



Widespread introduction of constructed wetlands  
for a wastewater treatment of Agro Pontino

LIFE+08 ENV/IT/000406

PROVINCE OF LATINA

ACTION 7.4

SWOT ANALYSIS  
AND MATRIX OF PRESSURE FACTORS

Partner:



## SWOT ANALYSIS AND MATRIX OF PRESSURE FACTORS

<sup>1</sup>The elaboration of the SWOT analysis in the REWETLAND project has benefited from the participation process undertaken as part of actions 9 (Negotiation and participation for the definition of the Environmental Regeneration Programme) and 18 (Awareness-raising of local population). This process has entailed the implementation of 7 events, including workshops and dissemination meetings, during which the participants were organised into three working groups, according to their fields of interest. The three groups have explored the issues of rehabilitation of water, with particular reference to the problems of natural areas, urban settlements, and agricultural sector. The results have been then shared in the collective sessions of the events or through other communication channels of the project.

In particular, the work of the groups of Workshop 1, which took place on 26 January 2012, has been dedicated to the SWOT analysis. From this work, some relevant strategic indications, shared among the various working groups, can be derived:

- the main strength of the Pontine Plain is its natural environment, which make it a privileged territory, in terms of water availability, soil fertility, mild climate, and the presence of highquality sites as the Circeo National Park. The historical and cultural heritage of the land reclamation works, and its yet untapped potentials, are an important complement to this;
- the main weaknesses are related to the excessive use and poor perception of the importance of environment. These factors determine an unsustainable exploitation of natural resources, lack of information and lack of environmental sensitivity, which results in a growing phenomenon of unauthorised urbanisation. Especially in agriculture, the small businesses have the difficulty to undergo a generation change, which causes resistance to innovation and organisational weakness;
- the most attractive opportunities have been recognised in the development of tourism, linked to the environmental improvement and the navigability of the channels, and to the conversion of the rural activities into sustainable agricultural, with the introduction of a greater reuse of biomass, and a greater promotion of an agriculture oriented to excellence and naturalness;
- the main risks are related to the environmental degradation caused by the excessive or not ecologically careful use of resources, especially

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<sup>1</sup> This document is a summary of the italian version.

in a scenario of climate change. The inability to reconcile the different land uses (residential, agricultural, tourism), increase the risk of progressive urbanisation of the Agro Pontino, resulting at least in the consequent loss of its agricultural identity.

The analysis carried out with the matrix of pressure factors showed that the environmental issues being more sensitive and subject to external pressure are: water pollution, excessive use of resources, dispersion of toxic substances and, secondly, the marine environment and coastal areas, the urban environmental problems, climate change and air pollution. It must be stressed however that the same pressure factor may act on more than one environmental issue and, in addition, it is necessary to emphasise that the matrix of pressure factors is not exhaustive and is perfectible.



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