

Annex 1



COST Action FP1207

Orchestrating forest-related policy analysis in Europe (ORCHESTRA)

QUESTIONNAIRE

We are conducting a survey about the implementation of European Union (EU) Habitats Directive and Birds Directive in Italy with a special emphasis on participatory processes and stakeholders' involvement in the decision-making process. This study is realized under the COST Action "ORCHESTRA" (web site: <https://sites.google.com/site/costactionfp1207/>). Our research is financed from the European Union (STSM FP1207) and it will be part of COST Action FP1207 about forest-related policy analysis.

We are asking your help, as expert or stakeholder, for understanding the reality of participatory processes in the implementation¹ of the Natura 2000 network in Italy at a local level. Hoping to have your support, we are sending you these questions.

Completely filled-in questionnaires will be essential for our research.

Please, answer as a representative of your organization/association.

Section 1 – Personal information (at the time when you were involved in the above-mentioned processes)

- 1.1. Name of the organization/association: _____
- 1.2. Role in the organization/association: _____
- 1.3. Years of work in your organization/association: _____

Section 2 – Natura 2000 network perceptions

2.1. Do you know what percentage of land area is covered by Natura 2000 sites in your Italian region?

- ☐ less than 10% ☐ 10-20% ☐ 20-30% ☐ 30-40% ☐ more than 40% ☐ no opinion

2.2. In your opinion the Habitats and Birds Directives implementation¹ in Italy is important for the nature conservation at a national level?

- ☐ very important ☐ quite important ☐ averagely important ☐ little important ☐ not important

2.3. In your opinion the Natura 2000 network is an **opportunity** for human activities with an economic outcome, direct or indirect, inside and on the boundaries of the protected sites?

- ☐ YES ☐ NO

If YES, could you explain the reasons:

¹**Implementation:** consists of a wide range of actions and decisions that include multiple interpretations and applications of policies by various people (FERRANTI et al. 2010).

2.4. In your opinion the Natura 2000 network is an **obstacle** to human activities with an economic outcome, direct or indirect, inside and on the boundaries of the protected sites?

☐ YES

☐ NO

If YES, could you explain the reasons:

2.5. In your opinion how the following stakeholders should be involved in the management and decision making on Natura 2000 sites in Italy?

	Information ²	Consultation ³	Collaboration ⁴	Co-decision ⁵
Directly affected individuals (e.g. landowners)	☐	☐	☐	☐
Interested stakeholders (e.g. environmental NGOs, tourism associations, public administrations/managers)	☐	☐	☐	☐
General public (citizens)	☐	☐	☐	☐

2.6. Could you compare the importance given to nature conservation (biodiversity), agricultural activities, productive forest functions, recreational activities, environmental education and research activities in the Italian Natura 2000 network?

Nature conservation	++	+	equal	+	++	Agricultural activities
Recreational activities	++	+	equal	+	++	Nature conservation
Recreational activities	++	+	equal	+	++	Agricultural activities
Environmental education	++	+	equal	+	++	Nature conservation
Environmental education	++	+	equal	+	++	Recreational activities
Environmental education	++	+	equal	+	++	Agricultural activities
Productive forest functions	++	+	equal	+	++	Nature conservation
Productive forest functions	++	+	equal	+	++	Recreational activities
Productive forest functions	++	+	equal	+	++	Environmental education
Productive forest functions	++	+	equal	+	++	Agricultural activities

²**Information:** the level of participation which provides the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions (e.g. fact sheets, web sites, etc.).

³**Consultation:** the level of participation which obtains public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions (e.g. focus group, surveys, public meetings).

⁴**Collaboration:** the level of participation which engages the knowledge and resources of stakeholders (i.e. site-based events).

⁵**Co-decision:** the level of participation which shares power and responsibility for the decisions being made and their outcomes creating management groups.

Section 3 – Public participation in the implementation of Natura 2000

3.1. Have you been involved in the Natura 2000 implementation decision process?

☐ YES ☐ NO

If YES, describe/explain what the role of the institution in which you are employed was in this process and what your personal role was?

Fill in the following part of the questionnaire if you have answered YES to Question 3.1

3.2. Could you select the geographical level at which you have been involved?

☐ Local level ☐ Regional level ☐ National level

3.3. Could you select in which phase you have been involved?

☐ Design⁶ ☐ Management⁷ ☐ Monitoring and Evaluation⁸

3.4. For how long have you been involved in the implementation of Natura 2000 network?

3.5. Which types of actors have been involved in the **implementation of Natura 2000 process** during your participation in it?

- ☐ only representatives of organized groups (public institutions, associations and private organizations)
- ☐ representatives of organized groups and individuals (citizens)

3.6. Which kind of methods has been employed to enhance participation in the processes you were involved in?

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Public meeting ⁹ | ☐ Focus group ¹⁰ |
| ☐ Brainstorming ¹¹ | ☐ Working group ¹² |
| ☐ Mediation/Facilitation techniques ¹³ | ☐ Scenario techniques ¹⁴ |
| ☐ Online forums ¹⁵ | ☐ Other _____ |

⁶**Design:** the phase during which the list of sites to be included in the Natura 2000 network and to be protected on the basis of the presence of habitats and species is discussed and negotiated.

⁷**Management** of the Natura 2000 sites at a local level.

⁸**Monitoring and evaluation** of the implementation process of the Habitats Directive and the assessment of its impacts on nature conservation.

⁹**Public meeting:** is a forum, a public event for information and discussion about subjects' perceptions on the Natura 2000 network. The goal is informing and getting informed.

¹⁰**Focus groups:** is a group discussion designed to learn about subjects' perceptions on the Natura 2000 network. Focus groups rely on the dynamics of group interaction to reveal participants' similarities and differences of opinion.

¹¹**Brainstorming:** is a common method used in groups to help members think of as many ideas as possible. The members are encouraged to produce ideas as quickly as possible without considering the value of the idea. The emphasis is on quantity, not quality.

¹²**Working group:** small groups of experts aimed to discuss on specific thematic issues.

3.7. Were you satisfied with this approach(es)/method(s)?

☐ very satisfied ☐ quite satisfied ☐ averagely satisfied ☐ not very satisfied ☐ not satisfied at all

3.8. Did you have an opportunity to express your opinion in the process?

☐ YES ☐ NO

3.9. Do you think that all participants in the process have an equal opportunity to express their views?

☐ YES ☐ NO

If NO, could you explain the reasons:

3.10. Do you think that your suggestions and comments in the process have been taken into account?

☐ YES ☐ NO

If YES, were you satisfied with the feedback information consequently given to you?

☐ very satisfied ☐ quite satisfied ☐ averagely satisfied ☐ not very satisfied ☐ not satisfied at all

3.11. Which approach has been adopted to take decisions in the above-mentioned processes?

☐ Decision by authority¹⁶

☐ Minority decision¹⁷

☐ Democratic (majority) decision¹⁸

☐ Consensus decision¹⁹

☐ Unanimous decision²⁰

☐ No opinion/I don't know

3.12. According to your opinion, the whole Natura 2000 implementation process has been **transparent**:

1 (not at all)	2	3	4	5 (completely)
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¹³**Mediation/Facilitation techniques:** are techniques in which the facilitator/mediator is a neutral third party, who ensures that the procedures are followed, and helps the participants to step out from their individual views and to define a common goal together.

¹⁴**Scenario techniques:** are techniques that use various scenarios enabling stakeholders to address a variety of issues across different geographies and at different scales.

¹⁵**On line forums:** is a method aimed to collect views and information about the Natura 2000 implementation.

¹⁶**Decision by authority:** one person decides. The decision is taken by the most expert person or by a person who decides after listening to the group.

¹⁷**Minority decision:** a small number of group members decides.

¹⁸**Democratic (majority) decision:** everyone votes and the majority wins.

¹⁹**Consensus decision:** everyone supports the solution even if it is not the favourite.

²⁰**Unanimous decision:** everyone has to agree on a given solution/proposition.

3.13. During the Natura 2000 implementation process, has the **local knowledge** been included?

☐ NO

☐ YES , please indicate in which way:_____

3.14. Have you been one of the organizers of the national communication campaign about Natura 2000 implementation?

☐ YES

☐ NO

3.15. Which communication tools were used during the national communication campaign?

☐ Mass media (e.g. local newspaper, radio, television)

☐ Formal invitation

☐ Social networks

☐ Newsletters

☐ Press releases

☐ Others _____

3.16. Which **level of stakeholder involvement** has been adopted in the Natura 2000 implementation process?

	Information	Consultation	Collaboration	Co-decision
European Union	☐	☐	☐	☐
Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea Protection	☐	☐	☐	☐
Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies	☐	☐	☐	☐
Regions and provinces	☐	☐	☐	☐
Universities and Research Centres	☐	☐	☐	☐
Environmental NGOs	☐	☐	☐	☐
Forest owners	☐	☐	☐	☐
Farm owners	☐	☐	☐	☐
Hunting associations	☐	☐	☐	☐
Municipalities	☐	☐	☐	☐
Others_____	☐	☐	☐	☐

3.17. What is your **level of trust** regarding your relation with the stakeholders before and after (or during) the Natura 2000 implementation process?

	Before Natura 2000			After or During Natura 2000		
European Union	☐ Low	☐ Medium	☐ High	☐ Low	☐ Medium	☐ High
Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea Protection	☐ Low	☐ Medium	☐ High	☐ Low	☐ Medium	☐ High
Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies	☐ Low	☐ Medium	☐ High	☐ Low	☐ Medium	☐ High
Regions and provinces	☐ Low	☐ Medium	☐ High	☐ Low	☐ Medium	☐ High
Universities and Research Centres	☐ Low	☐ Medium	☐ High	☐ Low	☐ Medium	☐ High
Environmental NGOs	☐ Low	☐ Medium	☐ High	☐ Low	☐ Medium	☐ High
Forest owners	☐ Low	☐ Medium	☐ High	☐ Low	☐ Medium	☐ High
Farm owners	☐ Low	☐ Medium	☐ High	☐ Low	☐ Medium	☐ High
Hunting associations	☐ Low	☐ Medium	☐ High	☐ Low	☐ Medium	☐ High
Municipalities	☐ Low	☐ Medium	☐ High	☐ Low	☐ Medium	☐ High
Others_____	☐ Low	☐ Medium	☐ High	☐ Low	☐ Medium	☐ High

3.18. During the Natura 2000 implementation process have you noticed conflicts among stakeholders?

☐ YES ☐ NO

If YES, could you describe **what kind** of conflict and **which actors were involved**?

3.19. Are you in general satisfied with the results of the participatory processes you were involved in?

(Choose from the following 5 possibilities and **explain why**)

- ☐ not at all _____
- ☐ slightly satisfied _____
- ☐ no opinion _____
- ☐ highly satisfied _____
- ☐ extremely satisfied _____