



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

**FROM BIODIVERSITY DATA TO DECISIONS:
ENHANCING NATURAL VALUE THROUGH IMPROVED REGIONAL
DEVELOPMENT POLICIES**



Matching conservation priorities with regional development policies while paying special attention to ERDF fund availability is a critical challenge to deploy robust and effective biodiversity conservation strategies at European and regional levels. However, the development of conservation priorities requires the adequate mobilisation of consistent, relevant and structured biodiversity information aimed at feeding and eventually guiding decision-making.

BID-REX aims to enhance natural value preservation through improved regional development policies by **creating/reinforcing the link between relevant biodiversity data and conservation decision-making processes**. More specifically, it aims to facilitate the use of biodiversity information and **increase the impact of ERDF allocation in the preservation of the European natural heritage** by providing decision-making processes with appropriate biodiversity information.

“Better prioritization of biodiversity conservation efforts using evidence-based methods”



DURATION: 5 years (April of 2016–March of 2021)

- PHASE 1: Interregional learning process (3 years)
- PHASE 2: Monitoring of the Action Plan Implementation (2 years)

TOTAL BUDGET: 1.609.294 €
(85% funded by ERDF)

What is the objective of the Interreg Europe programme?

The Interreg Europe programme, financed by the **European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)**, was designed to support policy-learning between relevant policy organisations with **the aim of improving the performance of regional development policies and programmes**. It allows regional and local public authorities and other players of regional relevance across Europe to exchange practices and ideas on the way public policies work, and thereby find solutions to improve their strategies for their own citizens. (Source: Interreg Europe Programme Manual, 19 January 2016)














Involved regions

- 7 EUROPEAN REGIONS FROM 6 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES
- 9 PARTNERS
 - 5 public authorities
 - 4 research institutions
- 7 POLICY INSTRUMENTS TO ADDRESS
 - 4 Regional ERDF Operational Programmes 2014–2020
 - 3 Other regional policy instruments



“Facilitate the use of biodiversity information and increase the impact of ERDF allocation in the preservation of the European natural heritage”

REGION	POLICY INSTRUMENT TO ADDRESS	PARTNERS
1 CATALONIA (Spain)	Catalan ERDF Operational Programme 2014 - 2020 AXIS 6: Protecting the Environment and Promoting Resource Efficiency. Strategic Objectives 6.3.2 & 6.4.2.	  Generalitat de Catalunya Departament de Territori i Sostenibilitat
2 BASQUE COUNTRY (Spain)	ERDF Operative Program for the Basque Country PO6 «Conserve and protect the environment and promote resources efficiency»	
3 NORFOLK COUNTY (United Kingdom)	ERDF 2014 - 2020 for Norfolk County, England. PRIORITY AXIS 6: Preserving and Protecting the Environment and Promoting Resource Efficiency 2.A4 INVESTMENT PRIORITY 6d Protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including Natura 2000 and green infrastructure	 
4 MARCHE REGION (Italy)	Marche Region Ecological Network	
5 LJUBLJANA MARSH (Slovenia)	Regulation on Ljubljana Marsh Nature Park	
6 NORTH GREAT PLAIN REGION (Hungary)	Hungarian Environment and Energy Efficiency Operational Programme 2014 - 2020	
7 WALLONIA (Belgium)	The Regional Policy Statement for Wallonia 2014 - 2019	  

Project approach

The BID-REX project will develop an **interactive interregional learning process** aimed at facilitating the exchange of approaches, tools and methods that have proven useful for bridging the existing gap between environmental information availability and decisions. More specifically, the work plan is designed to allow a logically planned interregional and local learning process organized around conferences, workshops and more in depth visits **to explore and exchange best practices**. The planning of these activities will allow for a progressive integration of the knowledge gained.

Thematic workshops, as main exchange activities, are the principal axis of the project work plan. The knowledge exchanges on good practices and discussion around regional challenges and potential solutions will be based on the experiences and background of each partner and local stakeholder group. The **topics of the exchange activities follow a clear linear and interrelated flow** starting

from the needs of the regions, going through the tools and methodologies and ending with the impacts on policies.

An Action Plan for each region will be prepared providing details on how the lessons learnt from the workshops could be implemented in order to improve the policy instrument that is addressed within each region. Regular meetings with the regional **Local Stakeholder Groups** will be organized **to identify the most useful outputs for each region** to be included and adapted into their respective Action Plan. Furthermore, technical documents resulting from the corresponding thematic workshop will be also published to expand the impact of the results beyond the partnership.

Interregional thematic workshops: the cornerstone of the learning process

Semester 1

04/2016
09/2016

LAUNCHING THE PROJECT

Catalonia (Spain)

Semester 2

10/2016
03/2017

INFORMATION NEEDS FOR DECISION MAKERS

Wallonia (Belgium)

Semester 3

04/2017
09/2017

MATCHING INFORMATION TO NEEDS

Basque Country (Spain)

Semester 4

10/2017
03/2018

IMPROVING DATA FLOWS

North Great Plain Region (Hungary)

Semester 5

04/2018
09/2018

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR DECISION MAKERS AND DATA PROVIDERS

Site visit to different UK institutions
Norfolk County (United Kingdom)

Semester 6

10/2018
03/2019

HOW LEARNING PROCESS HAS IMPACTED OUR ACTION PLANS

Ljubljana Marsh (Slovenia)





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Partners



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