



# 7° Stakeholders Meeting

*Ex Chapel “San Gaetano” - Roccamandolfi Municipality (IS)  
March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018, h.10:00*

*Minutes meeting*

Coordinators of the Event:

- **Sorrentino Fatica** – IMPACT Project Manager – AT CTE Regione Molise;
- **Giulio Conte** - External expert of the AMBIENTE ITALIA Society;
- **Claudio Di Cerbo** – Representative of ITALIA NOSTRA Onlus.

The 7th Stakeholders meeting took place at the Ex Chapel « San Gaetano » in the Municipality of Roccamandolfi (IS) and it was organized in cooperation of ITALIA NOSTRA Onlus and with the Roccamandolfi Municipality.

The works were opened with the greetings and thanks of Mr. Fatica, Project Manager of the IMPACT project, to the stakeholders present at the meeting.



Mr. Fatica begins the speech by illustrating the IMPACT project, a project of European territorial cooperation, funded under the Interreg Europe 2014-2020 Program, explaining that the project supports the preparation of sustainable development plans and the implementation of pilot actions to promote development, socio-economic activities and environmental and ecological preservation in protected areas and nature reserves.

Mr. Fatica underlines the importance of the involvement of all local stakeholders to promote the exchange of experiences that lead to propose ideas of actions that could be implemented in the frame of 2014-2020 ROP executions.

Mr. Fatica, also, presents the three tools of collaboration among stakeholders :

- the stakeholders meeting, that is a meeting among technical operators and local stakeholders as well to present project activities and to exchange opinions and ideas. The

previous Stakeholder Meetings have been held in Campobasso, Isernia, Riccia, San Pietro Avellana, Guardiaregia, Casacalenda;

- the working group, that is a smaller group compared to the previous one, that meets in order to transform ideas into products like the drafting of the Action Plan and the improvement and evaluation of the good practices identified in the Molise region and at project level as well; Mr. Fatica explains that 12 good practices were identified in Molise and the Italia Nostra Association suggested two good practices :

- Regional Reserve Callora River : environmental restoration actions and environmental education ;
- Establishment of the Regional Nature Reserve Monte Palatecchia and Lorda and Longaniello rivers ;

These good practices, will be uploaded on the INTERREG EUROPE website to be visible beyond national borders.

The study visit is the third cooperation tool among stakeholders, where the exchange and comparison takes place in the other project partner Countries.

Mr. Fatica communicates that in the planning activities concerning the drafting of the Action Plan, the Molise Region has assigned an external company, named AMBIENTE ITALIA, whose contact person is Mr. Giulio Conte, present at the event.

Mr. Fatica says that we are at a significant stage of the project, we are in the closing phase of the 1st Phase which final step is the definition of the Action Plan but in any case we'll continue to have cooperation with stakeholders in the territory, and the present event is an example of such a cooperation, considering that Molise Region is available to listen to the opinions and suggestions of the participants at the meeting in order to improve the Action Plan.



Mr. Fatica gives the floor to the **representative of ITALIA NOSTRA Onlus of Isernia, Mr. Claudio Di Cerbo**, and after initial greetings and thanks, Mr. Claudio Di Cerbo presents the specific features of Roccamandolfi village, from a naturalistic point of view and highlights how the protection of species and habitats has developed from below in the whole Matese area.

Local associations and neighboring municipalities agreed upon the significant issue of protection of respective natural small areas and starting from that cooperation two regional nature reserves have been realized.

In the 2003 the Callora River, was included in regional nature reserves ; a beautiful gorge of a stream that had suffered aggression with the construction of a ring road.

The ITALIA NOSTRA Association and the citizens have tried to protect it, above all for its geomorphological peculiarities. The reserve is only 50 hectares and at the beginning, says Mr. Di Cerbo, the site was very popular with school groups, scout groups and young people and also it is considered of great interest for those who practice canyoning.

Afterwards there was a stop waiting to acquire the necessary insurance and also to carry out works for safety. Another natural reserve is the Regional Nature Reserve Monte Palatecchia and Lorda and Longaniello rivers, we started from small protected municipal areas and then we formed the reserve of 2200 hectares on the foothills of the Matese.

Mr. Fatica underlines that the evaluation of the above mentioned case studies should be improved as regards the aspect of innovation, to ensure that they receive a positive assessment from the technical assistance of the Secretariat once they are uploaded in the INTERREG EUROPE website, good practices section .

Mr. Fatica gives the floor to **Mr. Giulio Conte, external expert of the AMBIENTE ITALIA Society**, in order to resume all that emerged from the various meetings / exchanges in the previous activities.

Mr. Conte explains that for some years the Government has implemented a National and Regional Strategy of the Internal Areas that results strongly integrated with the lines of the ROP, but the two lines according to Mr. Conte have to make synergy.

Mr. Conte says that the idea is to directly consider territory's needs and what has already been done (good practices) and try to direct the Molise Region to go to finance specific Actions (natural habitats and presence of numbers for the tourism sector).

Mr. Giulio Conte gives a brief description of the 4 hypotheses of Actions included in the Action Plan Draft:

Action 1 - Conservation of mountain habitats: forests and open spaces ;

Action 2 - Valorisation of the Transiberiana of Italy: enhancement for tourism use of railway lines ;

Action 3 - Natura 2000 trademark of Molise: create a brand for the enhancement of the products / services of the Natura 2000 areas thus making them recognizable ;

Action 4 - Protection and redevelopment of freshwater habitats ;

For the first Action, says Mr. Conte, the idea is to protect mountain habitats by keeping open spaces in the mountains and then encourage grazing at high altitudes (such as the land bank to encourage young people to maintain high-altitude zoning activity) with community specific incentives, the second aspect concerns the cutting methods of forests, which too often damage with excessive cuts in wooded areas of greater value, one could according to For the second Action, Mr. Conte continues, the idea is the valorisation of the Transiberiana of Italy, with a tourist use of Sulmona-Isernia railway lines to develop a tourist offer that could involve the territories crossed by the railway line, which could therefore offer a lot in terms of hospitality, catering and typical products.

For the third Action, the idea is to create a brand for the enhancement of the products / services of the Natura 2000 areas thus making them recognizable. Molise is a little contaminated territory, the idea is to introduce this territory with a specific brand and understand why the old « Piacere Molise » brand did not work.

For the fourth Action, protection and redevelopment of freshwater habitats, the peculiarity is that in Molise there are portions of aquatic environments that protect wildlife species, the idea is to enhance and protect the part of the valley floor to ensure that these populations of various aquatic species of Community interest are not extinguished.

Mr. Fatica communicates that by March 31st, 2018, the Action Plan will have to be completed and in April will begin the second phase of the IMPACT project, which consisting in the monitoring of activities provided by the Action Plan.

Mr. Fatica gives the floor to the **Mayor of Roccamandolfi, Mr. Giacomo Lombardi**, and after initial greetings and thanks, the Mayor says that the area of Regional Reserve Callora River, it has become the main tourist attraction of the Municipality of Roccamandolfi, now it has a tourist frequency of 5000 people a year. In the last few years the municipality of Roccamandolfi is working to promote the Reserve with new signage of footpaths and observation points, it also carried out a project of zipline.



The Municipality of Roccamandolfi, says the Mayor, can safely re-enter on the three actions foreseen by the Action Plan except for the Transiberiana of Italy, because Roccamandolfi presents a very extensive wooded area.

Mr. Fatica asks the Mayor if there is an economic impact on the activities planned in the Roccamandolfi area.

The Mayor Lombardi, says that there have been periods of tourist frequency that have brought economic feedback, it is in prospect of managing the point of the Nature Reserve and setting up a refreshment and selling point for souvenirs.

Mr. Fatica, takes up the floor underlines how the exchange of experiences and the comparison with other partners and stakeholders allows us to have broader ideas on tourism activities that can be created.

**Mr. Lorenzo Sallustio, of Strategic Center of Internal Areas (UNIMOL)**, took the floor and reiterates that the key issue is identifying who can manages common services of Strategic Center of Internal Areas, in the Matese Area it was decided to share the service of the land register, in order to facilitate its use and reduce its costs. Mr. Sallustio underlines the difficulty in the integration of the ROP ERDF/ESF resources with third ones, they are rigid instruments, which are not able to reformulate their financial support mechanisms due to internal incentives.



**Mr. Pierdomenico Amodei, representative of ITALIA NOSTRA Onlus of Campobasso**, took the floor and presents the pilot actions that they are carrying out aimed at protecting the Montagnola Molisana Area, partly affected by wind farms in the Municipality of Civitanova. The Association aims to study the Area from all the naturalistic and archaeological points of view, reactivate an existing shelter and enhance it through archaeological and naturalistic museum itineraries.

The meeting closed at 1.10 pm.