

together beyond borders

Within the framework of the Transboundary Cooperation Programme Italy - France Alcotra 2007 - 2013, the Alpi Marittime Matural Park and the Mercantour National park, as project leader, were awarded an Integrated Transboundary Action Plan (PIT) "Transboundary Space Maritime/Mercantour: natural and cultural diversity at the centre of sustainable and integrated development". The PIT is composed of six projects concerning diverse themes with the aim of creating a sustainable economical and social development and of ameliorating dialogue strategies through social, economical, environmental and cultural cooperation. This territory develops along the French-Italian border, and the total surface is 355.538 ha.

Most of this area is comprised within the Parks' borders, characterised by a wide variety of animal and plant species of which many are rare (and many others are still unknown!). Because of its richness and of the peculiar climatic conditions influenced by the proximity of the sea and the high altitudes, the territory is considered a biodiversity hotspot at a European level.



Fondo europeo di sviluppo regionale
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Programma Alcotra 2007-2013
Insieme oltre i confini
Programme Alcotra 2007-2013
Ensemble par-delà les frontières

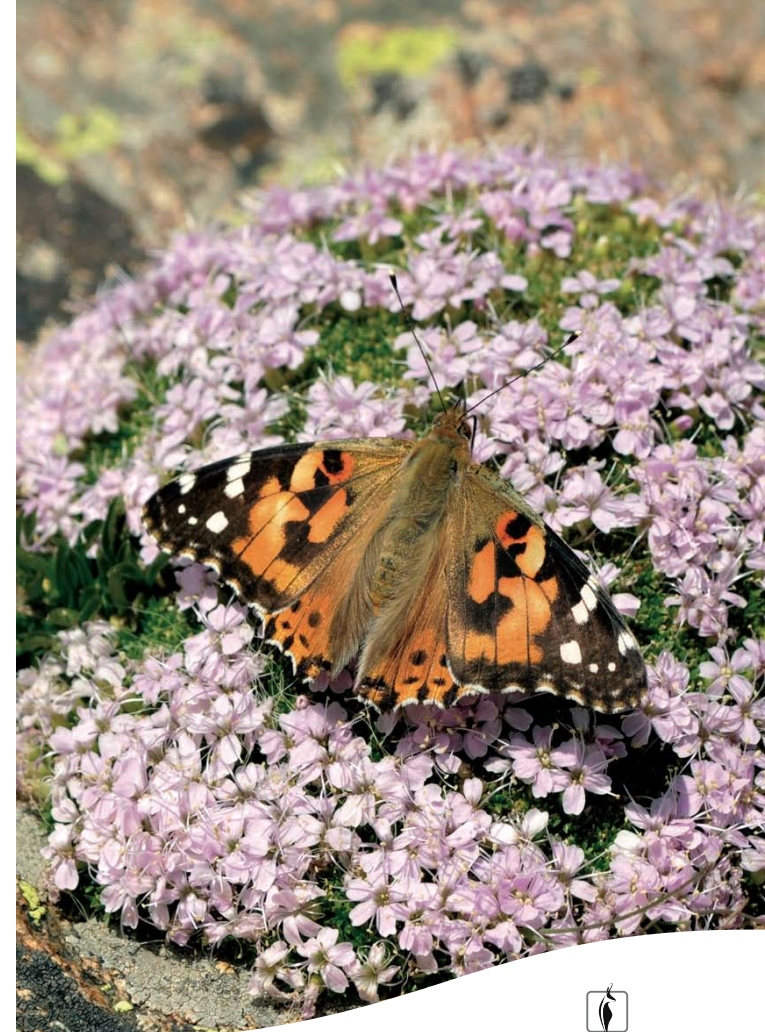
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For more information on EDIT and the ATBI project

<http://www.e-taxonomy.eu> - <http://wp7.e-taxonomy.eu>

In collaborazione con
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integrated transboundary action plan
generalised
biological inventory

generalised biological inventory

Improving the knowledge of biological diversity

One of the projects composing the PIT concerns the Generalised Biological Inventory: it's objective is to improve the knowledge on animal and vegetal diversity in the Maritime - Mercantour territory. The acquisition of new information on the presence, distribution, abundance of plant and animal species is the core of the project.

These data will be gathered in a common database and contribute to the fulfilment of Generalised Biological Inventory, along the lines of the All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory (ATBI) supported by the European Distributed Institute of Taxonomy (EDIT), which took place in the Maritime - Mercantour territory from 2006 to 2010.



Biodiversity data for conservation and land management purposes

The elaboration and integration of the collected data is extremely important to evaluate the conservation status of the ecosystems and to gather information on priority habitats (Habitat Directive 92/43/CEE). Particular attention is given to studies on the direct or indirect impacts of human activities on the ecosystems, and the alterations of plant and animal populations due to climate changes.

The studies will be mainly conducted by groups taxonomists and ecologists coming from all over Europe, principally from scientific institutions, thus establishing a network of cooperation with other specialists.

The results of these studies represent an important source of information for the Parks and the surrounding areas, and will provide an important contribution for improving land use and management, developing sustainable human activities (mainly tourism and pasture), and defining standardised protocols able to monitor the natural and artificial processes.



Public outreach

Several education and divulgation activities will be promoted, such as exhibitions, conferences, school classes and Summer Schools aimed at gathering the attention of the specialised public as well as the wider public. This is made possible also thanks to the collaboration with the National Natural History Museum of Paris (France) and the Regional Natural Science Museum of Turin (Italy).