



LIFE Integrated Project GESTIRE 2020: An Important Test for Integrated Funding of Natura 2000

Claudio Celada

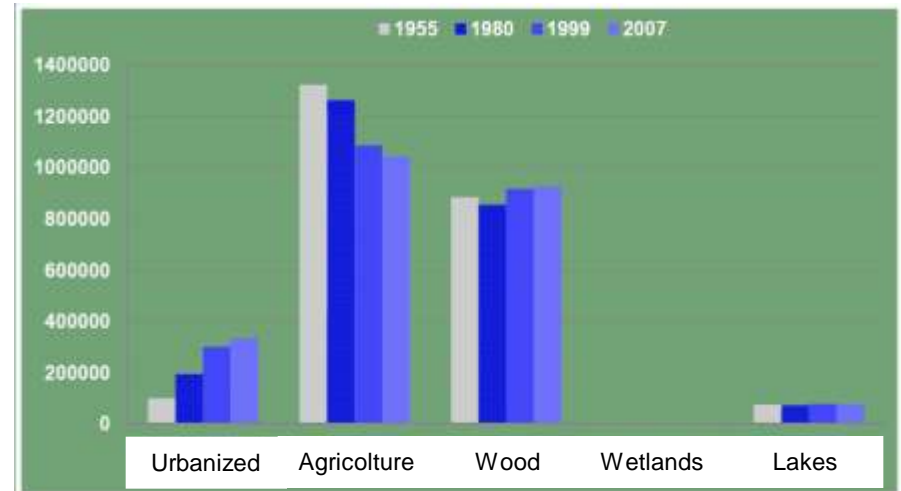
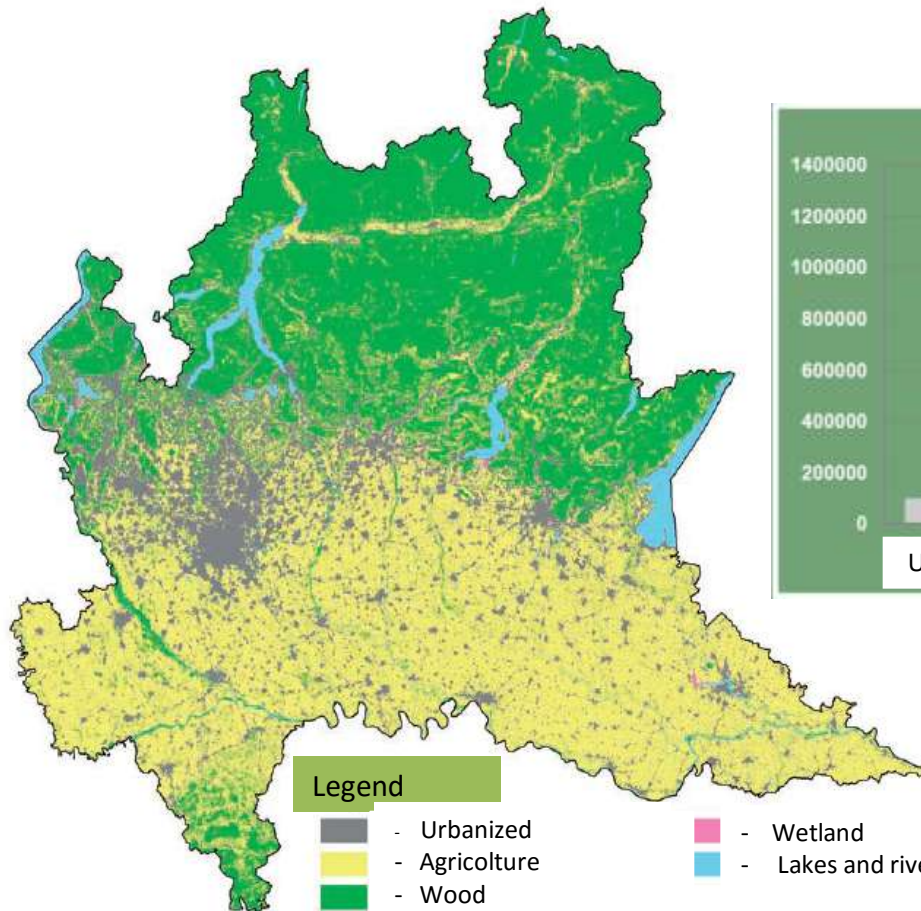
Lipu – BirdLife Italy



**Nature Integrated
Management to 2020
LIFE IP GESTIRE 2020**



Land use in Lombardy Region



Lombardy: from ricefields to alpine peaks

Altitude m 0-4021 slm

Area Km² 23.862



25% of regional
territory
is protected

Switzerland Km² 41.000

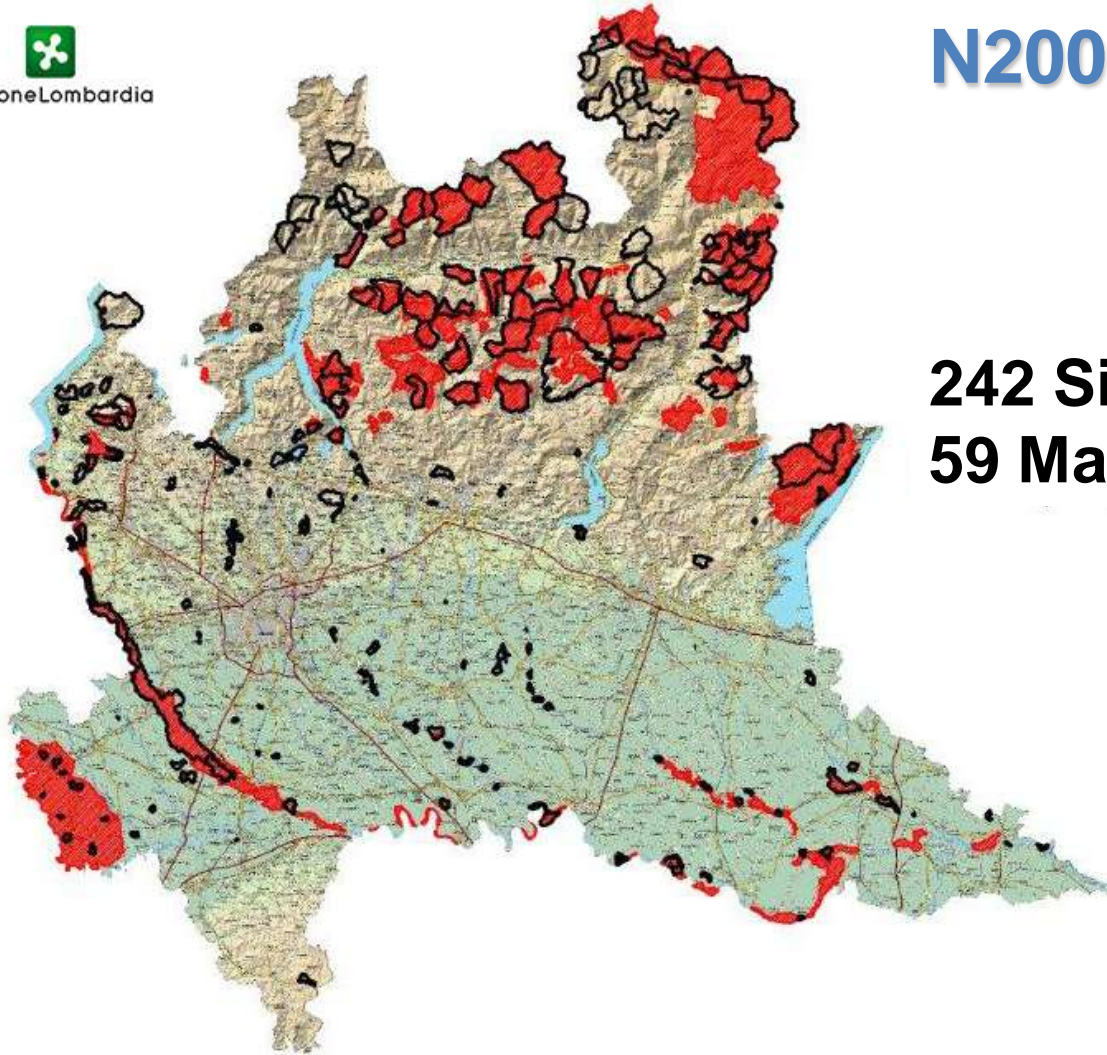


Nature Integrated
Management to 2020
LIFE IP GESTIRE 2020





Regione Lombardia



N2000 in Lombardy:

242 Sites

59 Management bodies



**Nature Integrated
Management to 2020
LIFE IP GESTIRE 2020**



Natura 2000 in Lombardy: 15 priority habitats

7% of *Nardus* grasslands (6230 priority habitat) present in the Alpine biogeographical region



Nature Integrated
Management to 2020
LIFE IP GESTIRE 2020





10% of Europe's night herons breeding pairs

Natura 2000 in Lombardy:
61 species in Annex II of
Habitats Directive
87 species in Annex I of Birds
Directive



Nature Integrated
Management to 2020
LIFE IP GESTIRE 2020



From LIFE GESTIRE to LIFE GESTIRE 2020 (GESTIRE = to manage)

LIFE GESTIRE project has identified needs and problems that require solutions in management of N2000 network (**PAF**):

- The critical elements in the management of N2000
- The potential/positive aspects to develop in an integrated perspective with various regional policies.
- Monitoring plan**
- Financial plan**



Regione Lombardia have decided to follow up LIFE GESTIRE with the new **IP GESTIRE2020**, implementing an **integrated, unitary, coordinated and participated management strategy**, in order to ensure the achievement of conservation objectives set out in the Habitats and Birds Directives.



Nature Integrated
Management to 2020
LIFE IP GESTIRE 2020



Financial Plan: key findings

- Three scenarios: BAS, intermeidate, optimistic
- Estimated costs period 2014-2020 in ML €:194-244-248
- Budget available based on 2007-2013: € 68-89-109
- Gap: € 125-155-139
- Cost/ha: € 83-104.7-106.2

Key drivers:

- 1) Life IP gets green light
- 2) Capacity building of mgmt bodies on fundraising
- 3) Regional funds from different divisions (political will)



Nature Integrated
Management to 2020
LIFE IP GESTIRE 2020



LIFE Integrated Project GESTIRE 2020

Coordinating beneficiary :

REGIONE LOMBARDIA

Partners: CORPO FORESTALE DELLO STATO,
ERSAF, FONDAZIONE LOMBARDIA AMBIENTE,
LIPU, WWF,
COMUNITÁ AMBIENTE Srl

Co-financer : Fondazione CARIPOLO

Period:

January 2016 – December 2023

IP GESTIRE 2020 BUDGET

Total:

€ 17.345.496

LIFE contribution (European commission):

€ 10.004.210 (58 % budget)

+ Complementary funds



Nature Integrated
Management to 2020
LIFE IP GESTIRE 2020

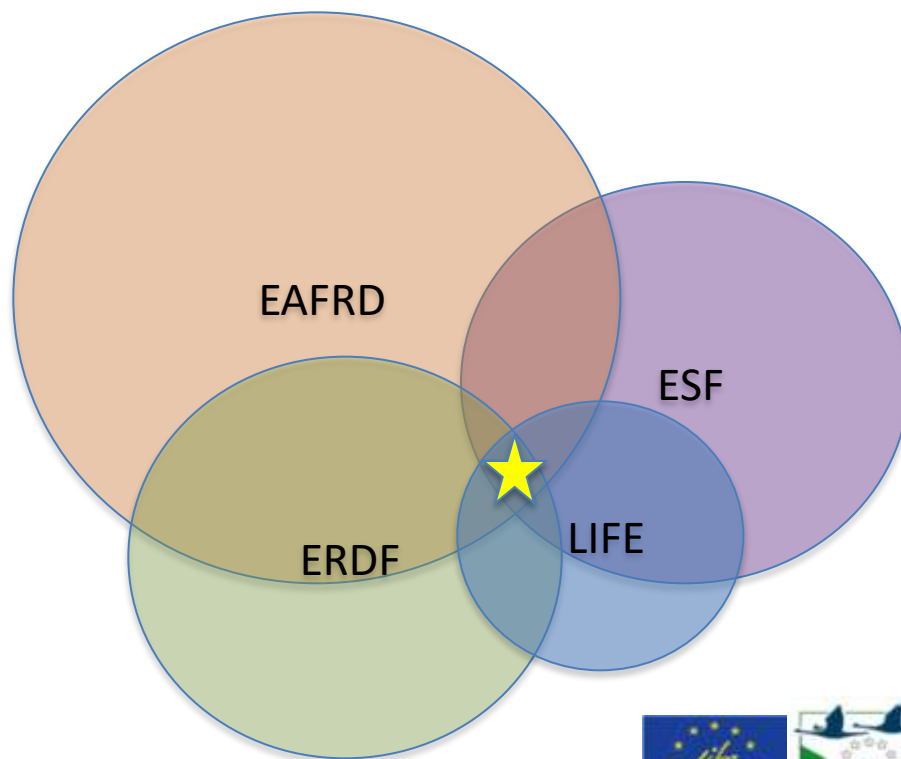


LIFE INTEGRATED PROJECTS

Call 2014: 6 project have a total budget of € 108.7 million, including € 63.8 million of EU co-financing (3 Nature)

INNOVATION:

- **Long timeframe**
- **Large territorial scale**
- **Implementing environmental plans or strategies** required by specific Union environmental legislation, developed pursuant to other Union acts or developed by States' authorities, primarily in the areas of nature
- **Integration** of funds and policies to achieve the objectives



Nature Integrated
Management to 2020
LIFE IP GESTIRE 2020



Complementary funds: three regional divisions involved

-**ESF** (Division Instruction) – strenghtening technical expertise in N2000 management (**€ 500.000**)



-**RDPs** (Division Agriculture) – measures for conservation of habitats, species and for ecological connectivity projects (**€ 75.211.000**)



-**Art.43 LR 12/05** (Region Lombardy - green areas funds) – for conservation of habitats and for ecological connectivity projects (**€3.100.000**)



-**Fondazione CARIPLO** – Ecological connectivity and Capacity building (**€5.800.000**)



€ 83.211.000



Nature Integrated
Management to 2020
LIFE IP GESTIRE 2020





With **GESTIRE 2020 Regione Lombardia** is committed to :

- Ensuring a **more participated and coordinated management** of N2000 at different levels;
- Ensuring greater **integration with other regional policies** in the management of N2000 also through **education and training** for all persons dealing with N2000 (governance and capacity building);

AND SPECIFICALLY

- Implementing **concrete actions aimed at improving or maintaining conservation status of habitats and species;**
- Implement PAF



Nature Integrated
Management to 2020
LIFE IP GESTIRE 2020



With **GESTIRE 2020 Regione Lombardia** is committed to :

- Addressing the threat posed by the presence of **invasive and/or non native species**;
- **Informing and disseminating** issues related to biodiversity and to the meaning of N2000;
- Ensuring **targeted surveillance** of threats resulting from human activities and interferences;
- Reducing the risk of isolation of the sites, through the **implementation of the regional ecological network**;
- **monitoring** of the conservation status of habitats and species



Nature Integrated
Management to 2020
LIFE IP GESTIRE 2020



Actions for waterbird conservation

Lombardy is characterized by an important system of wetlands (including heronries), and rivers, in part protected within Natura 2000, which host important populations of species protected in Annex I of the BD.

This system requires ad hoc management intervention in order to maintain/restore a favourable conservation status of the target species at the regional level.



**Nature Integrated
Management to 2020
LIFE IP GESTIRE 2020**



Action C16 – Wetlands and birds

The action will carry out concrete interventions for conservation of wintering and breeding sites for wetland birds:

- Management of reedbeds
- Restoration and improvement in management of ponds and canals
- Removal of invasive macrophytes



Nature Integrated
Management to 2020
LIFE IP GESTIRE 2020



Action C15 – Herons in the Po Plain

The action will carry out concrete interventions for conservation and improvement of heronries:

- Improvement of vegetation structure in the colonies.
- Creating foraging sites, through flooding of areas and rehabilitation of water sources;



Nature Integrated
Management to 2020
LIFE IP GESTIRE 2020



Action C15/C16: which dark green funds are available in relation to Life objectives?

LIFE FUNDS: 159.000 €

COMPLEMENTARY FUNDS:

Fund type	Measure/action
FSE	Capacity Building for public administration (training)
Cariplo foundation Green areas regional funds	Improving ecological connectivity (habitat restoration) Habitat restoration
RDPs	4.4: Investments aimed at better management of water resources and conservation of biodiversity
	10.1.1: Integrated farming
	10.1.2: Rotation
	10.1.3: Conservation of biodiversity in rice fields
	10.1.4: Conservative agriculture
	10.1.8: Peatland protection and conservation of reeds, sedges, molinia
	11: Organic farming
	12: Natura 2000 payment



Nature Integrated
Management to 2020
LIFE IP GESTIRE 2020



How much complementary funds are targeted to Nature?

RDP: 6.5% of total RDP budget for Lombardy	75.711.000
Measure 1 Knowledge transfer and information actions	700.000
Measure 2 Services for farm management	550.000
Measure 4 Investments in tangible assets	225.000
Measure 6 Farm and business development	900.000
Measure 7 Basic services and village renewal in rural areas	90.000
Measure 8 Investments in forest area	723.000
Measure 10 Agri-environment-climate measures	39.340.000
Measure 11 Organic farming	2.380.000
Measure 12 Natura 2000 payments	3.300.000
Measure 13 Payments for natural constraints or other specific constraints	23.400.000
Measure 16 Cooperation	1.525.000
Measure 19 Technical support	2.078.000
Other funds:	
L.r. 12/2005 GREEN AREAS FUNDS	3.100.000
FSE Axis IV Capacity Building for P.A.	500.000
Private funds: Cariplo foundation	4.400.000



**Nature Integrated
Management to 2020
LIFE IP GESTIRE 2020**



A closer look on Rural Development Plan

At the regional level:

- Measure 4.4 (hedgerows, pools, wetlands) **€ 225.000**
- Measure 10 Agri-env-climate:
 - **€ 54 MLs** for rice fields, < **€ 1.8 MLs** for habitat creation/ mgmt.
 - Integrated F.+conservative F.+rotation = **€ 168.5 MLs**
 - Measure 12: N2K payments **€ 3.3 MLs**
- Funds managed by 3 regional divisions.



Nature Integrated
Management to 2020
LIFE IP GESTIRE 2020



Conclusions

- **Life project of critical importance to fill the gap.**
- **Cooperation between Agri Division and Env. Division at the Regional level is crucial to use RDP measures at their best. Co-planning from the beginning.**
- **Habitat restoration and management with RDPs has substantial limitations (at least for our example=wetlands and heronries). But there are success stories of using these funds.**
- **Targeted funds (public and private) that are necessary for habitat restoration/management and species conservation are key to success.**
- **Implementation of N2K requires adequate training of mgmt bodies.**



**Nature Integrated
Management to 2020
LIFE IP GESTIRE 2020**



Thank you

www.naturachevale.it

Claudio.celada@lipu.it



**Nature Integrated
Management to 2020
LIFE IP GESTIRE 2020**

