



STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

D.T2.2.3- Emilia-Romagna Region (PP01)
Tosco-Emiliano Apennine National Park

Ver.2.3
05/2019

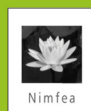




Table of Contents

1. Protected Area Description	1
1.1. The National Park.....	1
1.2. The Unesco Biosphere Reserve (MaB).....	4
1.2.1. Core areas	5
1.2.2. Buffer zones.....	6
1.2.3. Transition area	7
2. Tourism Development Strategy	7
2.1. Introduction.....	7
2.2. The Strategy	8
2.3. ECST Strategy Issues and Actions required	11
3. The Action Plan	14
3.1. The Participatory Processes (WotS)	14
3.2. Actions overview.....	14
3.3. Action Plan Activities	15

1. Protected Area Description

1.1. The National Park

The Appennino Tosco-Emiliano National Park was founded in 2001 and its territory (261 Km²), is distributed across the Northern Apennines main ridge, partially in Tuscany region and partially (the majority) in Emilia Romagna region. The Park includes 4 provinces: Lucca and Massa Carrara in Tuscany Region, Parma and Reggio Emilia in Emilia Romagna Region, for a total of 13 Municipalities.



Fig. 1 - Location of the Tosco Emiliano National Park.

Inside the Park's boundaries there are also 4 National Natural Reserves: Orecchiella, Lamarossa, Pania di Corfino in the province of Lucca, and Guadine Pradaccio in the province of Parma.

The National Park is placed in a peculiar geographical area and its boundaries were defined according to a specific strategy of safeguard and promotion of sustainable development because of the recognition of the the same natural and ecosystem features in this part of the Apennines. Particularly, the climatic border between the European and continental climate in the northern side of the Park (Emilia-Romagna) meets the Mediterranean climate of the Southern

slope of the Apennine (Tuscany) on the ridge of the Apennine, defining natural habitats and ecosystems but also influencing the human presence, activities and culture.

Mountain peaks have an average altitude of 1'600 meters above sea level, with a few major peaks reaching 1'900-2'100 meters. The highest peak in the region is Mount Cusna 2'120 meters, followed by Mount Prado 2'054 meters and Alpe di Succiso 2'017 meters. At that altitude there are no longer trees - you only can see rocks and grasslands, where sheep have grazed for hundreds of years, and striking views of the Apennines, the Apuan Alps and, in clear days, the alps on the north and the sea on the south views.

There is an incredible variety of different natural environments and habitats, such as hills and mountains, prairies and moorlands, forests, high peaks, lakes. There are also traces of old and traditional human activities (metati, mills, farmers houses).

The majority of the territory of the Park is characterized by forest such as beeches, chestnuts and oaks while a smaller percentage is made by pastures and prairies. A less quantity of the area is characterized by conifers and shrubs. Other important species are the white fir trees, junipers, primroses, primula appenninica, daffodils, blueberries and mushrooms.

The macro fauna is characterized by these species: wolf, golden eagle, bats, spectacled salamander, peregrine falcon, common kestrel, common buzzard, owl, red deers and roe deers, wild boar, fox, hedgehog, brown trout Italian barbel, Mediterranean barbell, hermit beetle, rosalia longicorn.

Some of the most important geological sites are the Pietra di Bismantova and the Triassic chinks in the northern side of the Park (Emilia Romagna Region) and the Pania di Corfino and Sassorosso in Garfagnana (Tuscan side of the Park).

Inside the Park area there are 7 sites SCI-SPA, 8 SCI and 1 SPA. The total area of these sites is about 200 Km², corresponding to the 76% of the Park.



Fig. 2 - 3D view of the Tosco-Emiliano National Park, across Emilia Romagna and Tuscany.

The inhabitants living in the Park are just 1'000 while for the Biosphere reserve (Ch.1.2) they are 101'300. They are mainly elderly people, while the youngs usually move to the main cities or abroad for studies or for a job.

The main users of the land within the Park are local people. The land is predominantly used for agriculture (fodder, pasture, chestnut groves, olive groves, vineyards, grain), but tree felling for the production of firewood is also widespread.

Traditional practices (hunting, fishing, mushroom picking), which were once a key part of the livelihoods of the local people and are now relevant predominantly in terms of cultural heritage and recreation, are widespread throughout the territory.

The ridge areas have acted as transport routes since antiquity but have remained uninhabited. More specifically, human use of the land is rather limited. It is sporadic and consists largely of human



settlements in the form of isolated and scattered dwellings. This is mainly as a result of tree felling for the production of firewood, under the regulations imposed by the Appennino Tosco-Emiliano National Park, in the aggregate and collective form of "shared properties" (*usi civici*) for the benefit of the local people (rights of common means the community members' right to use municipally-owned land; it is not part of formal legislation but is rooted in collective practice). Under the regulations imposed by the Appennino Tosco-Emiliano National Park, the bilberry scrub in the highest areas is used for the gathering of berries by locals in particular, for both private and commercial use. Only subsequently is it used by local farms that use the areas for grazing or, less commonly, for the harvesting of fodder for the "Parmigiano-Reggiano cows".

While there is a higher number of human settlements in the lower zone, the use of land for human purposes remains limited with a continuing predominance of tree felling for firewood production (for both public and private consumption) in line with current conservation regulations. Meanwhile, its agricultural use by local businesses is increasing and the cultivation of fodder on the north side is increasing. Likewise, chestnut groves, used primarily for the production of chestnut flour, are starting to appear on the south side. On the north side, in small areas, the land is also used for "tourism" purposes, with ski runs for cross-country and downhill skiing.

Tipologia	Codice	Denominazione
Emilia-Romagna Region		
S.I.C.-Z.P.S.	IT4020020	Crinale dell'Appennino pamense
S.I.C.-Z.P.S.	IT4030001	Monte Acuto, Alpe di Succiso
S.I.C.-Z.P.S.	IT4030002	Monte Ventasso
S.I.C.-Z.P.S.	IT4030003	Monte La Nuda, Cima Belfiore, Passo del Cerreto
S.I.C.-Z.P.S.	IT4030004	Val d'Ozola, Monte Cusna
S.I.C.-Z.P.S.	IT4030005	Abetina Reale, Alta Val Dolo
S.I.C.-Z.P.S.	IT4030006	Monte Prado
S.I.C.	IT4030008	Pietra di Bismantova
S.I.C.	IT4030009	Gessi Triassici
Tuscany Region		
S.I.C.	IT5110002	Monte Orsaro
S.I.C.	IT5110003	Monte Matto-Monte Malpasso
S.I.C.	IT5110004	Monte Acuto-Groppo di Camporaghena
S.I.C.	IT5110005	Monte La Nuda - Monte Tondo
S.I.C.	IT5120002	Monte Castellino - Le Forbici
S.I.C.	IT5120003	Parco Orecchiella-Pania di Corfino-Lamarossa
S.I.C.	IT5120004	Pania di Corfino

Tab. 1 - List of SIC (Site of Community Importance) and ZPS (Special Protected Areas) inside the Tosco Emiliano National Park.



Fig. 3 - Winter view on the National Park Mountains.

1.2. The Unesco Biosphere Reserve (MaB)

UNESCO Biosphere Reserves (MaB) are protected areas that represent globally important and unique natural and cultural landscapes. They serve as model regions for sustainable development with the objective to maintain a healthy environment as livelihood for humans through a sustainable management. They are particularly valuable areas of life regarding their natural values but also regarding their local population and culture. The aim of a biosphere reserve is to ensure the preservation of the biological diversity and the regional cultural values and the social and economic development in exemplary fashion, together with the local population.

The main functions of a biosphere reserve are:

- Preservation of the biological and cultural diversity and thus of the living space;
- Establishment of a model region for sustainable development under active involvement of the local population and groups of interest;
- The use of the biosphere reserve as a place for research, monitoring, education and training with the focus on men-environment relationships;
- The improvement of the implementation of the concept.

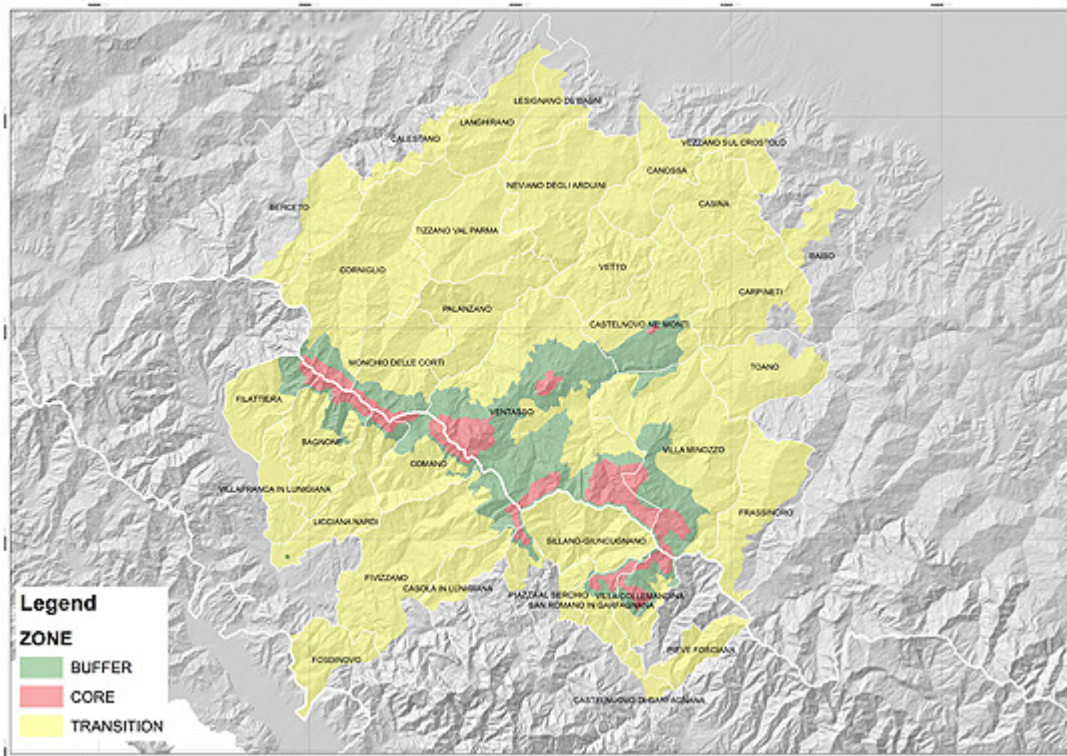


Fig. 4 - Zonization of the Tosco-Emiliano Apennines MaB Unesco Reserve.

The concept of the Biosphere Reserve is based on the MaB program, which was originally established as a science program for the preservation and usage of the natural livelihood in 1970, originating from the Biosphere Reserve Conference in Paris in 1968.

With the second Biosphere Reserve Conference in Sevilla in 1995, an important milestone was set for the development of the concept of the biosphere reserves: the outcome was that “protection of the biological diversity cannot be isolated from human needs”. Protection and conservation of nature cannot be seen next to each other but as a continuous process who focus on the balance between nature conservation and the preservation of the interests and aspirations of the local population. Humans should live as an integral part of biosphere reserves and operate with the aim of preserving their natural environment in the long term.

Biosphere reserves have three interrelated zones that aim to fulfil three complementary and mutually reinforcing functions: Core Areas, Buffer Zones, Transition Areas.

1.2.1. Core area

Comprise a strictly protected ecosystem that contributes to the conservation of landscapes, ecosystems, species and genetic variation. In these areas human utilization is not permitted in order to allow natural processes to continue undisturbed, thereby providing scientists with models to help them understand and analyse these processes. All the core areas of the Biosphere reserve belong to the Appennino Tosco Emiliano National Park and constitute the mainstay of the MaB Reserve’s conservation role. This is due to the fact that they are recognised as areas of natural importance and are located in areas that already benefit from significant protection as Integral State Reserves, Emilia Regional Parks and the network of Rete Natura 2000 sites, in addition to as a National Park, and are protected by national and regional laws including Regional (PTPR) and provincial (PTCP) general rules for territorial planning.



With regard to the gathering of mushrooms and forest products, the regulations protecting these areas include the relevant legislation that derives from regulations on a regional, provincial and mountain community level, as well as with regards to fishing, which, however, is prohibited in zones 1 of the Park. Grazing and use of the forests is regulated either by the “General and Forestry Corps Regulations” (“Prescrizioni di Massima e di Polizia forestale”) or by the specific regional laws; forest felling, prohibited in zones 1, must, however, be pre-authorized by the Park authority in zones 2, while it is permitted in zones 3 of the Park (which is only present marginally in relation to the core areas nominated here), in line with current regulations. Bringing weapons into and flying over the Core areas is prohibited unless pre-authorized by the Park authority. In the core area camping is forbidden; whereas the use of a bivouac or erection of a tent at dusk, with removal at dawn, is allowed only in some parts of the Core Areas corresponding to the zones 2 and 3 of the National Park. The passage of motorised vehicles beyond the state, provincial, municipal and dirt roads burdened by servitudes is prohibited in the Core areas; motor vehicle access is however prohibited in zones A, unless specifically authorised by the Park authority; on the forest roads, passage is also regulated by the “General and Forestry Corps Regulations”, as well as by the general and specific relevant legislation. Intervention within Sites of Community Importance and Special Protection Areas is regulated either by the European “Habitats” and “Birds” directives, by national legislation, by general and specific conservation measures or by the management plans of the individual sites, where these have been approved.

1.2.2. Buffer zone

Buffer Zones were defined by identifying mainly areas that are already subject to a level of protection, as National Park, Emilia Regional Parks and the network of Natura 2000 sites and through PTCPs. The perimeter of the buffer zone was defined using several criteria:

Serving as a link between the core areas: the adjacent core areas are often only separated by small stretches at the main crossing points and passes, which feature historical evidence of human passage. These crossings points do not, however, form a natural break, as studies on the area demonstrate, but are genuine, natural corridors that are protected by the relevant regulations.

Protecting the core areas: by definition, the uninterrupted stretch of buffer, which encircles the core areas, supports this protective function. In some areas, the buffer zone narrows, but only where there are steep slopes and the shape of the territory itself offers enough protection. An ex-ample of this is where the buffer zone narrows around the Core area of the Pietra di Bismantova, following the protective perimeter of the National Park in which this important spur is contained. This is a result of the shape and features of the Pietra di Bismantova itself (a sandstone rock rising above the surrounding, mudstone rocks), which effectively means it is isolated, difficult to access and protected by its surroundings. The conservation and protection of species and ecosystems is also guaranteed in the buffer zone. In fact, the area goes to include entirely areas 2 and 3 of the Park.

Boundary of the buffer zone is made to encounter the rare traditional human activities, which aim to the maintenance, with the integral conservation regimen that characterizes the core area. However, all human activities are regulated upon specific authorization from the Park Authority. The Buffer area extends beyond the boundary of the Park only in some specific mountainous areas that have peculiar natural features and landscapes, certified by the presence of zones of protection, SCI and SPA at high altitudes, in areas that are not reachable by strongly incisive human activities, but mainly to visit and transit. In the areas of Buffer zone, there are some environments that, due to their unique geographical situation, house valuable biodiversity and represent the starting point for undertaking functions relating to development, which will be fulfilled in the direction of the transition areas. The difference in accessibility that characterize much of the Buffer Zone compared to the Core one, in continuity of habitats and environments, distinguishes the first from the latter because of the natural conformation that calls for



greater attendance and knowledge of places, environments and species of conservation interest, despite being a sparsely populated area. Together, all the buffer zones contribute to a sense of unity of the ridge, which, from an ecological point of view, is relatively uniform, dominated by a mountainous mosaic with a high degree of naturalness, comprising high-altitude beech and grassland.

1.2.3. Transition area

The transition area is the part of the reserve where the greatest activity is allowed, with the goal to promoting a sustainable development (economic and human) on economic and socio-cultural level in harmony with ecological guidelines. It includes:

the extensive agricultural and rural areas, which are those most suited to the development and dissemination of a sustainable development model to support, protect and enhance the core areas and buffer zones; about a hundred settlements; artisan and industrial areas; tourism-based areas.

There are currently 669 Biosphere Reserves in 120 countries all over the world, seventeen of them in Italy. In 2015 the Appennino Tosco Emiliano National Park together with other municipalities in the neighborhoods was awarded as UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. The whole area is about 2'232 Km², the National Park is 261 Km². The biosphere reserve management is ruled mainly by the National Park that was the public body in charge for the application as a Biosphere Reserve. For this reason, the Park is in charge for the management that is responsible for the operating activities of the Biosphere Reserve.

2. Tourism Development Strategy

2.1. Introduction

It's well known that tourism is one of the main economic sectors able to create positive effects, both direct and indirect, on local communities. In a territory characterized by a strong culture and territorial traditions, tourism can support positively the development, enhancing and relaunching the traditional activities and businesses and, at the same time, maintaining a balanced demographic arrangement of local communities through the development of job opportunities. On the other side tourism can become a threat, when it suddenly and severely upsets the local way of living and running businesses, changing the use of the natural and cultural resources and threatening their conservation.



Fig. 5 - Summer hiking at Monte Orsaro, in the Tosco Emiliano National Park.

To avoid this, it is necessary to find the right policies and share them with the local stakeholders to define a common model of touristic development that must be sustainable both for the environment and the traditional culture. According to this model the citizens are involved in the decision process, in the management of the touristic businesses and they reap the socio-economic benefits of tourism.

Since the beginning the National Park has been in touch with the local stakeholders, discussing and creating partnerships. The purpose was working on the development of a specific strategy, aimed on establishing a touristic culture, based on the local features of the area and able to catch the new requests of a continuously evolving market.



In this context, in 2014 the National Park was awarded with the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism (ECST). The charter development was interpreted as a tool for the cooperation with the local communities and as a general framework to coordinate all the other activities and make them more effective.

Also, the subscription to the CEETO Interreg project can be included in this vision and mission because it is strictly connected with the ECST goals and it strengthens the same messages.

2.2. The Strategy

The new scenarios of growth in green and food tourism offer new chances for the economic support and development of Italian rural mountain areas: the challenge is to catch them. For this reason, it is necessary to be proactive and invest in specific and authentic skills of the territory. The human resources are the main assets/resources that need to be strengthened, motivated on values, excellences and potentialities of the area both at national and international level.

The partnership and integration between scientific research, innovation, high education and specialization on agriculture together with eco - tourism offers, innovative services for people, qualification of the local products, enhancement of local history and culture is the tool used by the National Park to involve the local communities and the stakeholders in the conservation and enhancement of the cultural and ecosystemic mosaic of the Apennine.

Tourism represents the most innovative chance for the National Park for a social and economic development. In fact, in the past tourism was not one of the primary factors of economic development on this area and it was only a “seasonal” resource (for example in summer or winter time). This part of the Apennine was seen as a holiday resort for a long stay in summer (mainly elderly people rented here flats for 2 or 3 months from June to August, to escape the hot temperatures of the cities), and its offers followed this kind of requirements. When this phenomenon disappeared, we remained with the “roots tourism”: emigrants came back home in the Apennine for holidays. But even this was not sufficiently exploited to create a concrete tourism. The ski tourism is also suffering the lack of snow and people during the wintertime.

It is quite clear that this area is not naturally devoted to tourism. The aim of the Park is to create a sustainable and multi-seasonal tourism district, renovating these old models and building partnerships with the local stakeholders who are ready for this new step.

For the Park area residents this means also a “cultural” change: tourism has to be seen as an important chance for a social and economic development because it is a new and “young” resource if compared with the agricultural and pastoral resources that historically characterized this territory.



Fig. 6 - Summer hiking at the Sillara lakes, in the Tosco Emiliano National Park.

So, the idea is to “use” the richness of the National Park in terms of nature, history, culture, food and local products and gastronomy to make the Apennine more attractive for different kind of tourists in different periods and seasons of the year.

The local touristic enterprises should exploit this richness to create a complete offer and touristic packages. Unfortunately, at the moment they used to work by themselves, without any connection/relationships with other local stakeholders and without creating a network. That’s why this strategy can be useful to create new opportunities for the stakeholders to meet each others and, this way, to create a complete and multi - seasonal offer also for new kinds of tourists and tourisms such as horse riding, hiking, biking, gastronomy and local products and so on. The process of involvement of the stakeholders in the creation of the strategy and of the Action Plan was born thank to a close relationship between the National Park and the local stakeholders. The strategy of the Park wants to strengthen some touristic sectors that are interesting for this area such as bikes, horse riding, hiking (thanks to a good network of paths - for example the Alta Via dei Parchi).

The snow tourism must be changed: the ski-areas are no longer the main attractions, especially if compared with others in other part of the Apennines (not only in the Alps). That’s way, during the wintertime, they still can be one of the many offers of the territory, together with Nordic walking and snowshoes.



Fig. 7 - Winter snowshoes hiking along the ridge of the National Park.

Another good point is to give value to the typical characteristics sharing some best practices as the community cooperatives (*cooperative di comunità*) which are strongly connected with this area, as reflected in the experiences of the villages of Cerreto Alpi and Succiso (RE). At the same time, it is good to enlarge the perspective and create relationships and partnerships outside the boundaries of the protected area, for example thanks to projects like CEETO or the ECST.

To achieve this goal the Park created a communication plan: for each meeting many written invitations were sent by e-mail to the stakeholders mailing lists, they were published on the official website of the National Park (www.parcoappennino.it) and on the official Facebook pages of the Park and of the Unesco Man and Biosphere Reserve (www.mabappennino.it).

To become a Unesco MaB Reserve has been useful to pay attention to sustainable tourism and to a more general sustainable development and relationship between man and nature. The perspective used to face these themes is that this area will be a laboratory for sustainable development, being at the same time guarantee of safeguarding the ecosystems and driving force for the development of local communities. These two functions are strictly connected because the conservation can be really successful only with the involvement and support of local citizens and, on the other side, local communities can have a new chance of economic and social renewal through the understanding and enhancement of the peculiarities of their own area and territory.

Awarded the first time in 2014, the ECST will be renewed in 2019 (it lasts 5 years), always according to improve the stakeholders' engagement sharing agreed objectives and actions such as a sustainable environmental impact, the visitor's satisfaction, the economic performance, the local prosperity and quality of life. This through a regular monitoring and reporting of progress and results in the same way as for the ECST renewal.

The ECST will be applied into the Appennino Tosco Emiliano National Park and in its neighborhoods, as showed in the map of fig. 8:

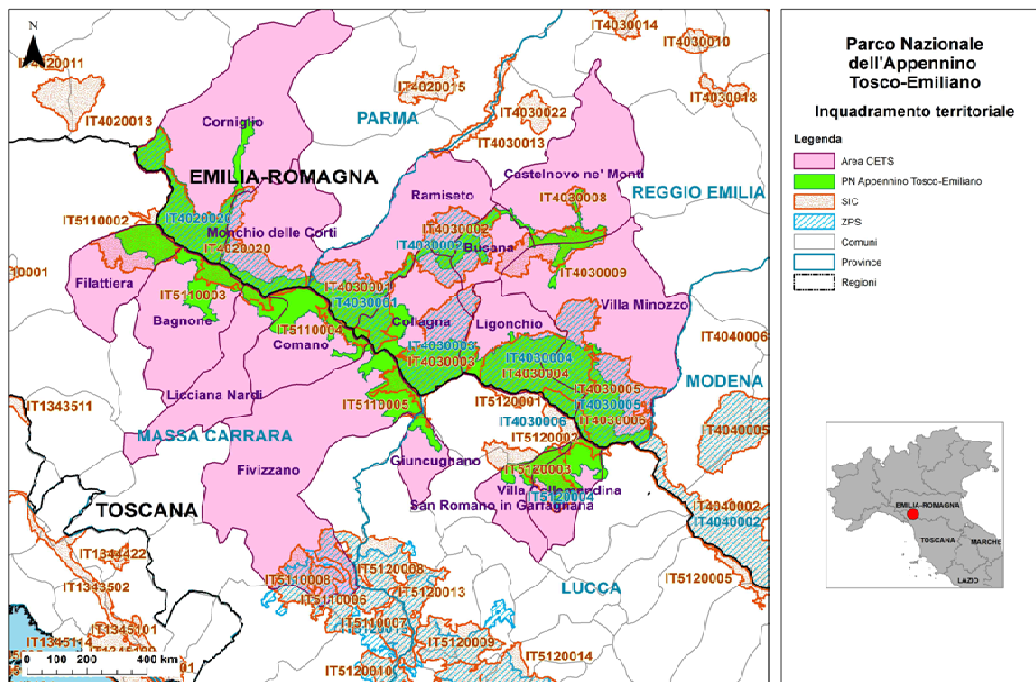


Fig. 8 - Map that see the overlapping of the National Park Boundaries, the SCI-SPA (SIC/ZPS) areas, the ECST (CETS) candidate area and the administrative boundaries.

In the next 5/10 years all these ideas and actions will be shared thanks to public meetings, events and assemblies: the methodology used will change according to the kind of event/meeting, even if the main method used for the thematic/focused meetings is the same used for the workshop on the spot of the CEETO project.

The projects will be developed and/or created according to the objectives and items we want to communicate, such as “UPVIVIUM - Biosfera Gastronomica a Km0” to enhance local products and gastronomy, LIFE M.I.R.C.O, LIFE EREMITA, “Geodiversità” e “Geosfera d’Appennino”, “Neve Natura e Cultura d’Appennino”.



Generally speaking, as a UNESCO Man and Biosphere Reserve, the main goals are those reported in tab.2.

Goal N.	Goal Description
1	Conservation and renewal of the good relationship between man and nature;
2	Safeguard biodiversity;
3	Protect and enhance high quality local products;
4	Reinforce and improve the governance;
5	Safeguard the cultural and social diversity;
6	Fight the hydrogeological instability;
7	Monitoring the climate change;
8	Conservation and enhancement of landscapes;
9	Support the high-quality extensive mountain agriculture;
10	Foster sustainable tourism;
11	Enhancement of history and culture;
12	Study and monitor of the abiotic factors and of biodiversity;
13	Education at sustainability;

Tab. 2 - UNESCO MaB Goals.

2.3. ECST Strategy Issues and Actions required

The ECST has 5 principles that highlight the close relationship between nature conservation and sustainable tourism. These principles are: 1) giving priority to protection; 2) contributing to sustainable development; 3) engaging all stakeholders; 4) planning sustainable tourism effectively; 5) pursuing continuous improvement. The details of each principle are defined as follows:

- 1) a fundamental priority for the development and management of sustainable tourism should be to protect the area's natural and cultural heritage and to enhance awareness, understanding and appreciation of it;
- 2) sustainable tourism should follow the principles of sustainable development which means addressing all aspects of its environmental, social and economic impact in the short and long term;
- 3) all those affected by sustainable tourism should be able to participate in decisions about its development and management, and partnership working should be encouraged;
- 4) sustainable tourism development and management should be guided by a well researched plan that sets out agreed objectives and actions;
- 5) tourism development and management should deliver ongoing improvement in sustainable environmental impacts, visitor satisfaction, economic performance, local prosperity and quality of life, requiring regular monitoring and reporting of progress and results.

The principles govern how tourism is developed and managed in a Protected Area. The principles over-arch the key topics and the associated actions that are the core of the ECST in the protected areas.

As specific issues related to sustainable tourism the strategy must fulfil the requirements of the ECST.



Nr.	Key Issues	Key Actions
1	Protecting valuable landscapes, biodiversity and cultural heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Influencing land use planning and the control of potentially damaging developments; ▪ Influencing the location, type and design of tourism developments; ▪ Managing visitor flows, activities and behaviour in sensitive areas and sites.
2	Supporting conservation through tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encouraging visitors and tourism businesses to support conservation, through donations, volunteering and other activity; ▪ Using revenues obtained from tourism-related activity to support conservation; ▪ Establishing, supporting and promoting tourism-related investments, projects and activities that help to conserve the natural and cultural heritage.
3	Reducing carbon footprint, pollution and wasteful resource use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Working with tourism businesses to improve environmental management, including use of energy and water, waste management, and noise and light pollution; ▪ Promoting the use of public transport and other alternatives to cars.
4	Providing safe access, quality facilities and special experiences of the protected area, available to all visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Providing a wide range of access opportunities, with attention to safety and risk management; ▪ Improving the quality of visitor facilities and services; ▪ Providing visitors with specific tourism offers which involve discovery, interpretation and appreciation of the area's special natural and cultural heritage; ▪ Providing facilities and information for visitors with special needs.
5	Effectively communicating the area to visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensuring that marketing materials and activities promote the area effectively and responsibly; ▪ Providing good quality and effective visitor information and interpretation; ▪ Ensuring that tourism businesses and other local stakeholders are well informed about the area and provide relevant and accurate information to visitors; ▪ Providing specific information and interpretation for young people, schools and student groups.
6	Ensuring social cohesion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Anticipating, monitoring and minimising any existing and potential conflicts with local residents; ▪ Maintaining good communication and engagement between local residents, businesses, visitors and the protected area authority; ▪ Encouraging and developing appropriate partnership activity with and between stakeholders.
7	Strengthening prosperity in the local community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promoting the provision and identity of local produce and services and their purchase and use by visitors and tourism businesses; ▪ Supporting the economic viability and performance of local tourism businesses and the provision of local employment in tourism.



8	Providing training and capacity building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Providing relevant training for staff of the protected area authority in sustainable tourism development and management; ▪ Providing and encouraging relevant training and capacity building for tourism businesses and other stakeholders in sustainable tourism.
9	Monitoring tourism performance and impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Monitoring of visitors - volumes, patterns, spending and satisfaction; ▪ Monitoring of tourism businesses - performance and needs; ▪ Monitoring of tourism impacts - on the environment, economy and community; ▪ Monitoring progress in implementing the action plan.
10	Communicating actions and engaging with the Charter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Communicating sustainable tourism actions and results to local stakeholders and more widely at a local, regional and national level; ▪ Promoting and making visible the award of the Charter; ▪ Engaging with EUROPARC and the Charter Network, including participating in related events and activities; ▪ Taking steps for re-application and renewal of the Charter.

Tab. 3 - List of the ECST strategic issues and related actions to be implemented.

One of the missions of the National Park Managing Authority is to apply the ECST principles to the entire Unesco Biosphere Reserve: at the moment it is applied only to the National Park which is the core area of the Unesco site.



Fig. 9 - Environmental education in the National Park.



3. The Action Plan

3.1. The Participatory Processes (WotS)

In order to define the actions to be implemented in the framework of the CEETO Project and to harmonize them with the ECST renewal actions, that, de facto, constitutes a new five years Action Plan, The National Park Managing Authority organized two meetings with local stakeholders were: the first one was held on 12/07/2018 in Castelnovo Nè Monti (RE), and the second one on 13/07/2018 at the Lagdei Refuge (PR).

The meetings, called “Workshop on the Spot” (WotS) inside CEETO Project, were conducted using a methodology derived from the European Awareness Scenario Workshop (EASW), an approach that allows an open discussion in order to identify solutions that are concrete and easy to implement.

Both moments have been structured as follows:

- Presentation of the CEETO Project;
- The Pilot Area and its critical areas;
- Participated Activity - FUTURE SEARCH (Imagine the tourism you would like - Vision activities about the future of tourism in the pilot area);
- Presentation of the Pilot Action proposal and the Monitoring Plan;
- Participated Activity - IDEAS FACTORY (How can I contribute? - Concrete answers to the problems and potentialities of tourism in the pilot area).

After a brief presentation of the CEETO project, the participants have been asked to tell their vision of the future of the pilot area, expressing a forecast both on desired positive aspects (what I hope that will happen...) and on possible negative changes (what I fear that will happen...). A synthesis of the visions allowed, therefore, to identify the common transversal aspects in order to define a common vision of development of the sustainable tourism in the pilot areas.

During the second part of the workshop, the Park presented its proposal for the CEETO Pilot Action to be implemented in the area and the participants have been asked to make suggestions and additions to this proposal.

3.2. Actions overview

The Action Plan reflects the strategy of enhancing the sustainable tourism in the area of the Appennino Tosco Emiliano National Park. This will be done through several actions of supporting sustainable activities with the measurement of the results and at the same time facing the challenges of the territory. The CEETO pilot actions will be developed in this framework. In the following pages the actions forecasted in the next years with this structure:

- 1) Title;
- 2) ECST main principle target;
- 3) other related ECST principles;
- 4) short description;
- 5) possible financial resources;



- 6) stakeholders/public body in charge for the action;
- 7) timing;
- 8) monitor/expected results.

3.3. Action Plan Activities

TITLE	CEETO pilot action - Pietra di Bismantova
ECST MAIN PRINCIPLE	2
OTHER RELATED PRINCIPLES	6, 9, 10
DESCRIPTION	<p>The Pilot Area of Pietra di Bismantova is subjected to high frequented in a very short period during the year. The convenience of access by car creates parking and mobility problems. The place is seen mainly for its recreational use, not considering the natural value and the impact that tourism is causing. The main problem is the behaviour of visitors which is not always adequate. The Park feel the need to control these tourist flows and to distribute them on a broader period of fruition (seasonal adjustment) and not only in the district of the Pietra but also in the whole surrounding area. The results of the workshops confirm these statements: in fact, the participants have identified the landscape, in its broader context, as the main attraction to be saved: from the hermitage to the tranquillity of the places, from hiking to climbing, from geology to biodiversity. A multidisciplinary view that characterizes and makes this area even more recognizable.</p> <p>Among the negative aspects, accessibility by car and the related congestion of roads and parking is the most cited, followed by the lack of a concrete connection with the country below and by the “often unsuitable” use of the area by tourists (only recreational aspect).</p> <p>Keywords: accessibility, awareness and context.</p>
POSSIBLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES	InterregCEETO
STAKEHOLDERS IN CHARGE	Appennino Tosco Emiliano National Park
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED	CAI, Guide della Pietra, Altri Passi, ALP Station, municipality Castelnovo ne’ Monti, Rifugio della Pietra, Consorzio di bonifica Emilia Centrale, Agriturismo Il Ginepro, reparto Carabinieri Forestali parco nazionale, Legambiente Appennino Reggiano
TIMING	2018 - 2019
EXPECTED RESULTS/MONITOR	Less cars parked outside the parking areas, implementation of accesses by foot or by bicycle, improvement of responsible tourism and tourists. Number of runs of shuttle buses; scheduled payment for parking areas.



TITLE	CEETO pilot action - Piana di Lagdei
ECST MAIN PRINCIPLE	2
OTHER RELATED PRINCIPLES	6, 9, 10
DESCRIPTION	<p>The Pilot Area of Piana di Lagdei is subjected to a high level of frequentation, mainly during fall and summer weekends. The convenience of access by car creates parking and dust-related problems for walkers. The place is seen mainly for its recreational use, not considering the natural value. The main problem is the behaviour of visitors which is not always adequate. The Park feel the need to control these tourist flows and to distribute them over a broader period of time (seasonal adjustment), and to develop some activities that promote a mindful use of the territory and its environmental peculiarities. The results of the workshops confirm these statements, in fact the participants have identified the environment (forests, bodies of water, intact landscape), as the main attraction to be saved.</p> <p>Considering the Lagdei refuge as a hub, suitable as a point of arrival for those who want to stop and enjoy the landscape and nature and as a starting point towards the paths that lead to surrounding mountains and lakes.</p> <p>Among the negative aspects, accessibility by car and the related congestion of roads and parking is the most cited, followed by the dust-related problems for walkers and by the “often unsuitable” use of the area by tourists (only recreational aspect).</p> <p>Keywords: accessibility and awareness.</p>
POSSIBLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES	InterregCEETO
STAKEHOLDERS IN CHARGE	Appennino Tosco Emiliano National Park
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED	Rifugio Lagdei, Rifugio Mariotti, Rifugio Lagoni, Municipality of Corniglio, environmental guides, chairlift management.
TIMING	2018 - 2019
EXPECTED RESULTS/MONITOR	Less cars parked outside the parking areas, implementation of accesses by foot or by bicycle, improvement of responsible tourism and tourists. Number of runs of shuttle buses; number of tickets of the chairlift.

TITLE	Geodiversity and landslides in the Apennine
ECST MAIN PRINCIPLE	2
OTHER RELATED PRINCIPLES	1
DESCRIPTION	<p>The most important goal of the project <i>“Geodiversity of Apennine - The landscape shapes tell stories of disappeared glacier and big landslides, risk and resource in the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve”</i> is to let people know and become deeply conscious of the geological heritage of the National Park and</p>



	<p>of the Biosphere Reserve.</p> <p>All the planned activities will be focused on enhancing the landslide as an attractive element, an educational place for didactic visits, with paths and panels that explain the development of this complex natural phenomenon.</p> <p>The other goals of the project are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contribute to reinforce the culture of geology as enhancement of the geological heritage, intensifying the knowledge about the connections between geology, landscape, biodiversity, human activities for a greater consciousness of the value and fragility of the Apennine; ▪ Create a common vision about the landslide of Corniglio (one of the biggest in Europe) for the coordination between the different activities and the different goals; ▪ Create a calendar of meetings and excursions for teachers, environmental guides, geologists, tourists and people interested in the geomorphology of the Apennine. The calendar will be also considered a refresher course and list of didactic activities for schools. For that will be created and provided some information panels and a geoguide.
POSSIBLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES	Emilia Romagna Region
STAKEHOLDERS IN CHARGE	Municipality of Corniglio
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED	National Park, University of Parma SCVSA dep. - project Scientific university degrees of the Italian Ministry for education, Cooperative 100Laghi, Emilia Romagna Region
TIMING	2019 - 2020
EXPECTED RESULTS/MONITOR	Number of meetings and excursions

TITLE	Rural and Responsible Tourism - School for Sustainable Tourism
ECST MAIN PRINCIPLE	8
OTHER RELATED PRINCIPLES	5, 10
DESCRIPTION	<p>The cooperative Sigeric, in partnership with the Center for studies and Research of the Fondazione Campus from Lucca, offers an intensive course on Responsible Tourism. It will take place in September 2019 and with 25 participants. The first edition of this Summer School will provide theoretical lessons by professors and researchers, workshops provided by entrepreneurs, visits and educational excursions. The main theme/focus for the first edition of the Rural and Food-and-Wine, a kind of slow, respectful tourism characterized by direct meetings with small businesses and direct knowledge of local handcrafts. The excursions (hikings or by e-bike) will also include tastes of local products in partnership with local producers and agritourism. The participants will include students but also touristic and environmental guides</p> <p>Main aims of the project are to:</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote and improve the sustainable development and management of rural and responsible tourism connected with environment, local communities and local businesses; ▪ Foster the exchange of tourist best practices; ▪ Learn some economical, relational and marketing techniques for responsible businesses.
POSSIBLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES	Municipalities
STAKEHOLDERS IN CHARGE	Sigeric Soc Coop
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED	Sigeric Soc. Coop., Centro Studi e Ricerca Fondazione Campus di Lucca, ConfCooperative Toscana, Associazione Italiana Turismo Responsabile, Slow Food Italia
TIMING	2019-2020
EXPECTED RESULTS/MONITOR	N° of participants

TITLE	A Park for everybody
ECST MAIN PRINCIPLE	4
OTHER RELATED PRINCIPLES	5,6
DESCRIPTION	<p>The National Park wants to facilitate the use and access to its territory to all people. For that has been realized some itineraries suitable for handicapped people. Some of these paths are new, others - already existing - have been reinforced, so that the area can have a specific and full offer even for this kind of tourists.</p> <p>One of the new offers will be created in Lagdei (PR), that is an area of great environmental value: a new wooden path for wheelchairs will be restored thanks to an extraordinary maintenance and new panels. The path will venture into the wetland and into the fir wood closed to the existing peat bog.</p> <p>The path will end in the restaurant equipped with a dedicated didactic room.</p>
POSSIBLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES	POR FESR
STAKEHOLDERS IN CHARGE	National Park
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED	Lagdei visitor center and different associations
TIMING	2019 - 2021
EXPECTED RESULTS/MONITOR	Certificate of completion of work



TITLE	Bike center
ECST MAIN PRINCIPLE	3
OTHER RELATED PRINCIPLES	2, 4, 5
DESCRIPTION	<p>Bike tourism in protected areas is a very useful tool for sustainable tourism development, able to turn on huge economic synergies. Using bikes (both E-Bikes and traditional ones), allows tourists to slowly visit the Park area and to create a closer connection with its nature, culture and gastronomy.</p> <p>In the Appennino Tosco-Emiliano National Park the use of the bikes will be very useful to discover the area and to promote this kind of active tourism.</p>
POSSIBLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES	European funds, partnerships with other touristic stakeholders (both Italian and stangers)
STAKEHOLDERS IN CHARGE	Sigeric, E-Bike Center Cerwood
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED	Touristic enterprises, tour operators, restaurants, lodges, producers of local products
TIMING	2019 - 2023
EXPECTED RESULTS/MONITOR	<p>N° of tourists renting Bikes and E-Bikes.</p> <p>Comparing the data with past collected data.</p>

TITLE	Historical routes
ECST MAIN PRINCIPLE	4
OTHER RELATED PRINCIPLES	3, 9
DESCRIPTION	<p>The main goal of this action is to restore and enhance some historical paths across the Appennino Tosco Emiliano National Park:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the “Via Matildica del Volto Santo” ▪ the ancient “Via Romana” <p>The Park wants to enhance these paths and support in this way the businesses related to these hiking activities.</p>
POSSIBLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES	POR FESR, PSR, GAL Frignano e Appennino Reggiano; GAL Montagnappennino; GAL Lunigiana.
STAKEHOLDERS IN CHARGE	Appennino Tosco Emiliano National Park
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED	Municipalities
TIMING	2019-2023



EXPECTED RESULTS/MONITOR	Km of restored paths; n° of overnights and lunches of tourists walking on these paths.
---------------------------------	--

TITLE	Hiking
ECST MAIN PRINCIPLE	4
OTHER RELATED PRINCIPLES	3, 5
DESCRIPTION	<p>In the area of the Appennino Tosco Emiliano National Park there are a lot of trails for hiking such as the Alta Via dei Parchi, the Garfagnana trekking and the Lunigiana trekking; these paths connect the area with others interesting places such as the 5 Terre National Park and the Alpi Apuane regional Park.</p> <p>These trails are an important cultural and environmental infrastructure because they connect important mountain viallages that are the vehicle accesible roads to the CAI paths.</p> <p>The aim of this action is to restore and enhance some of these trails.</p> <p>The planned activities are as follows: maintenance of the paths, renovation of the panels, promotional articles on specialised magazines, invitations to TV.</p>
POSSIBLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES	PSR
STAKEHOLDERS IN CHARGE	National Park
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED	LAG, Union of Municipalities
TIMING	2019 - 2023
EXPECTED RESULTS/MONITOR	Km of restored trails.

TITLE	Tourists Perception
ECST MAIN PRINCIPLE	4
OTHER RELATED PRINCIPLES	6, 10
DESCRIPTION	<p>Every year will be realized a survey on tourists' perception in order to understand their satisfaction and at the same time the effectiveness of the policies carried out by the National Park.</p> <p>Some questionnaires will be provided during different seasons to collect information about the different kinds of tourists who come to visit the area. The sample will be at least 200 questionnaires per year.</p> <p>The collected data will be analyzed, commented and included in an annual report. The action will be repeated during the 5 years of application of the ECST.</p>



	<p>The questionnaires will be distributed in partnership with the visitor center, other accommodation facilities, cooperatives, enterprises that deal with public and that usually work together with the Park.</p> <p>The data will be analyzed by the ECST staff.</p>
POSSIBLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES	No costs
STAKEHOLDERS IN CHARGE	ECST office
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED	Visitor Center, other accommodation facilities, associations, environmental and touristic guides
TIMING	2019 - 2023
EXPECTED RESULTS/MONITOR	N° of questionnaires per year; Tourists satisfaction improvement.

TITLE	The sports tourism - A Park for sports
ECST MAIN PRINCIPLE	4
OTHER RELATED PRINCIPLES	5, 10
DESCRIPTION	<p>The open-air sport activities can be a good opportunity to fort he Park to be attractive for tourists.</p> <p>The National Park wants to support this kind of tourism enhancing some important events connected with sport activities and above all the activities related to the Apennine characteristics that allows a sustainable use of the area.</p> <p>The provided support will include the offer of contents and services to the events participants and their partners and to the public in order to highlight the excellences of the National Park.</p>
POSSIBLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES	Chamber of Commerce Reggio Emilia, LAG Lunigiana
STAKEHOLDERS IN CHARGE	National Park
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED	Uisp Lega Montagna, CAI
TIMING	2019 - 2023
EXPECTED RESULTS/MONITOR	Number of organized events



TITLE	Visitor Centers network
ECST MAIN PRINCIPLE	5
OTHER RELATED PRINCIPLES	10
DESCRIPTION	<p>The main goal of this action is to increase the number of visitors centers. The idea is to create new visitor centers in interesting points for tourists and characterized by notoriety.</p> <p>The focus point is that the Visitor Centers are private accomodation facilities and/or restaurant that agree to work in partnership with the National Park. This is done through an agreement undersigned by the National Park and the private operators in which are defined the technological equipments and panels necessary to create a proper visitor center. The partnership with the Park is an added value for these facilities that can be considered an attractive theme for tourists.</p> <p>Every visitor center will receive the same technological equipment.</p> <p>The National Park has some guidelines fort he creation of the visitor centers so that they can be easily recognizable by the public and tourists and at the same to maintain their own identity. So, every visitor center can choose as mutually agreed with the Park to develop some of the guidelines namely the ones that best fulfill the visitor center identity. The visitor centers must gurantee the accomodation all over the year and especially during the weekends and the feasts. They can also sell local products in partnership with local producers. They can also provide other services in partnership with other privates subjekcs (guides associations, rental bikes and so on). They will have also books, guides, depliants and gadgets of the National Park.</p> <p>At the moment there are 12 active visitors centers: the aim is to create 5 new visitors centers.</p>
POSSIBLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES	POR, PSR
STAKEHOLDERS IN CHARGE	National Park
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED	LAG Lunigiana, LAG Garfagnana, LAG SOPRIP, LAG del Frignano e Appennino reggiano
TIMING	2019-2023
EXPECTED RESULTS/MONITOR	Number of visitors centers created.

TITLE	Upvivism - Biosfera Gastronomica a Km0
ECST MAIN PRINCIPLE	6
OTHER RELATED PRINCIPLES	7
DESCRIPTION	Upvivism - Biosfera Gastronomica a KM0 is the development of the contest "0 Km Menu" created by the National Park in 2008.



	<p>After the recognition as Unesco Biosphere Reserve in 2015 and the international conference entitled "Biosphere Reserve Branding Through High Quality Products and Gastronomy" that took place in Torrechiara castle in 2016 the project had been extended to the Appennino Tosco Emiliano Biosphere Reserve. Then, from 2017, it has been extended at Italian national level including also the Italian Unesco Biosphere Reserves: 'Alpi Ledrensi e Judicaria', 'Delta del Po', 'Sila' and 'Isole di Toscana'. As the project is a witness to the ability to network Biosphere Reserves, it has also been accredited by the National Technical Committee MAB UNESCO.</p> <p>Upviviùm is a project that involves restaurants, local producers of the area, supporting and strengthening their partnership. Thanks to the partnership with ALMA, the International School of Italian Cuisine, this contest is a good opportunity of qualification for cooks, owners and producers. Furthermore, for all the area is a good marketing tool that can strengthen the food and wine tourism all over the year.</p> <p>The project aims are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Foster and increase the use of local products in the restaurants of the Biosphere reserves involved; ▪ enhance the food and wine heritage of the biosphere reserves, heritage that is also a tool of conservation for the "cultivated and breeding" biodiversity and for the traditional gastronomic culture; ▪ encourage sustainable tourism related to high quality gastronomy; ▪ promote in a synergetic way the Italian biosphere reserves and create a network between their stakeholders.
POSSIBLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES	Regions, other Unesco biosphere reserves
STAKEHOLDERS IN CHARGE	National Park
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED	Restaurants, producers, other Unesco biosphere reserves
TIMING	2019-2023
EXPECTED RESULTS/MONITOR	Number of restaurants participating at the contest.

TITLE	School of Cooperative di Comunità (community cooperatives)
ECST MAIN PRINCIPLE	6
OTHER RELATED PRINCIPLES	5,7,8
DESCRIPTION	<p>The small villages inside the Park are at the risk of depopulation and insufficient services.</p> <p>In these villages the Park want to encourage the creation of collective/social enterprises that can provide services for people and the area through the creation of cooperatives in the villages and for the villages.</p> <p>This community cooperatives can provide services and activities for the Park and at the same time for the local inhabitants.</p>



	This action establishes the realization of meetings and school days for other villages in the Apennines (but also in Italy) that want to create new community cooperatives. It is also imagined a tutoring activity provided by the Park staff to strengthen the new cooperatives.
POSSIBLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES	Confcooperative, Lega cooperative, Unione cooperative, LAG della Lunigiana, LAG della Garfagnana, LAG del Frignano e Appennino reggiano, LAG Soprip, PSR, POR, Chamber of Commerce.
STAKEHOLDERS IN CHARGE	Cooperative Valle dei Cavalieri, Cooperative I Briganti di Cerreto, Confcooperative Reggio Emilia
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED	Municipalities stakeholders, National Park
TIMING	2019-2023
EXPECTED RESULTS/MONITOR	Number of community cooperatives villages.

TITLE	The rural market of the Appennino Reggiano
ECST MAIN PRINCIPLE	6
OTHER RELATED PRINCIPLES	5, 7, 10
DESCRIPTION	<p>The project is one of the key actions of the Comunità Slow Food dell'Appennino Reggiano that enhances the territory and the local stakeholders. This project provides for a "Rural market" placed in the city of Reggio Emilia and dedicated to the producers of the Municipalities of the 'Unione Montana Appennino Reggiano and that have the biological label. In the market are foreseen cultural events focused on agricultural products, their environmental value, their impact on the landscape and their cultural value as a connection between past and future, between tradition and innovation.</p> <p>Practical workshops will be realized to promote the direct knowledge of local product, the knowledge of the different raw materials and food production in order to enhance a critical consumption. The market will be realized during springtime in the city of Reggio Emilia and 20 small producers from Apennines will participate at the event.</p> <p>The aims of the project are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strengthen the value of rural markets according to their original meanings, as a trustworthy place, developing the social side of the market in order to create a new partnership between producers and consumers; ▪ Increase the connection between the city of Reggio Emilia and the Apennine, according to an idea of strong connection between the city and the mountain; ▪ Share the value of the products coming from the Unesco Biosphere Reserve and obtained by the continuous research of balance between agriculture and nature;



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Value the biodiversity as a common good; ▪ Increase in the young generation the consciousness of the connection between food, agriculture and landscape; ▪ Increase the consciousness of the relationship between food, health and local identity, giving information on place of origin, seasoning, characteristics, dietary values of each product.
POSSIBLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES	Slow Food
STAKEHOLDERS IN CHARGE	Comunità Slow Food dell'Appennino Reggiano
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED	Local producers, restaurants
TIMING	2019-2023
EXPECTED RESULTS/MONITOR	N° of participants at the market; N° of events realized.

TITLE	The use of Park logo
ECST MAIN PRINCIPLE	7
OTHER RELATED PRINCIPLES	5,6
DESCRIPTION	<p>The Park allows the use of ist logo by local producers through specific agreement accoring to the Italian rule n. 394/91.</p> <p>Thanks to the use of logo the producers can apply more effective marketing policies and make their products recognizable as coming from the Park area. The “products of the Park” will create a unique “Park hamper” that can be promoted by the park and even sold through specific distribution chain in the area, in the visitor center and online.</p> <p>The Park recognizes the role of the local products in maintaining the territory undamaged and also the food landscape that is the main value of this part of the Apennine. According to this perspective the Park will sustain ist own territory and ist products and want to create the conditions for the direct sell of the products.</p>
POSSIBLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES	No need of economic resources
STAKEHOLDERS IN CHARGE	National Park
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED	None
TIMING	2019-2023
EXPECTED RESULTS/MONITOR	N° of enterprises with Park logo.



TITLE	The hiking tourism - From Park to Park
ECST MAIN PRINCIPLE	7
OTHER RELATED PRINCIPLES	5, 6
DESCRIPTION	<p>The network of "Parchi di Mare e d'Appennino" is one of the strategic projects for developing sustainable tourism in the Tosco Emiliano Apennine National Park.</p> <p>In this framework this action wants to support - through promotional actions - hiking activities and itineraries by bicycle or horse itineraries (lasting 2 or more days) that connected the Tosco Emiliano Apennine National Park, with the other protected areas of the network of Parchi di Mare e di Appennino.</p>
POSSIBLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES	Legambiente, Uisp
STAKEHOLDERS IN CHARGE	Ostello dei Balocchi
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED	Appennino Tosco Emiliano National Park, 5 Terre National Park
TIMING	2019-2023
EXPECTED RESULTS/MONITOR	N° of participants

TITLE	Stakeholders' training
ECST MAIN PRINCIPLE	8
OTHER RELATED PRINCIPLES	10
DESCRIPTION	<p>This action is focused on the realization of training activities for the local stakeholders. The training will be focused on different themes such as touristic hospitality, online communication, courses of foreign languages focused on tourism vocabulary, food services with special focus on local products.</p> <p>According to the stakeholders' feedbacks of these first events it will be possible to repeat these activities in the next few years focusing on sustainable tourism aspects and Park characteristics (traditions as quality elements of the touristic offer, definition of sustainable tourism and how to promote it, the markets of sustainable tourism, the seasoning and its tourisms, the involvement of public and private stakeholders in the enhancement of the local heritage and of the touristic offer).</p>
POSSIBLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES	GAL Lunigiana, GAL Garfagnana, Gal SOPRIP, GAL del Frignano e Appennino Reggiano and National park.
STAKEHOLDERS IN CHARGE	National Park
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED	Municipalities, private stakeholders



TIMING	2019 - 2023
EXPECTED RESULTS/MONITOR	N° of courses; N° of participants.

TITLE	School of tourism - Neve Natura e Autunno d'Appennino
ECST MAIN PRINCIPLE	6
OTHER RELATED PRINCIPLES	4, 8, 9
DESCRIPTION	<p>The aim is to encourage the school tourism through an innovative presentation of the main values of the area (naturalistic, landscape, historical and cultural) to deeply involve the local human resources, enhance the local identity and promote sustainable lifestyles connected with the respect for nature and environmental sustainability.</p> <p>“Autunno d'Appennino” will be financed again: this project let people directly discover the Park. It is a successful experience from a touristic point of view, but it has also reached good results in education to sustainability.</p> <p>In the same way is developed “Neve e Natura”, which encourage an innovative and sustainable approach to the snow.</p> <p>Both the projects will be offered to the schools in Liguria region even in partnership with the 5 Terre National Park.</p>
POSSIBLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES	Park budget
STAKEHOLDERS IN CHARGE	National Park
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED	LAG, municipalities, 5 Terre National Park
TIMING	2019-2023
EXPECTED RESULTS/MONITOR	Realization of the projects; n° of participants.

TITLE	CEAS - Atelier Dedalus e Atelier delle Acque e delle Energie “Di Onda in Onda”
ECST MAIN PRINCIPLE	6
OTHER RELATED PRINCIPLES	4, 9
DESCRIPTION	<p>The Environmental Education Center for Sustainability of the Park is placed in the municipality of Ventasso and it is composed by 2 Ateliers:</p> <p>The Atelier “Di Onda in Onda” offers a different approach to science, which encourage investigations, questions, experiments, building hypothesis and theories. It is composed by different fieldworks: the ENEL hydroelectric Central station, the Park headquarter, the wood close to Rimale, the Ozola river.</p>



	<p>“Dedalus: Atelier della natura d’Appennino” is focused on biodiversity and nature conservation: it fully immersed in nature which can be discovered and understood through explorations, testing, plays and activities. Four different environmental sites/educational paths: four different ways to discover nature and biodiversity of the Park.</p> <p>The aims of the project are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Offer new and personalized approaches to environmental teaching; ▪ Investigate the natural phenomena with environmental educators; ▪ Shared projects for educational paths; ▪ Promote the value of the environment of the national Park and of the Unesco Biosphere Reserve; ▪ Offer experimental experiences in the field of education to sustainability.
POSSIBLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES	Sponsor, Unione Comuni, Municipality of Ventasso (RE), Iren
STAKEHOLDERS IN CHARGE	National Park
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED	Coop Il Ginepro, Parco Avventura Cerwood
TIMING	2019-2023
EXPECTED RESULTS/MONITOR	n° of participant per atelier.

TITLE	“Educational” for local touristic stakeholders
ECST MAIN PRINCIPLE	8
OTHER RELATED PRINCIPLES	10
DESCRIPTION	<p>Some local stakeholders don’t know sufficiently the Park area, its features, the activities they can do and the experience they can live.</p> <p>In the next 5 years the Park will organize events, meetings and visits to deepen the knowledge of local stakeholders about the Park and its characteristics: in this way they will be able to give right information to the visitors.</p> <p>This activity will be coordinated by the Park but will be developed by the environmental guides and the other stakeholders which are in charge for the environmental education.</p>
POSSIBLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES	Park, LAG, participants’ fees
STAKEHOLDERS IN CHARGE	Park and stakeholders in charge for environmental education
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED	Stakeholders and local producers of the area
TIMING	2019-2023



EXPECTED RESULTS/MONITOR	Realization of the activities; n° of participants.
---------------------------------	--

TITLE	Implementation of the ECST to the Appennino Tosco Emiliano Unesco Biosphere Reserve
ECST MAIN PRINCIPLE	10
OTHER RELATED PRINCIPLES	5, 7
DESCRIPTION	In June 2015 the Appennino Tosco Emiliano was recognized as a Unesco Biosphere Reserve (MaB): the leader of the application was the Appennino Tosco Emiliano National Park. The area of biosphere reserve is 10 times bigger than the Park area and the Park itself is the core area of the Unesco site. Inside the Biosphere reserve there are other protected areas in addition to the Park SIC - ZPS, Riserva Statale Rupe di Campotrera and the Monte Fuso Park. The idea is to share the ECST values and principles and the UN 17 Sustainable Development Goals, with the stakeholders of the Unesco area. The Tosco Emiliano Apennine will become a laboratory for sustainable development, being at the same time guarantee of nature safeguard and incentive for the social and economic development of local communities. The ECST is a part of the Biosphere Reserve Action Plan.
POSSIBLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES	National Park
STAKEHOLDERS IN CHARGE	National Park
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED	Forum, Biosphere Reserve assembly
TIMING	2019 - 2023
EXPECTED RESULTS/MONITOR	N. of meetings on the ECST in the municipalities of the Biosphere Reserve not belonging to the park area; n° of participants to the meetings.

TITLE	Center for men and forests
ECST MAIN PRINCIPLE	1
OTHER RELATED PRINCIPLES	3
DESCRIPTION	According to the climate change forests are fragile ecosystems but at the same time they have a fundamental role in mitigating the negative effects of the climate change itself. The Appennino Tosco Emiliano national park is covered by forests for the 73% of its area: for centuries the human activities has reduced the forest ecosystems and biodiversity. Even if in the last decades forests are coming back due to the abandonment of agriculture and pastoral activities, they are still too fragile and not very resilient to climate change. For that the National Park want to develop this project focused on the realization of forestry interventions/activities (girdling, planting,) to create stronger forests that can be more resistant to the negative effects of climate change.



POSSIBLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES	ENEL Green Power, PSR (8.3 and 8.5)
STAKEHOLDERS IN CHARGE	National Park
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED	Municipalities, ENEL Green Power, Unioni dei comuni
TIMING	2019 - 2023
EXPECTED RESULTS/MONITOR	Hectares of resilient forest

TITLE	The local Forum
ECST MAIN PRINCIPLE	9
OTHER RELATED PRINCIPLES	3
DESCRIPTION	<p>The participatory process is fundamental for the realization of the action plan, for the stakeholder's involvement and for collecting the point of views of local communities. The direct participation of people to the different projects, activities and events both of the National Park and of the Unesco Biosphere Reserve is every day more important.</p> <p>So, the National Park want to strengthen and enlarge the local forum, according to the ECST and Unesco principles.</p>
POSSIBLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES	National Park budget
STAKEHOLDERS IN CHARGE	National Park
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED	Municipalities and the local communities
TIMING	2019 - 2023
EXPECTED RESULTS/MONITOR	N° of Forum/year; n° of forum participants.



No.	Action Title	ECST obj.	Timing	Responsibility
1	CEETO pilot action - Pietra di Bismantova	2	2018 - 2019	National Park
2	CEETO pilot action - Piana di Lagdei	2	2018 - 2019	National Park
3	Geodiversity and landslides in the Apennines	2	2019 - 2020	Municipality of Corniglio
4	Rural and Responsible Tourism - School for Sustainable Tourism	8	2019 - 2020	Sigeric soc coop
5	A Park for everybody	4	2019 - 2021	National Park
6	Bike Center	3	2019 - 2023	E-bike Center Cerwood, Sigeric soc coop
7	Historical paths	4	2019 - 2023	National Park
8	Hiking	4	2019 - 2023	National Park
9	Tourists perception	4	2019 - 2023	ECST office of the National Park
10	The sports tourism - A Park for sports	4	2019 - 2023	National Park
11	Visitor Centers network	5	2019 - 2023	National Park
12	UPVIVIUM - Biosfera Gastronomica a km0	6	2019 - 2023	National Park
13	School of Cooperative di comunità (community cooperatives)	6	2019 - 2023	Coop I Briganti di Cerreto, Coop Valle dei Cavalieri, Confcooperative Reggio Emilia
14	The rural market of the Appennino Reggiano	6	2019 - 2023	Slow Food group of the Appennino Reggiano
15	The use of Park logo	7	2019 - 2023	National Park
16	The hiking tourism - From Park to Park	7	2019 - 2023	Ostello die Balocchi
17	Stakeholders' training	8	2019 - 2023	National Park
18	School tourism - Neve Natura e Autunno d'Appennino	6	2019 - 2023	National Park
19	CEAS - Atelier "Dedalus" e Atelier delle acque e delle energie "Di Onda in Onda"	6	2019 - 2023	National Park
20	"Educational" for local touristic stakeholders	8	2019 - 2023	National Park and stakeholders in charge for environmental education
21	Implementation of the ECST to the Appennino Tosco Emiliano Unesco Biosphere Reserve (MaB)	10	2019 - 2023	National Park
22	Center for men and forests	1	2019 - 2023	National Park
23	The local forum	9	2019 - 2023	National Park

Tab. 3 - Summary table of the Actions included in the Action Plan.