



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

LIFE+08 ENV/IT/000406

PROVINCE OF LATINA

ACTION 8.1

ACTION PLAN FINAL REPORT ABOUT OBJECTIVES-SCENARIOS

Partner:



ACTION PLAN

FINAL REPORT ABOUT OBJECTIVES-SCENARIOS

¹ The report starts by recalling the objectives and content of the “environmental enhancement programme” foreseen in the context of the “LIFE+ “Rewetland” project. The normative framework concerning protection and management of water sources is also summarised.

The main environmental and socio-economic features of the Agro Pontino area are presented, with particular emphasis on the information gathered through research funded by the provincial authorities (Provincia di Latina) and the results achieved by other actions in the Rewetland project.

The data concerning water quality and the level of pollution in the various catchment areas and subareas have been used to assess the present conditions of the different water bodies and to estimate what results could be reached by implementing different classes of actions. Constructed wetlands have been considered, as well as buffer strips, reinforcing the waste water treatment plants network, increasing the efficiency of current plants, and implementing good agricultural practices such as the re-utilisation of waste- and wooden materials.

The main problems identified by the catchment areas analysis are:

- High loads of waste water originating from urban spread, especially in the area to the south of Colli Albani, in the sub-areas between Aprilia and Cisterna di Latina;
- High level of urban waste water in relation with touristic flows in seaside locations, particularly Sabaudia, the strip between San Felice Circeo and Terracina, and the areas surrounding Porto Badino and the “Lido di Fondi” district;
- Some high-capability waste water treatment plants are in place, such as those of Latina Capoluogo, Latina Sud, Cisterna La Castella and Pontinia, releasing pollutants in subareas whose conditions are particularly worrying;
- Nitrogen concentration due to agricultural and breeding activities is high in the whole Agro Pontino, reaching its highest in the plain between Sezze, Priverno, Sonnino and Pontinia.

The disjunctive analysis carried out with reference to the different intervention options has showed that none of them, in isolation, would be effective in achieving a reduction of pollution loads. Only a scenario implementing all the considered actions promises a reduction in the present loads capable of-

¹ This document is a summary of the Italian version.

potentially- delivering the quality objectives pursued with reference to water bodies in the Pianura Pontina.

Widespread application of buffer strips allows for a sensible reduction in the agriculture- and breedinglinked phosphorus and nitrogen loads; at the same time, the realisation of constructed wetlands, in conjunction with improvements in the current water treatment system, can achieve an effective reduction in the loads originating from industrial and urban activities.

Specific analyses and controls concerning the actual loading conditions will have to be carried out at the moment of implementing the planned actions in order to exactly identify the sources of pressure and adopt in each context the appropriate combination of pollution prevention and management techniques.



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