



THE PROJECT



The project LIFE ForestLife aims to build and strengthen cooperation, to promote the exchange and dissemination of good practices among those stakeholders active in the Natura 2000 Network forests in Greece, and to enhance the capacity of the personnel of the Forest Service, other related services, organizations and economic operators involved in the protection and management of Natura 2000 forests. At the same time, through the implementation of selected actions, the project seeks to inform and raise awareness of forest users, to highlight the importance of Natura 2000 forest areas and the benefits arising from their protection and conservation.



The project LIFE Environmental Governance and Information (LIFE14 GIE/GR/000304), entitled "Building cooperation, developing skills and sharing knowledge for Natura 2000 forests in Greece" (LIFE ForestLife) is implemented by the Goulandris Natural History Museum-Greek Biotope/Wetland Centre (GNHM-EKBY) in cooperation with the Directorate General of Forests and Forest Environment, Ministry of Environment and Energy.



With the contribution of the LIFE financial instrument of the European Community.

MORE INFORMATION



Website <http://forestlife.gr>

<https://www.facebook.com/ForestLifeProject>

https://twitter.com/LIFE_ForestLife

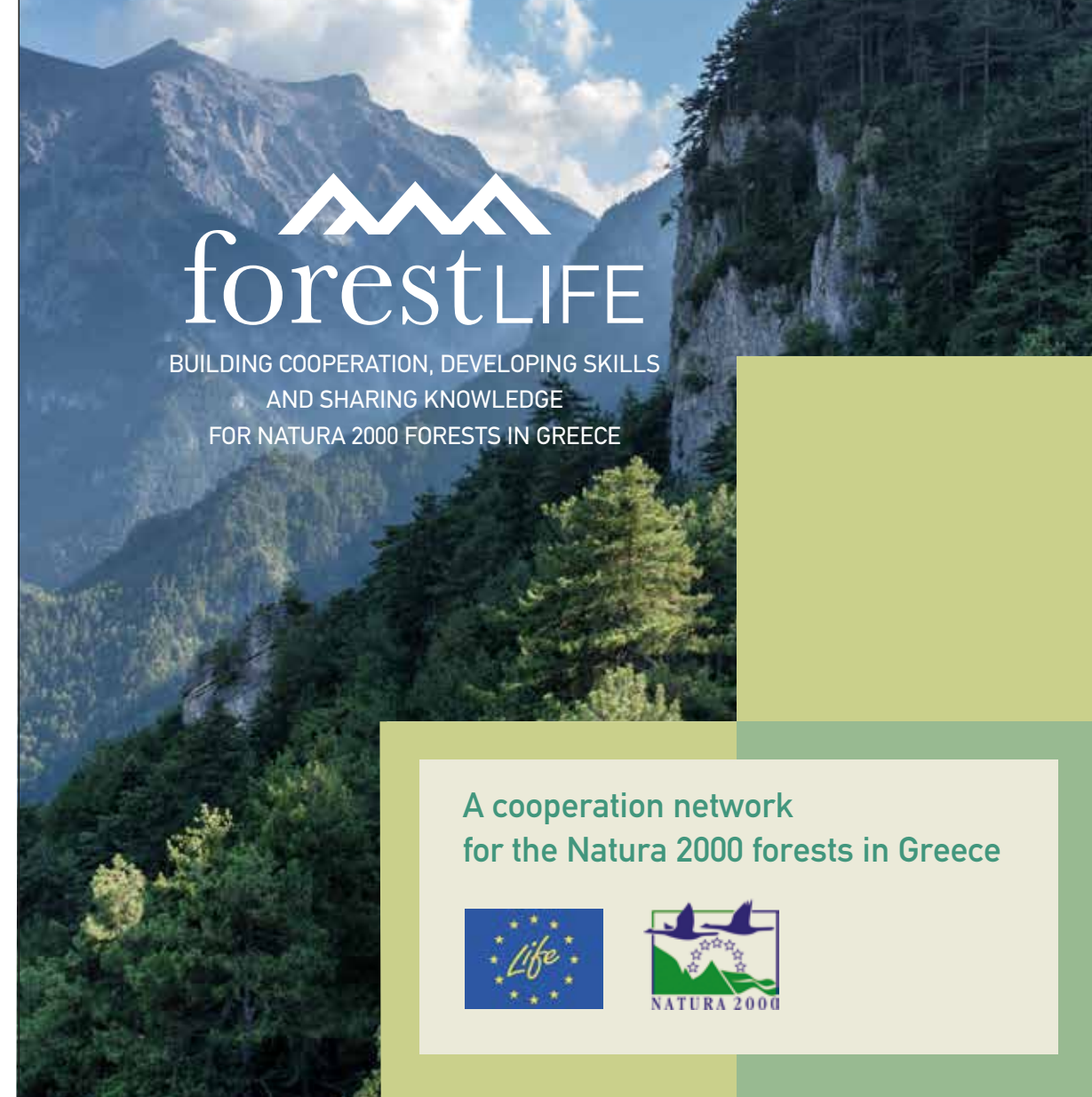


THE GOULANDRIS NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM
GREEK BIOTOPE/WETLAND CENTRE

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BUILDING COOPERATION, DEVELOPING SKILLS
AND SHARING KNOWLEDGE
FOR NATURA 2000 FORESTS IN GREECE

A cooperation network
for the Natura 2000 forests in Greece





THE ACTIONS

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The assessment of the needs of the Forest Service and other stakeholders involved in the protection and management of the Natura 2000 Network forests is of great importance for the project and the sound design of its services and products. These needs are investigated through targeted quantitative (online questionnaires) and quality research (interviews and focus groups).

ONLINE COLLABORATION PLATFORM FOR FORESTS

The Collaboration Platform for Forests is an information hub for those involved in the protection and management of the Natura 2000 Network forests. The platform encourages cooperation, exchange of experiences and best practices for the management of the Natura 2000 Network forests, provides access to information material, legislation, nature policies, national reports, studies and guidelines for forest management, includes a web map viewer, advanced search tools, news and announcements sections and interactive tools to facilitate communication and synergy of all those working for forests.

CAPACITY BUILDING

Eight training seminars, training tools and guidelines are used to enhance the knowledge and skills of the Forest Service and other stakeholders on topics such as forest management and biodiversity,

adaptation to climate change, forest restoration and rehabilitation, recreation and visitor management, as well as resource financing.

MODERN VISITOR INFORMATION TOOLS

The e-Application for the Greek forests, along with the e-book "Forests of Greece", aim to inform and raise awareness of forest visitors, as well as to guide them through forest ecosystems, with the overall aim to mitigate the impact of the tourist activities in the country's forests.

MONITORING OF THE PROJECT IMPACT

The efficacy of the project and its actions, its impact as a response to the challenges the Forest Service and other stakeholders are facing regarding the protection and management of the Natura 2000 Network forests, as well as the extent to which the project objectives are achieved, are monitored and documented throughout the project duration.

MONITORING OF THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROJECT IMPACT

The data and results obtained during the project duration are monitored and evaluated in a relevant study in order to allow for the assessment of the project actions' impact on society and economy. In the framework of the same study, information on job creation and skills development is gathered.



INFORMATION AND AWARENESS RAISING

Printed publications and audiovisual material, the project website and social networking tools, media work, participation of the project in exhibitions and events, networking with related projects in Greece and abroad, are the means used to keep the Forest Service updated, to inform and raise awareness of the general public, to promote and disseminate the results of the project.



THE RESULTS

- Contribution to the conservation and sustainable management of forest areas within the Natura 2000 Network, through the exchange of knowledge and information provided by the online Collaboration Platform for Forests.
- Enhancement of the skills of personnel of the Greek Forest Service and other services, organizations and economic operators in order to enable them to appropriately manage Natura 2000 Network forest areas, through selected capacity building actions.
- Development of a social alliance among all relevant stakeholders with the aim to adopt environmentally friendly behaviors and effectively comply with environmental legislation for Natura 2000 Network forests, through the implementation of information and awareness raising actions.

