

# 2nd Newsletter

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## 1. The second Interregional Learning Event & Partner Meeting

On 5-6 March 2019, the **Council of Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Services & Shipping of the Valencia Region (CCCV)** hosted the **2nd Interregional Learning Event** of the **Delta Lady** project. The meeting was combined with the **study visit to the Albufera Delta, partner meeting** and the **Steering Group meeting**. 25 participants attended the event: 17 project partners, 5 stakeholders and 3 external experts. The participants **exchanged experiences on sustainable use of ecosystem services** in deltas for regional economy. **Presentations on innovative uses of ecosystem services** based on the **preservation of the natural and cultural heritage** were discussed.



## 2. Visit to the Albufera Delta



The first day of the mentioned event was held in the **Albufera Natural Park** office, followed by the **study tour** to the **Albufera Delta**. The study tour started with the **"Racó de L'Olla" Interpretation Center**, the **Bird Observation Point**, the **Tancat de l'Albufera** farm and the **Gola del Pujol**.



The second day of the event was held in the office of the Council of Chambers of Commerce in Valencia.

For more information about the event please, visit the event [news](#) on the project website.

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## 3. The Regional Stakeholders met in the Province of Fryslân

PROVINCE OF FRYSLÂN organised the first Regional Stakeholder Group (RSG) meeting on 23rd of January, 2019 in Blokhuispoort Leeuwarden, a former prison located in the centre of Leeuwarden.



Regional stakeholders were represented by: the University of Groningen, Investment and Development Company for the Northern Netherlands (NOM), as well as by a Social Design Lab (It Erfskip) which develops products in co-creation with Frisian crafts and landscape, and by a cultural entrepreneur experienced in several projects for Leeuwarden-Fryslân European Capital of Culture 2018, supporting many (international) fundraising processes. Participants aimed at realization of projects that the region is proud of. For this, to

strengthen the network of all stakeholders was highlighted. What is expected from stakeholders: inspiration, input of networks, ideas for new projects, reflection on foreign good practices and direction towards policy, knowledge about how to use the existing landscape, research to be done on leadership, sustainability, energy cooperatives. Read more [here](#)

## 4. The RSG meeting in Cork

CORK COUNTY COUNCIL (CCC) organised the first RSG meeting on 7th February 2019 at the County Hall campus in Cork. The main discussions included an overview of the Delta Lady objectives and identification of good practices, referring to working towards developing an Action Plan. The main conclusions reached were related to: the potential for mapping the identified good practice examples and linking them to improvements in water quality and economic development; the formulation of the RSG with a view to inviting additional stakeholders from other relevant bodies/sectors. Specifically, contacts to be made with the Department of Agriculture, Youghal Socio Economic Development Group, Local authority Water & Communities Office, an environmental Representative form Cork County Council (Environmental Scientist) and additional Community Group involvement (River Allow & Funshion Catchment Groups). Read more [here](#)



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## 5. The RSG meeting in Valencia

The **VALENCIA REGION COUNCIL OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE** organised the first Regional Stakeholder Group Meeting related to the Albufera Natural Park (ANP) on 22nd February 2019, in the premises of the Council of Chambers of Commerce in Valencia.



The objective was to **identify good practices** on sustainable tourism as well as to **contribute to the development of a Regional Action Plan** for the ANP. The Expert Group of 22 authorities and experts on the ANP joined the meeting: the General Director of European Funds (Valencia Government), the General Director of Valencia Region Council of Chambers of Commerce, and others institutions and entities from the universities, business associations and civil society, such as, IVACE Innovation, Natural Environment General Directorate, Valencian Tourism Agency, Polytechnical University of Valencia, Valencia Chamber of

Commerce, Association of the Restaurants from the Palmar, De La Vega Farmers, Regulatory Council of Origin “Valencian Rice”, Spanish Society of Ornithology, Valencian Cultural Federation Valencian Cultural of Latin Sail and Assut Foundation. Read more [here](#)

## 6. The RSG met in Tulcea to identify good practices

The **DANUBE DELTA NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT** organized the first RSG meeting on 28th February, 2019. The main topic of the RSG meeting was the identification of good practices related to regional development initiatives that valorise the natural and/or cultural resources in the Danube Delta. It was a first discussion with stakeholders related to potential areas of improvement in the Regional Operational Programme (ROP).

The issues related to the ROP axes that are aimed to be improved were discussed; representatives of the Integrated Territorial Investments Instrument for Danube Delta mentioned what were some of the problems that applicants faced when trying to apply for ROP in the dedicated call for the Danube Delta area. Some of these problems were related to programme indicators that were not adapted to the area and were not reflected in the Applicants Guideline. Read more [here](#)



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## 7. The 2<sup>nd</sup> RSG meeting in Ireland

The regional stakeholders met in Cork on the 21st of May 2019 to discuss potential best practice examples within the region applicable to the project. A quadruple helix approach was adopted incorporating



representatives from the University College Cork (UCC), different departments from Cork County Council (CCC), the Forestry Service, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and LAWPRO.

The main topics discussed included an overview of the Delta Lady and the **good practice examples** identified to date and next focus of the project on good practices of **Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES)** within the region. Group discussion was encouraged as part of shared learning experiences and inter-personal learning. An observation from discussions is that there is a need for a Community Based focus with regard

to implementation of PES measures. The current policy vacuum at national and local levels of ecosystem services was identified. The inclusion of a specific policy objective in the Draft Regional Economic and Spatial Strategies (RSES) will help to facilitate the recognition of ecosystem services at a local level. Read more [here](#)

## 8. The 2<sup>nd</sup> RSG meeting in Romania

On 24th of May 2019, the Danube Delta National Institute for Research and Development organized the



2nd Regional Stakeholder Group meeting. The event took place in Tulcea. The main objective of the meeting was to present and identify the importance of ecosystem services in the Danube Delta. Among the topics discussed were: the Management of Reed Resources in the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve (DDBR), The concept of ecosystem services and their integration into the planning the regional development of DDBR, identifying stakeholders' perceptions of the importance of ecosystem services. Read more [here](#)

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## 9. The 2<sup>nd</sup> RSG meeting in Italy



Two Italian partners of the Delta Lady project, former ERVET and now **ART-ER** (see below 10. Change in the Partnership) and **Po Delta Park**, organised the 2<sup>nd</sup> RSG meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> of May 2019 in Comacchio. The main topic of discussion was how to integrate ecosystem service into the Territorial Plan of the Po Delta Park. The group of stakeholders emphasized identifying at least one ecosystem service that could fit in the Territorial Plan and to understand how and where to embed the ES/PES topic into the policy instrument. Read more [here](#)

## 10. Change in the Partnership

Emilia-Romagna Regional Development Agency (ERVET), merged with ASTER, the former Emilia-Romagna Regional Agency for Technology and Innovation. The new agency is named “**ART-ER**” and is officially in charge from May 1st, 2019. [ART-ER](#) is the legal successor of **ERVET** and is taking over all competences, rights and obligations related to the project.

## 11. Europe, let's cooperate! Event in Brussels



Delta Lady participated in the event “**Europe, let’s cooperate**” organized by Interreg Europe in Brussels on 10-11 April 2019, to exchange experiences and network with peers and partners from all over Europe. For more information visit the event link [here](#)

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## 12. Good Practices identified so far

Two **good practices** identified by our French partner are published on the project website under [good practices](#). These good practices are under validation process.

- **Contrat de Delta Camargue** - The Delta Contract is a 2x3 years actions program for a balanced and sustainable management of water and aquatic environments.
- **Identification of agroecological practices and organization of field exchange days and training** - aims at reducing pollution and preserving ground functions, without additional financial cost for the farmers.

Two more **good practices** are identified by Spanish partner. They are under approval and validation process:

- **Asociación de Guías de Birding de la Comunitat Valenciana** - Union of companies linked to nature and ornithological tourism that carry out a large part of their activity in the Natural
- **Tancat de la PipaPark of l'Albufera** - public-private management of a protected area; includes training activities, visits and acts as an interpretation centre of the Albufera Natural Park.

## 13. Upcoming events

The next **Partner Meeting** and the **3rd Interregional Learning Event** will be organized in Italy, **Comacchio**, on **September 17-18, 2019**. More information will follow on the website events.

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