



# Outcome Theme 1: Restoration of degraded habitats

**Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process**





## The discussions, background

### Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process

- How can we achieve restoration with a fragmented ownership, many small-scale private properties?
- How can we disseminate best-practices in restoration?



## Important discussions, observations

### Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process

#### I. Addressing property issues:

- Renting or buying properties (eventually using the money obtained from fees from tourists).
- Buying land inside Natura 2000 areas allows for its effective protection.
- Renting may not be a long-term solution, because continuity is not assured after the renting period ends.
- Expropriate.
- Through the establishment of micro-reserves.
- Voluntary agreements usually don't work within the Macaronesian society.





## Next steps: what is required, plans

### Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process

#### II. Community involvement:

- Small non-productive plots with high biodiversity and ecological values can be used for nature conservation as part of FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) sustainable forestry certification, thus benefiting the property owners.
- Implementing actions carried out by volunteers, in private areas and at no cost for the owner, to enhance local biodiversity.
- Promoting voluntary work in exchange for tax benefits—immediate benefits, obtained automatically and in a clearly visible way.
- Organizing training camps with all stakeholders: scientific specialists, practitioners, technicians from the local government, land owners, etc.
- Engage all stakeholders; involve owners and local people from the beginning, and show them how they will benefit from restoration actions.



# Title

## Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process

### III. Communication:

- Communicate effectively—communication is paramount for gaining local people’s confidence, therefore it should be made from inside the community and from the beginning, making local people feel part of the process.
- Hire professionals to communicate.
- Actively promote ecological restoration actions on social media, using short videos.
- Work with schools to enhance public awareness
- Promote networking among all professionals involved in ecological restoration, in particular, promoting links between researchers and practitioners.

Engage new stakeholders in the process, like NGO and Zoos, who can contribute with knowledge and previous experience.