







Ecological use of native plants for environmental restoration and sustainable development in the Mediterranean region

Project presentation

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www.ecoplantmed.eu

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project context

ENPI CBC Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme 2007/2013:

A multilateral cross-border cooperation programme financed by the European Union under the European Neighbouhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI)

Project Ref. No : II-B/2.1/0671

Total project budget 1.050.364 € and it is financed for an amount of 945.328 € (90%) by the EU

Implementation period (24 months): 01/01/2014 - 31/12/2015









ECOPLANTMED partnership (1/2)

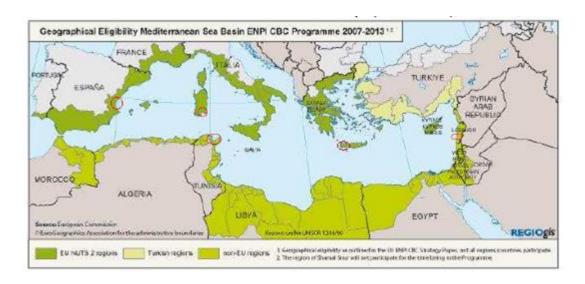
Benificiary-coordinator: CIHEAM - Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Chania - Mediterranean Plant Conservation Unit (CIHEAM – MAICh), Crete, Greece

Partner 1: University of Cagliari, Centre for Conservation of Biodiversity (UNICA CCB), Sardinia, Italy

Partner 2: Saint Joseph University, Laboratory for Seed Germination and Conservation (USJ)
Lebanon

Partner 3: Regional Ministry of Infrastructures, Territory and Environment, Centre for Forest Applied Research (CIEF) Valencia, Spain

Partner 4: National Research Institute for Rural Engineering, Water and Forestry, Laboratory of Management and Valorisation of Forest Resources (INRGREF) Ariana, Tunisia











Activities



6 Work packages

WP1: Management and coordination

WP2: Communication

WP3: Capitalisation of the results

WP4: Conservation and Propagation of target Mediterranean plants

WP5: Exchange of experience on restoration Mediterranean habitats

WP6: Ecological restoration pilot actions









WP1: Management and coordination

WP1 Activities

- > Activity 1.1 Overall local management and coordination,
- Activity 1.2 Reporting and internal monitoring,
- Activity 1.3 Monitoring and control of the incurred expenditures.

WP1 Output

- > Coordination and management decisions,
- > Overall and annual actions plans,
- > Project's reports (two 6 months reports, interim and final reports),
- > Financial Management, accounting and audit reports.









WP2: Communication

WP1 Activities and outputs

- > Activity 2.1 Development of the Communication Plan, (1 CP)
- Activity 2.2 Creation and management of a project Web Site, (1WS)
- Activity 2.3 Creation of Project Logo and Leaflet, (1 Logo; 5000 Leaflet)
- > Activity 2.4 Organisation of Local Workshops & Dissemination Events, (10 LDE, 10 LW)
- Activity 2.5 Participation in External Events, (10 P.Ex.Ev.)
- Activity 2.6 Translation and dissemination of the project's Guide of Good Practices on ecological restoration, (1 GGP; 1000 copies GGP)
- Activity 2.7 Translation and dissemination of the Propagation Manual of target native plants species, (1 PM; 1000 copies PM)
- Activity 2.8 Communication for the pilot actions (2 display panel)
- Activity 2.9 Organisation of closing International Conference, (1 Int. Conf.)



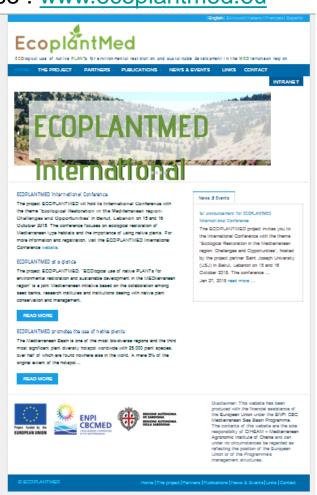






WP2: Communication

Adresse: www.ecoplantmed.eu



Project Logo











WP2: Communication

Project Leaflet











WP3: Capitalisation

- 1 Capitalisation plan
- 5 local capitalisation plans
- 50 relevant actors contacted
- 20 agreements signed with target groups (public authorities, networks, NGOs, nurseries, etc.)









WP4 : Conservation and Propagation of target Mediterranean plants

Output :

- Elaboration of common criteria for selecting target species to be used for ecological restoration and common methodology for working on conservation and propagation of the selected Mediterranean native plants
- Elaboration of a common list with 50-75 target plant species for habitat restoration activities in the Mediterranen area (10- 15 species per partner)
- At least 100 accessions for ex situ conservation and duplication
- 100-150 experiments of different protociols for the propagation of target plants
- 50-75 new germination protocols of native Mediterranean plants will be published
- 1 manual with practical protocols for the propagation of target native plant species
- 1 seed bank for long term conservation in Tunisia









WP4: Conservation and Propagation of target Mediterranean plants

Selection of native species in tunisia



- Criterion 1: work with woody species
- Criterion 2: species of selected habitats
- Criterion 3: select species of structural and functional importance for the habitat
- Criterion 4: select species for which we can collect large quantities of seeds, that are easy to work with during cleaning and testing, suitable for reproduction in nurseries
- <u>Criterion 5: prioritize species on the basis of their importance for ex situ</u> conservation
- Criterion 6: select some species of common interest among partners









Among 221 taxa, we have selected 35 native species with four exceptions of herbaceous species.

Scientifique Name	Family	Habitat type	Interest
Alnus glutinosa •(L.) Gaertn.	Betulaceae	Alnus glutinosa woods	Rare, to be protected and important for some habitats.
Anthyllis barba jovis L.	Fabaceae	Vegetated sea cliffs and rocky shores	rare, to be protected and important for some habitats (ex. Tabarka)
Capparis spinosa L.	Capparaceae	Mediterranean xeric grasslands	Important for habitat
Celtis australis L.	Ulmaceae	Nettle-tree (Celtis australis) woods	Rare, to be protected and important for some habitats.
Ceratonia siliqua L.	Fabaceae	Olive-carob forests	Important for habitat, multi-uses
Crataegus azarolus L.	Rosaceae	Mediterranean xeric grasslands	Important for habitat
Cytisus triflorus Lam.	Fabaceae	Mediterranean xeric grasslands	Important for habitat, rare
Foeniculum vulgare Mill.	Apiaceae	Mediterranean xeric grasslands	Important for habitat, used as medicinal plant
Fraxinus angustifolia Vahl.	Oleaceae	Mediterranean poplar-elm-ash forests	rare, to be protected
•Genista cinerea (Vill.) DC.	Fabaceae	Arborescent matorral	Important for the habitat, rare species
Hedysarum coronarium L.	Fabaceae	Wet heaths	exceptionnaly this herbaceous species is suggested
Ilex aquifolium L.	Aquifoliaceae	Arborescent matorral	rare, to be protected and important for some habitats
Juniperus oxycedrus L.	Cupressaceae	Arborescent matorral	important for the habitat
Juniperus phoenicea L.	Cupressaceae	Arborescent matorral	important for the habitat



Fabaceae

Myrtaceae

Oleaceae

Asclepiadaceae

Oleaceae

Pinaceae

Anacardiaceae

Anacardiaceae

Anacardiaceae

Fagaceae

Fabaceae

Anacardiaceae

Rosaceae

(Lam.) Paol. & Bég.

Medicago arborea L.

Myrtus communis L.

Olea europaea L.

Periploca angustifolia (Labill.)

Markgr.

Phillyrea angustifolia L.

Pinus pinaster Aiton

Pistacia atlantica Desf.

Pistacia lentiscus L.

Pistacia terebinthus L.

Quercus coccifera L.

Retama sphaerocarpa (L.)

Lam.

Rhus pentaphylla (Jacq.) Desf.

Rosa canina L.







used as medicinal species

naturalized

Important for the habitat

Important for the habitat

Important for habitat, needs to be

protected

Important for the habitat

ssp. Endemic

Important for habitat, needs to be protected

Important for the habitat

rare, to be protected and important for some habitats

Important for the habitat

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protected

EcoplantMed		Project funded by the EUROPEAN UNION EUROPEAN UNION ENPI CBCMED CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN	Section 2 of the second 2 of t
Laurus nobilis L.	Lauraceae	Continental laurel (Laurus nobilis)-oak woodland	very rare, to be protected
Lavandula dentata L.	Lamiaceae	Mediterranean xeric grasslands	Important for habitat
Magydaris pastinacea	Apiaceae	Mediterraneo-montane grasslands	rare, endangered, to be protected,

Thermo-Mediterranean shrub formations

Meso-Mediterranean silicicolous maquis

Thermo-Mediterranean shrub formations

Mediterraneo-montane grasslands

Meso-Mediterranean silicicolous maquis

Mediterranean pine woods

Mediterraneo-montane grasslands

Arborescent matorral

Arborescent matorral

Western meso Mediterranean

Thermo-Mediterranean shrub formations

Mediterranean xeric grasslands

Thermo-Mediterranean shrub formations









Scientifique Name	Family	Habitat type	Interest
Ruta chalepensis L.	Rutaceae	Mediterranean xeric grasslands	Important for habitat
Salix pedicellata Desf.	Salicaceae	Riparian willow (Salix) formations	rare, to be protected
Thymus numidicus Poir.	Lamiaceae	Thermo-Mediterranean shrub formations	Important for the habitat
Ulmus campestris (Moench) Wahlenb.	Ulmaceae	Mediterranean poplar-elm-ash forests	rare, to be protected
Vitex agnus castus L.	Lamiaceae	Southern riparian galleries and thickets	rare, to be protected





provenances

Geographical distribution of target be used for species to restoration of the pilot area in Nefza was determined according to literature especially "Flore de la Tunisie" (Pottier-Alapetite, 1979, 1981) and with the help of colleagues in local forest service. Several field visits are done by researchers on selected sites to evaluate the harvest calendar of species as well as their availability.



•Periploca angustifolia (Labill.)





Name species	Distribution	Harvest period
Alnus glutinosa (L.) Gaertn.	K	autumn
Anthyllis barba jovis L.	K, M, CB	June
Capparis spinosa L.	TS, NE, K, VM, CB,DT, TC	March-June
Celtis australis L.	K, DT	September-October
Ceratonia siliqua L.	Common in all Tunisia	July
Crataegus azarolus L.	K, M, DT, CB, TC	July
Cytisus triflorus Lam.	K, CB, DT	September-October
Foeniculum vulgare Mill.	K, NE, CB, TC, TS	October
Fraxinus angustifolia Vahl.	K, M, VM, DT	July-August
•Genista cinerea (Vill.) DC.	DT, CB, TC	October
Hedysarum coronarium L.	K, VM, NE, CB, DT, TC	Autumn
Ilex aquifolium L.	K	September-October
Juniperus oxycedrus L.	K	July-August
Juniperus phoenicea L.	K	July-August
Laurus nobilis L.	K	August-September
Lavandula dentata L.	-	August-September
•Magydaris pastinacea •(Lam.) Paol. & Bég.	K, VM, O, CB, DT	July
Medicago arborea L.	-	Autumn
Myrtus communis L.	K, M, DT, CB	Autumn
Olea europaea L.	TS	winter

NE. VM. DT. CB. TC. TS

May-June









STEP 2: Collecting Seeds of target species

Implementation of the collecting of genetic material from target plant species: harvesting of high quality seeds constitutes the basis on which the next activities will be done.











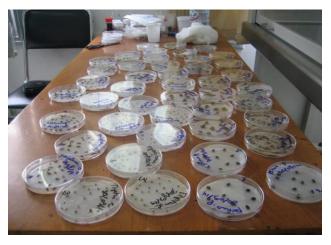


STEP 3: Seed curation and storage

Cleaning, weighting, drying, packaging: Seed processing involves cleaning the seed samples, drying, testing their germination and packaging in appropriate containers for conservation and distribution.

Ex situ conservation in local seed banks, including duplicate accessions in other seed banks.

Methods prescribed by the International Seed Testing Association (ISTA) are used for determining the seed viability.













STEP 4: Research experiments on propagation protocols

Preliminary seed testing was carried out to study germination requirements of the targeted plant species.

Later tests will be used to examine:

seed dormancy type, seed dormancy release treatments, effect of white light and temperature on germination.













Installation of a seed bank for long term conservation













Installation of Green house













WP 5: Exchange of experience on restoration of mediterranean habitats

Objectif

Identification of best practices on restoration of mediterranean habitas / and definition of common methodologies for techniques on habitats restoration

Outputs

- 1. A review of bibliographic search
- 2. 30 good practices identified and analysed
- 3. 15 selected best practices
- 4. Guide of best restoration practices in mediterranean habitas









Expected results

- > Exchange of experience and know-haw among partners on methodology development for similar restoration activities of Mediterranean habitats
- > Improvemeent of the environmental management capacity and governance at local level; increased involvement of local actors
- > Improvement of the technical capacity for native plant propagation in MPC partner institutions
- > Increased public awerness and sensitization on the importance and feasibility of use of native plants in restoration activities

Outputs

- 1. Two pilot management plan for the restoration of Mediterranean habitats
- 2. Two reports for the two pilot actions
- 3. 6 ha public land in Mount-Lebanon initiating to be restored
- 4. 7 ha public land in the Nefza region in Tunisia initiating to be restored



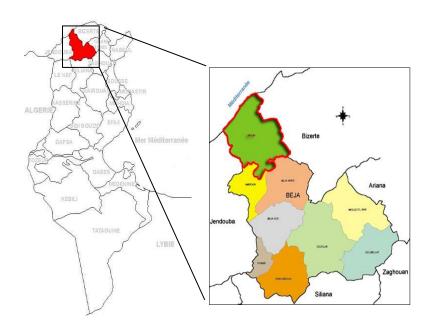


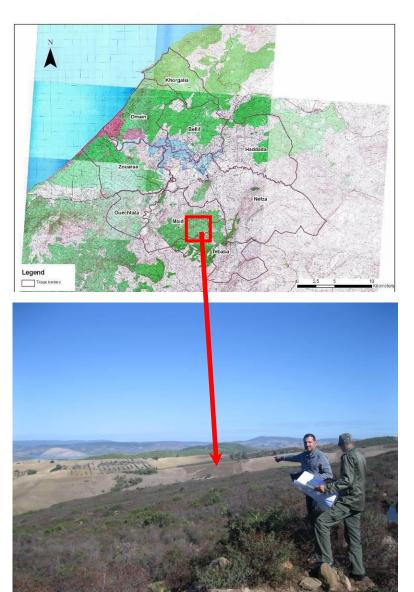




Activities realized

> 1. Selection of the Pilot site: Nefza / Msid













Activities realized

> 2. Selection of the species to be planted

Species to be planted in the pilot site are as follows: 13 species

Anthyllis barba jovis (L.) Gaertn., Capparis spinosa L., Celtis australis L., Ceratonia siliqua L., Crataegus azarolus L., Cytisus triflorus Lam., Genista cinerea (Vill.) DC., Laurus nobilis L., Medicago arborea L., Pinus pinaster Aiton, Quercus coccifera L., Rhus pentaphylla (Jacq.) Desf. and Ruta chalepensis L.



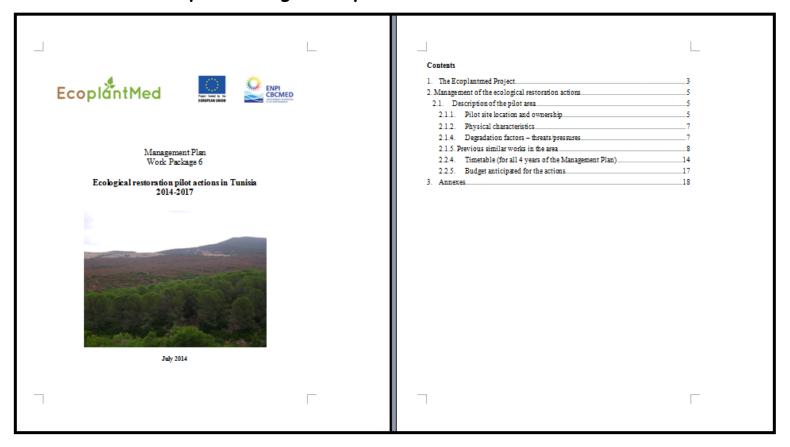






Activities realized

> 3. Elaboration of a pilot management plan for the restoration of Mediterranean habitats





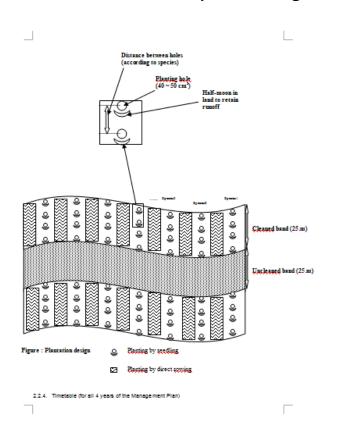


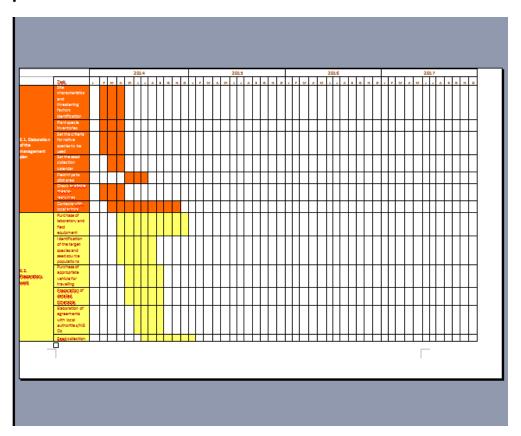




Activities realized

> 3. Elaboration of a pilot management plan for the restoration of Mediterranean habitats







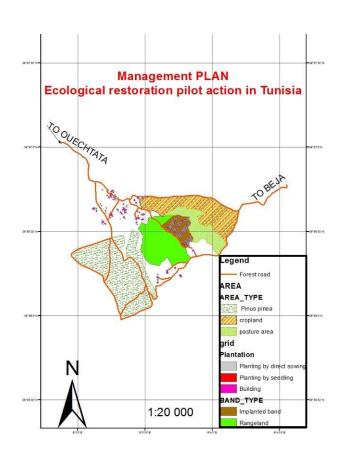


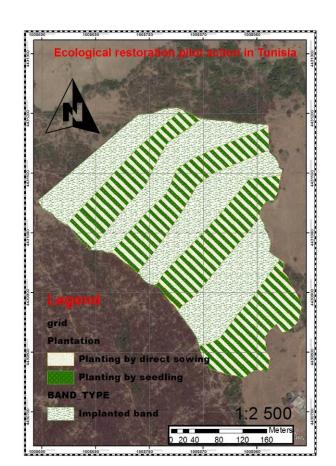




Activities realized

> 3. Elaboration of a pilot management plan for the restoration of Mediterranean habitats







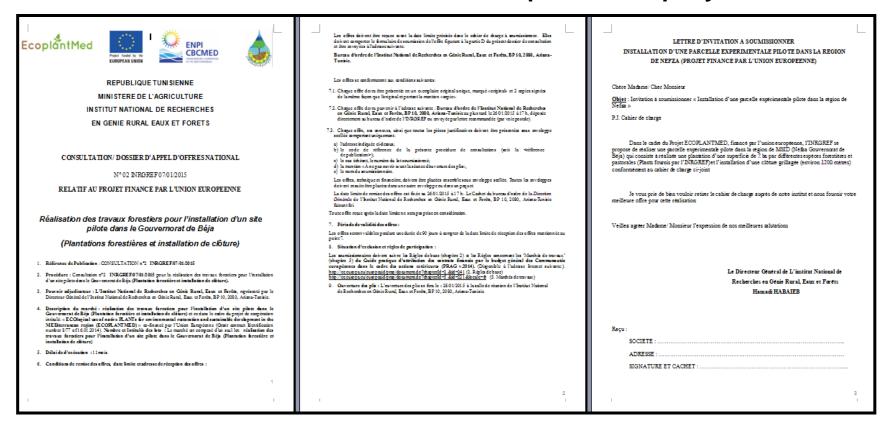






Activities realized

> 4. Opening a tender for the realization of the planting work and the realization of the fence and selection of the private company











Thank you for your attention