

# 3<sup>rd</sup> MEDITERRANEAN NATURA 2000 SEMINAR

Regione Calabria & Sila National Park - Italy, 4-7 May 2021



**REGIONE CALABRIA**



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## 1. Defining and coordinating a Natura 2000 restoration agenda in the Mediterranean region

### CONCLUSION

- Good examples of restoration actions, participants mentioned that quantified goals and monitoring of results should be defined when preparing the restoration measures.
- Active involvement of local communities and the general public is important for long-term success of restoration.
- Networking greatly helps keeping a good flow of information between Member States.
- Within and between countries the communication between science, conservation practice and the administration is limited and therefore needs to improve (science-policy-practice interface).



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## 2. Defining conservation objectives at site level and monitoring impact of measures

### CONCLUSION

- High number of habitats and species for which site level objectives need to be set.
- Lack of knowledge and insufficient data are often major bottlenecks to setting objectives at site level.
- Therefore, setting of common standards on these parameters is needed to allow for comparisons at regional, national and biogeographic levels.
- Lack of resources to implement monitoring is an obstacle to the monitoring the impact of measures



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## 3. Addressing land abandonment in the Mediterranean region.

### CONCLUSION

- Key policy tools to curb this process include the improvement of farming conditions and the provision of support to rural communities.
- Land abandonment also provides opportunities for ecological restoration and increased ecosystem services (carbon storage, increased resilience towards climate change, protection of aquifers, water catchments, etc.)
- Abandoned land management plans that share out abandoned land into areas with opportunities for rewilding and areas
- Better integration of land abandonment into rural development policies and the biodiversity policy agenda would help address the threats and meet the opportunities it creates for Natura 2000.



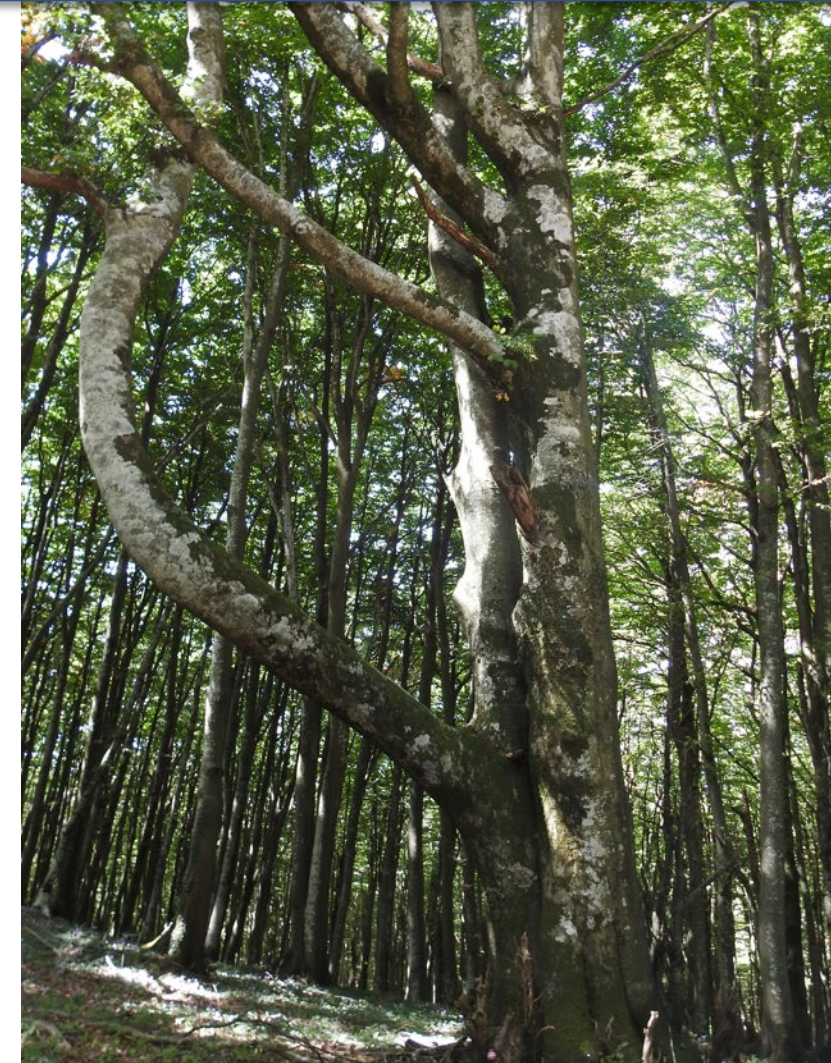
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## 4. Building capacity for Natura 2000 management

### CONCLUSION

- Communication and collaboration skills are of particular importance.
- The best ways to improve competencies are exchange and field visits, internet-exchange platforms, and training events targeting multiple audiences (e.g. students, politicians).
- Intersectoral networks or communities enable people to learn from other sectors and develop increased abilities.
- A capacity building program that addresses both national and regional needs, and action to harmonize and standardize approaches on protocols at regional level (e.g. protected area planning, monitoring).
- To embed capacity building in the work of institutions so that long term strategies and funding are in place, and staff can continuously improve their competencies over time.
- One-off capacity building projects test and collect best practice and new approaches as well as develop programmer specific to Natura 2000.



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