

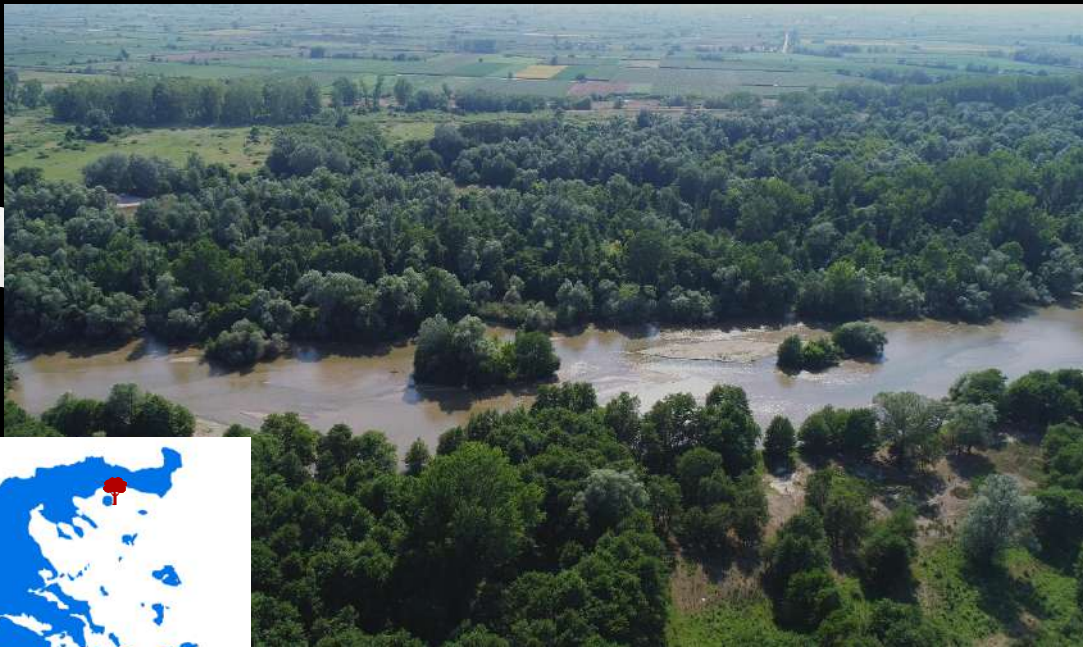


LIFE PRIMED (LIFE17NAT/GR/000511) - Restoration, management and valorisation of PRiority habitats of MEDiterranean coastal areas

#2 NATURA 2000 SITES

Delta of Nestos River, Eastern Makedonia, Greece (SAC GR1150010)

Bosco di Palo Laziale, Rome, Lazio, Italy (SAC IT6030022)



Project funded with the
contribution of the European
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CHALLENGES

Delta of Nestos River, Eastern Makedonia, Greece (SAC GR1150010)

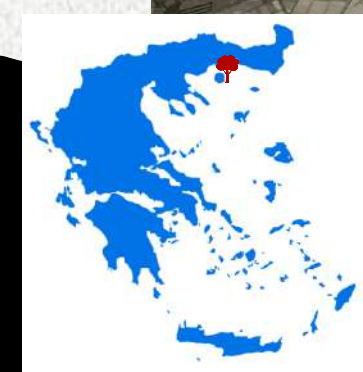


From 12,000 ha in 1920 reduced to 1,700 ha

Bosco di Palo Laziale, Rome, Lazio, Italy (SAC IT6030022)

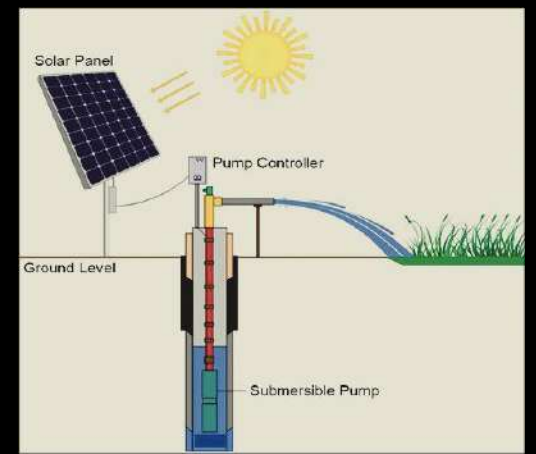


From 120,000 ha in 1920 reduced to 5,200 ha



Today:

- **Climate change** (droughts, floods, heat waves)
- **Inadequate forest and water management** (invasive species, shrub encroachment, fires, fungal infections, tree mortality)



Solar-Powered Well-Point System with Automated Micro-Nebulisers to secure topsoil moisture for standing freshwater habitats

A



B



C



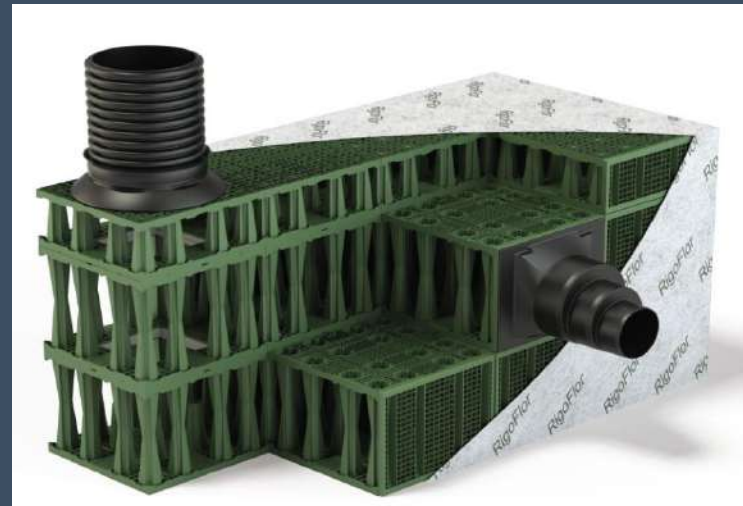
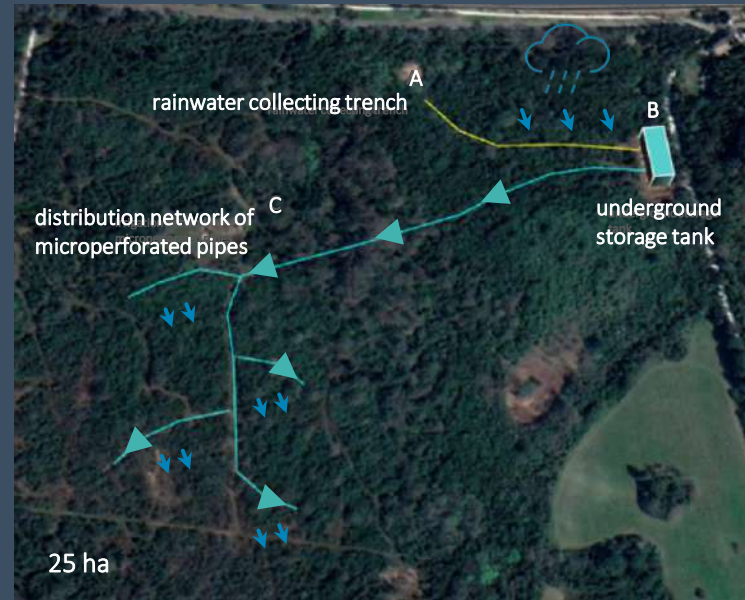
Shading-Based Suppression

Plantation-Driven Light Competition

Controlled Grazing

to control the spread of invasive species (*A. fruticosa*)

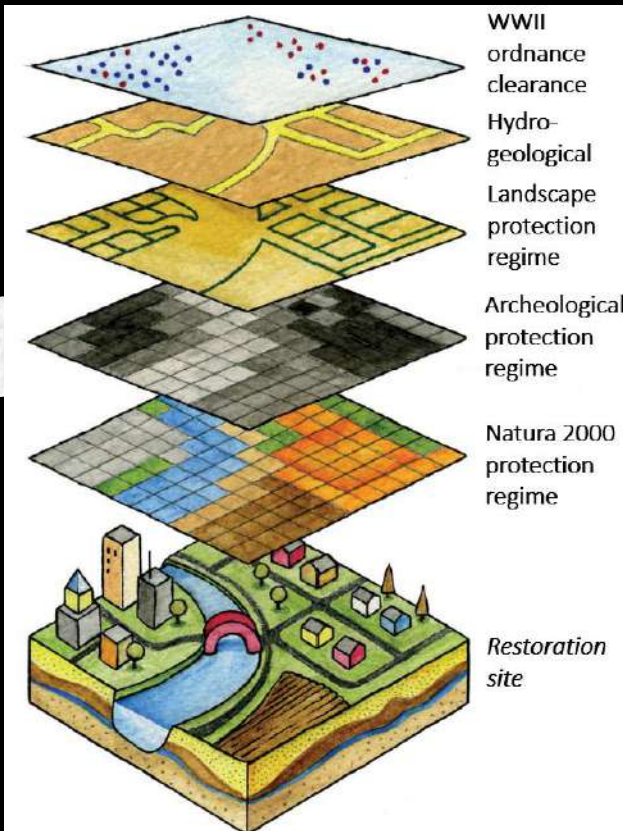
Bosco di Palo Laziale, Rome, Lazio, Italy (SAC IT6030022)



Carbon-Neutral Rainwater Management System to reverse water deficit stress in forest habitats

Natural, landscape, and cultural heritage are essential values in the Mediterranean region. However, **the current authorisation process poses significant challenges and constraints for ecological restoration works.**

MAIN CONSTRAINTS



Authorisation process required **10 competent authorities**, leading to administrative burdens and significant delays.

Poor coordination and understanding among authorities result in contradictory enforcement of regulations.

Lack of prioritisation for overlapping legal frameworks (e.g., Habitats Directive vs. Archaeological Protection) create serious inconsistencies and delays in decision-making.

Need for supplementary budgets for unplanned inspections and compliance.

Gaps in qualified expertise and national procurement codes weaken the effectiveness of ecological restoration.

Increasing material and operational costs contribute to project delays and frequent adjustments.

NEED FOR GUIDANCE & STANDARDS!

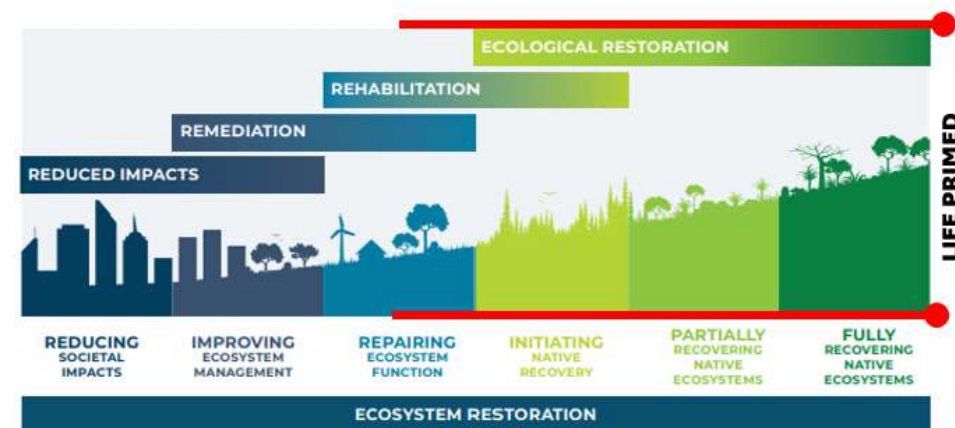


Standard-Based Ecological Restoration

RECOMMENDATION

Action	Component	Action	Component
ASSESSMENT		MONITORING AND EVALUATION	
A1	Agreements and action plan	D1	Wildlife monitoring
A2	Topographic survey	D2	Monitoring ecosystem decline and pathogens
A3	Soil analysis	D3	Monitoring of plant species in ponds
A4	Climatic and weather analysis	D4	Monitoring of wood structure and dynamics
A5	Structure and dynamics of wood ecosystems	D5	Soil monitoring
A6	Study of the Mediterranean temporary ponds (3170*)	D6	Socio-economic impact monitoring
PLANNING AND DESIGN & IMPLEMENTATION		D7	Ecosystem services impact monitoring
C1	Forestry nursery and reforestation	CROSS-CUTTING ACTIONS	
C2	Temporary ponds and habitat recovery	E1	Website
C3	Hydraulic interventions	E2	Project communication
C6	Keystone species propagation	E3	Scientific Workshops
ONGOING MANAGEMENT		E4	Information Panels
C4	Sustainable Forest Strategic Management Plan	E5	Layman's Report
C5	Water Resource Management Plan	E6	Networking with LIFE and non-LIFE projects

SER/FAO's Five Components of the Restoration Process



SER/FAO's Continuum of Ecological Recovery



KEY TAKEAWAYS



ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Model for Restoration:** Developed pioneering, transnational, interdisciplinary and standard-based restoration practices as a reference for restoring degraded and dysfunctional Mediterranean ecosystems.

BARRIERS

- **Administrative Challenges:** Exposed fragility in Mediterranean countries' bureaucratic processes for authorising and executing nature restoration actions.
 - **Complex Regulations:** Required coordination with 10 competent authorities due to overlapping protection regimes (natural, landscape, archaeological, hydrogeological).
 - **Regulatory Conflicts:** Highlighted mismatches between conservation regulations (e.g., Nature vs Archaeological Protection).

RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Streamlined Authorisation Processes:** Urgent need for harmonised, integrated frameworks to simplify approvals, minimise delays, and reduce administrative burdens.
- **Specialised Expertise:** Ensure restoration works are conducted by professionals with interdisciplinary skills in ecology, nature conservation, engineering, project planning, and implementation.
- **Clear Implementation Guidance:** Develop standardised procedures and guidelines to support the legal and operational implementation of the EU Nature Restoration Regulation (e.g., adaptation of national procurement processes to ecological restoration needs)

Barely addressed in the Nature Restoration Regulation & National Restoration Plan



BiodivRestore Knowledge Hub

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EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIP



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THANK YOU



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