



**IMPACT**  
Interreg Europe



European Union  
European Regional  
Development Fund

**IMPACT Project**  
***Innovative Models for Protected Areas:  
exChange and Transfer***

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# ISSUE ADDRESSED

- IMPACT will focus on the exchange of experience in innovative management models between regional authorities, protected areas management bodies and relevant stakeholders.
- The aim is to introduce lessons learnt into new management and exploitation strategies that balance measures of preservation with sustainable exploitation of protected areas assets.
- To that end, the approach for developing action plans will be integrated and will tackle different fields of action such as sustainable tourism in protected areas, Natura 2000 management, green infrastructure, awareness raising about biodiversity preservation and capacity building of staff and stakeholders.

# OBJECTIVES

➤ **IMPACT project overall objective** is to introduce lessons learnt from the interregional exchange of experience process into new management and exploitation strategies that balance measures of preservation with sustainable exploitation of protected areas assets.



# OBJECTIVES

## The sub-objectives:

To minimise threats and key pressures on protected areas and ecosystem services

To preserve biodiversity, particularly in Natura 2000 sites

To promote the strategic importance of areas of natural attraction, in terms of natural and cultural heritage and development potential

To achieve better results in protected areas management and contribute to increase sustainable tourism flows, particularly low/medium season tourism, and therefore, create new employment opportunities

To support capacity building of partners' staff and stakeholders groups (in terms of knowledge/skills/expertise)

To promote innovation in environmental tools/strategies to raise awareness among population, stakeholders and policy makers and involve them in preserving and developing natural heritage of protected areas

# PARTNERSHIP AND DURATION

## P1 (LEAD PARTNER):

*Ministry of Environment  
and Spatial Planning of  
Andalucia, Regional  
Government of  
Andalucia (SPAIN)*

*P2: EUROPARC  
Federation (GERMANY)*

*P3: EUCC BALTIC  
OFFICE (LITHUANIA)*

*P4: Molise Region  
(ITALY)*

*P5: National Institute for  
Research and  
Development in  
Tourism, Bucharest  
(INCDT) (ROMANIA)*

*P6: Espaces naturels  
régionaux (ENRx)  
(FRANCE)*

**4 years (April 2016 – March 2020)**

*Phase 1: 01/04/2016 – 31/03/2018*

*Phase 2: 01/04/2018 – 31/03/2020*

# PROJECT APPROACH

**Partners will organise and coordinate the exchange of experience and learning process with an integrated approach focused on:**

- ✓ Having a better understanding of patterns followed by Protected Areas in partners' regions.
- ✓ Having a clear picture of European Protected Areas and their development potential.
- ✓ Identifying their distinctive territorial capital assets, particularly, the intangible factors, and the opportunities to change policies through interregional learning.
- ✓ Transforming these potential and opportunities into growth, income and green jobs.

## PHASE 1

*(Focus on the interregional learning process)*

➤ ***WP1: Analysis and exchange of experiences. Preparation of action plans***

*Objective:* Exchange of experiences and good practice related to sustainable development in protected areas to prepare the integration of lessons learnt in action plans.

➤ ***WP2: Awareness raising and communication***

*Objective:* Participation of all relevant regional stakeholders and players and adequate visibility to the project activities.

➤ ***WP3: Management and coordination***

*Objective:* To lead and manage effectively resources, skills and knowledge.

## PHASE 2

*(Monitoring of the action plan implementation)*

### ***WP1: Action Plan implementation followup***

**Objective:** To check the extent to which action plans are implemented on the ground and also to evaluate the results

### ***WP2: Communication and dissemination***

**Objective:** Participation of relevant regional stakeholders, policy makers and experts to disseminate the results of action plans to a large audience.

### ***WP3: Management and coordination***

**Objective:** To lead and manage effectively resources, skills and knowledge in the implementation of action plans and dissemination of project results.



# What will this project change?

**IMPACT expected results and changes are, among others:**

- ✓ **improving spatial and management tools for Natura 2000 sites**
- ✓ **increasing competences of different target groups**
- ✓ **raising awareness about natural assets (risks and potential)**
- ✓ **increasing tourism flows in low and medium season**
- ✓ **involving young people in biodiversity preservation**



# IMPACT

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## Thank you!

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