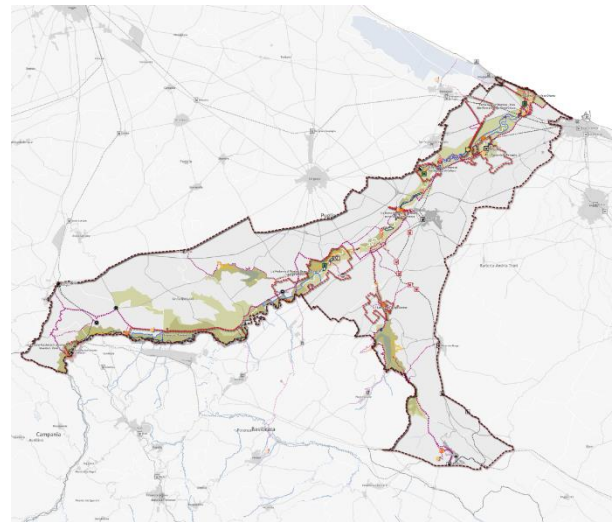
Territorial targets of the action plan are:

- the Mouth of the River Ofanto, as highlighted in the map below (Fig.1);
- the Valley of the River Ofanto, whereas explicitly requested by subscribers (Fig. 2);

1. Target Area 1: Mouth of the River



2. Target Area 1: Full Valley of the River



Art. 3 – Methodology

The subscribers share the principle that only through a synergic and strong action of all the stakeholders, both public and private, the trend towards territorial/environmental degradation of wetland systems can be reversed and the objectives of their sustainable development adequately pursued.

To this end, the subscribers undertake, in compliance with the competences of each one, to operate within a framework of strong enhancement of the principle of subsidiarity by activating all the partnership tools useful for the full achievement of the shared objectives.

The Wetland Contract implementation foresees the development of a multistage process, as follows:

1. Definition of a structured and integrated knowledge base, shared and updatable, on the state of the target area (strengths / weaknesses from the environmental and socio-economic point of view) and the risks / opportunities connected to it, as well as the framework of the programmatic tools (existing plans, programs, projects);
2. Establishment of the governance structure that has the task of coordinating the Wetland Contract process and - if necessary - sharing the main common objectives signing a Memorandum of Understanding by local key stakeholders;
3. Identification – through the organization of several Territorial Labs (participative planning workshops) – of concerted future scenario, a strategic vision to be adopted, capable of coordinating various planning tools and adopting the principles of sustainable development,
4. Development of an Action Plan that establishes the priority actions, the roles and the methods for implementing the strategy and a plan to monitor its actual implementation;
5. Signature of the Wetland Contract as a formal commitment document to carry out the actions developed and shared in the participated path;
6. Realization of the activities foreseen in the Action Plan;
7. Monitoring of the activities and the effectiveness of the Wetland Contract process.

Art.4 – Management of the Wetland Contract implementation

The governance structure of the Wetland Contract is composed by three management bodies:

- **Basin Assembly:** is the body of public participation extended to the entire Community of the territory under the competence of the wetland system, in which all public and private subjects can participate. It has the task of contributing to the construction of knowledge, the identification of problems, the definition of possible solutions and the approval of choices. It can meet in plenary session or in the form of thematic and/or territorial tables according to the specific needs of the process. Participation is extended to all subscribers.
- **Management Board:** is the institutional body made up of public entities adhering to the Wetland Contract. This body undertakes to direct, instruct and validate the work of the Basin Assembly and the Technical Secretariat. It has the task of supervising the decision-making process as well as of promoting the diffusion of the initiative in the territory, identifying, and informing the interested parties, guaranteeing the communication and transfer of information between the actors of the process,

promoting and organize the project activities. Management board is coordinated by PTNBO and Province of Barletta-Andria-Trani.

- Technical Secretariat: is the operating body supporting the Management Board and the Basin Assembly. It has the task of carrying out all the technical steps for the construction of the cognitive, evaluation and decision-making framework, including the collection of data and information, the development of plans and projects, the adoption of diagnostic tools, the technical analysis processing and evaluations, drafting of project documents (including the Action Plan). It also has the task of designing and conducting the facilitation in the Basin Assembly and the Territorial Labs. It performs the role of technical project secretariat, managing the timing and general organization of the process, as well as managing communication activities. It plays a role of scientific setting of the works and validation of the results. Due to the articulation of the issues affecting the wetland systems, this body should be made up of technical experts of different disciplinary backgrounds, with proven experience in matters of importance for the specific context of reference. Technical Secretariat is performed by PTNBO.

Art. 5 – General obligation of the subscribers

Under this Agreement, the subscribers undertake:

- to pursue with commitment and synergy all the regulation already foreseen by European, national and regional regulations aiming at pursuing the environmental quality objectives for the Ofanto River;
- to act on the basis of the objectives contained in art. 1 of this Agreement;
- to immediately implement the Action Plan, contributing to its revision where necessary;
- to integrate strategies and objectives of the Wetland Contract, as well as the interventions and actions foreseen by the Action Plan in sector/territorial planning according to specific competences and operating tools;

Within the actions foreseen by this contract, and adding to the general obligations specified above, a number of signing entities have expressed their interest accompanied by a **profiled competence**, i.e. a predefined set of skills and tasks that applies to one or more actions of the program. These profiled competences will serve as a basis for the project financing phase and help build consistent proposals.

Entities who have signed the contract without expressing a “profiled competence” will be able to do so in the project financing phase, or by direct request to the Managing Board of the Contract (*see Art. 4*).

ENTITY	PROFILED COMPETENCE	ACTIONS INVOLVED
A.S.D. Barletta Sportiva	Promotion of the slow road network over-bank, in the park and along the route of the "Via dell'Ofanto", through the organization of events and initiatives with the involvement of local communities.	<i>Pillar D – Action 2</i> <i>Pillar D – Action 4</i>
Autorità di Bacino Distrettuale dell'Appennino Meridionale	Competence upon the evolution and dynamics of sediment accumulations within the valleys.	<i>Pillar E – Action 1</i> <i>Pillar E – Action 2</i> <i>Pillar E – Action 3</i>
Comune di Barletta	Social fallout, civic society involvement and participated surveillance.	<i>Pillar D – Action 4</i> <i>Pillar E – Action 4</i>
Comune di Margherita di Savoia	Social fallout, civic society involvement and participated surveillance.	<i>Pillar D – Action 4</i> <i>Pillar E – Action 4</i>
Autorità Idraulica Regione Puglia	Piloting of concession regimes in floodplain areas for agricultural uses.	<i>Pillar E – Action 2</i>
Commissario Straordinario	Transferability of the maintenance of embankments	<i>Pillar D – Action 3</i> <i>Pillar E – Action 2</i>

	with hybrid supra-embankment tracks (cycle-pedestrian).	
A.P.S. Casa di Ramsar	Sharing of information databases on river habitats held by individual subscribers, as well as habitat monitoring activities.	<i>Pillar E – Action 4</i> <i>Pillar G – Action 1</i> <i>Pillar G – Action 2</i>
Centro Studi Naturalistici Onlus	Sharing of information databases on river habitats held by individual subscribers, as well as habitat monitoring activities.	<i>Pillar E – Action 4</i> <i>Pillar G – Action 1</i> <i>Pillar G – Action 2</i>
IRSA CNR	Micro-plastics monitoring.	<i>Pillar E – Action 4</i>
Provincia di Barletta Andria Trani	Maintenance activities on the super-arginal road and wet areas.	<i>Pillar E – Action 1</i> <i>Pillar E – Action 2</i> <i>Pillar E – Action 3</i>
ARIF Regione Puglia	Maintenance activities on the super-arginal road and wet areas.	<i>Pillar E – Action 1</i> <i>Pillar E – Action 2</i> <i>Pillar E – Action 3</i>
Regione Puglia Ufficio Parchi	Competence on the habitat colonization processes and dynamics.	<i>Pillar E – Action 1</i> <i>Pillar E – Action 2</i> <i>Pillar E – Action 3</i>

Art. 6 – Action Plan

The subscribers of this Agreement undertake to develop the following activities included in the attached Action Plan:

PILLAR	ACTION	
G	G1	Coordination of Existing Plans, Programmes and Projects
	G2	Ofanto Cluster Data Hub
	G3	Advocacy for ZEA I.394 extension
E	E1	River Restoration – SUB.1 Remodeling of the alluvial plain near the mouth
	E2	River Restoration – SUB.2 Cleaning of floodplain areas in park and river mouth
	E3	River Restoration – SUB.3 Construction of islands connected to the riverbed
	E4	Participated Monitoring
D	D1	Integrated Territorial Investments – SUB.1 Food District Training

D2	Integrated Territorial Investments – SUB.2 Cycling Network
D3	Integrated Territorial Investments – SUB.3 Pilot for the Renewable Energy
D4	Re-branding of the “Ofanto Cluster”

Each of the aforementioned actions is further described in the Action Plan attached and might be subject to coordinated modification by the subscribers.

Art. 7 – Role of the actors responsible for the implementation of the Action Plan

Among the subscribers, the parties responsible for the implementation of the Action Plan are those responsible for the effective realisation of each specific action as required by the Action Plan itself.

The Management Board, having acknowledged of the Action Plan and of the actors identified by it, acts as guarantor of the roles assumed.

The subscribers of this Agreement undertake to assume their respective roles, as defined in the attached Action Plan, and to contribute to the realisation of the actions for the parts of their competence.

Art. 8 – Resources

This Wetland Contract represents an instrument that makes up the interests of a territory in compliance with specific expertise, providing a strategic vision to the ordinary policies of each of the actors involved. It also represents the tool through which to integrate and orient resources and the economic planning of the territory.

In this sense, participation in the Wetland Contract commits all subscribers to achieve the shared objectives referred to in art. 1, each with their own competences, responsibilities and resources.

The subscribers commit to take an active part - with the support of the Technical Secretariat - in identifying and accessing the most suitable sources of funding to fund the specific actions.

They also undertake to integrate the interventions of the Action Plan within their multi-year planning tools in order to identify, where possible, ad hoc financial resources to be allocated in the future to the planned interventions.

These commitments represent the first financial nucleus towards which other resources otherwise identified can catalyze in the future.

In the case of intangible actions that involve the use of only human resources, the underwriters ensure the availability of human resources within their structures to the extent and within the timeframe to be defined specifically.

Art.9 – Deadlines/timing

The subscribers of this Agreement undertake to respect the deadlines set in the attached Action Plan. The deadlines/timing may be modified in relation to the updates and revisions that the Action Plan may undergo in accordance with the provisions of the following art. 11. Timeline expressed in months are to be intended as starting from the last subscription of the contract.

Action	Start	End
G.A.1	Month 1	Month 4
G. A.2	Month 3	Month 15
G. A.3	Month 1	Month 6
E. A.1	Month 18	Month 36
E. A.2	Month 12	Month 36
E. A.3	Month 18	Month 36
E.A.4	Month 24	Month 36
D. A.1	Month 12	Month 16
D. A.2	Month 18	Month 36
D. A.3	Month 1	Month 6
D. A.4	Month 1	Month 36

Art. 10 – Tools and implementation methods

The actions envisaged in the Action Plan and those that will be subsequently defined and agreed in future updates can be carried out, when deemed necessary, also through the activation of specific implementation tools envisaged by current legislation, including program agreements for the execution of works of particular relevance.

The contents of these implementation tools must acknowledge the Wetland Contract and in particular the adequacy of the intervention with respect to the general and detailed objectives of this process.

Art. 11 – Monitoring and updating

The Action Plan is a dynamic plan and can be updated and integrated periodically in the subsequent stages of the Wetland Contract implementation. In fact, the Management Board can review the Action Plan and this Agreement on the basis of the monitoring activities. Any changes to the Agreement and / or Action Plan are authorized by the Management Board which will bring them to the attention of the Basin Forum when it considers to represent substantial changes to these documents.

The Technical Secretariat monitors the implementation of the Wetland Contract and provides to the Management Board information on the progress and effectiveness of the process with respect the achievement of the objectives agreed. Periodic reports (at least one a year) on the progress of the actions will be drafted by the Technical Secretariat, and if necessary, it will prepare specific reports.

Art. 12 – Procedures of new adhesion of public and private subscribers

This Contract is open to the new public, private and Non-profit Organizations subscribers, upon written request to the Patto Territoriale del Nord Barese Ofantino, at ptnbo.interreg@gmail.com

The Management Board evaluates the membership proposals specifying the contribution of each subject with reference to the activities envisaged by the Action Plan.

Art. 13 – Non-fulfilment and revocation

Failure to implement, verify and monitor the Action Plan envisaged by art. 6 due to a fact attributable to the implementing parties gives rise to non-fulfilment. In the above hypothesis, the person in charge of the Agreement denounces the nature of the default by analytical registered letter and, due to its seriousness, assigns a suitable term for late compliance, if this is still useful.

In case of further non-compliance or failure to adapt to any indications of the responsible person, the Agreement manager activates the procedures for the withdrawal of the loan due to the ownership of the funds.

Art. 14 – Withdrawal

The subscribers can withdraw, with a motivated measure approved by the competent body.

The Management Board acknowledges the withdrawal, making sure that the conditions indicated above are respected.

ANNEXES:

- Action Plan
- KPI
- Financial Summary

Date 1.8.2021

Read and signed

Subscribers